

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LOUDOUN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2018. This year, at their annual gala, the Chamber, in addition to celebrating this auspicious anniversary, will honor 2017 Board Chair Tina Johnson of JP Events and Consulting, and welcome the new Board Chair Mitch Sproul of Toth Financial. I would also like to make special mention of Tony Howard, the CEO and President of the Loudoun Chamber, for his dedication and hard work throughout his tenure at the helm of the organization. I take this moment to recognize them as individuals as well as the entire Board of Directors and employees.

The Loudoun Chamber was incorporated in 1968. At this time, Loudoun County was primarily an agricultural economy, with more dairy farms than corporations in the region. Since, the Chamber has grown to be the largest Chamber of Commerce in northern Virginia with more than 1,200 members, including a booming service and manufacturing sector. Loudoun County is home to many companies in the Dulles Technology Corridor including Verizon Communications Inc., one of the largest multinational telecommunications companies in the world, as well as AOL and Orbital ATK Inc. Their work is vital in keeping America competitive in the 21st Century economy, and they greatly contribute to American technological discovery. Other major employers in the region include United Airlines and Raytheon Company. This region is also known as "DC's Wine Country" for the many vineyards in the area. The Loudoun Chamber has formed the premier network of business and community leaders in an economically vibrant region. In fact, Loudoun County is the fastest growing county in the country. Membership in the Loudoun Chamber is diverse and far-reaching, including businesses, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and public sector partners that range in size.

Loudoun County has been named by media publishers as one of the top communities to start and grow a business. In 2016 Money Magazine named Ashburn the best place to live in Virginia and one of the top 50 places to live in the United States. The Loudoun Chamber has been vital in fostering such a robust business environment that has helped the community achieve these accolades.

The Loudoun Chamber produces more than 100 programs a year that provide Loudoun businesses and their employees with valuable networking, marketing exposure, professional development, and opportunities to connect with peers and political and community leaders. These events have included the Annual Loudoun Small Business Awards, the Valor Awards to recognize public servants, and the SuperHero 5K Run/Walk.

Mr. Speaker, this is an organization which helps the citizens and businesses of Loudoun County thrive. I would ask my fellow Members to join me in congratulating the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce and wishing it a happy 50th anniversary. I wish this institution continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH FENNELL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Joseph Fennell of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of his 100th birthday. Joseph was born on November 15, 1917.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Joseph's life. Since his birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Joseph has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-five Governors of Iowa. In his lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Joseph in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish him a very happy 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Joe on reaching this incredible milestone, and in wishing him even more health and happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO VERONICA FENNELL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Veronica Fennell of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of her 100th birthday. Veronica was born on November 12, 1917.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Veronica's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Veronica has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-five Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Veronica in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Veronica on reaching this incredible milestone, and in wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JANE WHALEN

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jane

Whalen for receiving the Iowa Business Owner of the Year Award by the Iowa Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners.

The Woman Business Owner of the Year Award honors a woman business owner who has grown a business that has a positive impact on the economy and the community. Since 2002, Jane has led Midwest Project Partners, now Aureon Consulting, to become a well-known company that provides organization and management consulting with companies around the country. Her success has earned her the respect of many within the business community, and has translated to her participation on numerous boards and panels.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Jane in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize her for this outstanding accomplishment. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jane and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO BRYCE WILBUR

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bryce Wilbur, of Indianola, Iowa, for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to demonstrate how they live out the Scout Spirit in their life, to serve as a leader in their troop, earn a total of 21 merit badges, and, finally, to complete an Eagle Scout Project to benefit the community. For his project, Bryce supervised 25 people in tearing down an old stone retaining wall at Lake Ahquabi State Park in Indianola and replacing it with a new wall using railroad ties and crushed rock. The work ethic Bryce has shown in his Eagle Scout Project and throughout his scouting career speaks volumes about his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and bettering his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am proud to represent Bryce and his family in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF REVEREND DR. JAMES HARGETT

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. LEWIS, and Ms. WATERS, to pay tribute and honor the life of Reverend Dr. James Hester Hargett. Reverend Dr. Hargett was a community and civil rights activist who dedicated his