of a visionary strategic plan that moved UWTC to a results-oriented “impact” model that embraces nontraditional community partners. UWTC and its partners help 300,000 people annually throughout Tarrant County.

Tim McKinney’s leadership as a fundraising professional led UWTC through transformational change. During his tenure, UWTC’s strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency earned the organization a top 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for five consecutive years. This recognition places UWT among the top 6 percent of charities evaluated by Charity Navigator who have received at least 5 consecutive 4-star ratings. In addition, under his leadership, UWTC’s fundraising placed it among the top 4 percent of all United Ways in America.

In addition to his work at UWTC, Tim McKinney served and continues to serve on the boards of several organizations. As the Board Chair of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT), he was active in its fundraising efforts and in developing the new BRIT building and campus. He also served on the JLWest Foundation Board and helped to establish the James L. West Presbyterian Special Care Center.

Through his work in the Tarrant County community, Tim McKinney has earned a reputation as a highly ethical and trustworthy professional who values transparency, honesty, and innovation.

I honor Mr. McKinney’s years of dedicated service to the Tarrant County community, and congratulate him on his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. DANIEL WEBSTER
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on the House floor because my flight was cancelled due to inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 286, and yea on Roll Call No. 287.

SAMANTHA MOLINA
HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Molina for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samantha Molina is a student at Arvada K−8 School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Molina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Molina for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. JAMES B. RENACCI
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 286, and YEA on Roll Call No. 287.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DELAWARE & LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR’S DESIGNATION AS A SMITHSONIAN AFFILIATE
HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor as it becomes America’s first National Heritage Area to receive a partnership designation from the Smithsonian Institution. The D&L, as we in eastern Pennsylvania call it, preserves the historic canal that carried anthracite and iron from Wilkes-Barre to Philadelphia. It is one of three National Heritage Areas in my congressional district, and it runs through three of the 17th District’s counties. I am proud to support areas like the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor by co-sponsoring the National Heritage Area Authorization Act.

A National Heritage Area is a site designated by Congress for the purposes of preserving history and encouraging an appreciation of the site. It is a place where natural, scenic, cultural, and historic resources combine to offer a landscape of stories celebrating our unique journey and status as a region. A National Heritage Area is a lived-in landscape and is administered by a state government, non-profit, or private corporation rather than the National Park Service. It is a place where stewards collaborate with residents to forge a way to make heritage relevant for local interests and needs. This community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development must be preserved and grown. These sites are essential to how we share who we were, who we are, and who we might become with the next generation.

The Smithsonian Institution was founded in 1846 and is the world’s largest museum, education, and research complex. It has over 216 affiliates. The affiliation partnership for the D&L comes on the heels of its recent merger with the National Canal Museum in Easton, Pennsylvania. The affiliation partnership designation will raise the profile of the D&L and help it better connect to nature, recreation, and our nation’s industrial heritage. As a Smithsonian affiliate, the D&L will reap the benefits of co-branding, professional development, and customized client service to facilitate exhibit and artifact borrowing needs.

Those who know me well know my passions for preserving history, natural resources, and outdoor recreation opportunities. With the D&L, these passions are one. It is my honor to share with the House the story of a place that so well engenders a love of nature and of history and that now includes its welcome into the Smithsonian family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 286 and 287.

SABASTIAN MEADOWS
HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sebastian Meadows for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sebastian Meadows is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sebastian Meadows is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sebastian Meadows for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. JACQUE SPEIER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, due to an unavoidable conflict, I missed the following votes on June 6. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 286, and yea on Roll Call No. 287.

INTRODUCTION OF PATIENT CHOICE AND QUALITY CARE ACT OF 2017
HON. EARL BLUMENAUER
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, from sweeping changes to how care is delivered, to
the rise of personalized medicine, patients today have more treatment options when fac-
ing advanced illness than ever before. With these medical advances, the line between life and death can sometimes be blurred, which has changed the way we must talk about how we want to live.

Despite these enormous changes, con-
fronting an advanced illness or the end of life remains one of the most difficult and chal-
The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Ward is exemplary of the type of achievement this next chapter in his life.

Ideally, health care should work in sync with social, psychological, and spiritual support as the end of life approaches. Care near the end of life must be patient-centered and family-ori-
ted. This legislation is supported by patient advocates, physicians, nurses, and the faith community, who understand how improving care delivery during advanced illness fundamen-
tally improves quality of care and quality of life. To that end, I ask my colleagues to join me and support this important legislation.

HONORING RYAN DANT’S COLLEGE GRADUATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ryan Dant. Ryan’s father Mark Dant retired just last year as Assistant Chief at the Carrollton, Texas Police Department. As a young boy, Ryan was diagnosed with a rare disease called Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS Type 1)—a disease so rare that it affects about 1 in 100,000 children.

Mr. Speaker, we recently observed National MPS Awareness Day on May 15. At the time he was diagnosed, in the early 90s, there was no cure or even a treatment for MPS. Doctors told Ryan’s parents—Jeanne and Mark—that he wouldn’t make it to his 13th birthday.

Over time, the heartache of their son’s diag-

noses gave way to the steadfast perseverance that only a parent knows.

Scientist after scientist, through experi-
mental treatments and research studies, Ryan’s 13th birthday came and went.

Last Saturday, Jeanne and Mark Dant wit-
nessed a miracle—their son Ryan, at age 29, received his college degree.

I congratulate Ryan on receiving his degree. His life’s journey is an inspiration to us all.

Samantha Ward
HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha (Sam) Ward for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Samantha Ward is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Ward is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perse-

verance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Ward for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedi-
cation and character in all of her future ac-

accomplishments.