

Medal, The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, The Humanitarian Service Medal, and a Recruiting Ribbon. He also holds two Additional Military Occupational Specialties; 4802 Recruiting Officer-Operational Expert and 4804 Recruiting Officer-Multiple Tour Expert.

LtCol Jennings is happily married to the former Michelle Ingram of Wilmington, North Carolina. They have a daughter, Jasmine, who is a second year law student at UNC Chapel Hill and a son, Jordan, who is High School Junior at Massaponax High School, in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Please join me in thanking Lieutenant Colonel Charles Del "Shawn" Jennings for his many years of service to our nation. I wish him all the best in his new endeavors.

IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, SCHOLARS AND THEIR FAMILIES

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contribution that international students, scholars and their families make when we welcome them to this great country.

Attracting international students makes our country better and is simply smart policy.

To remain a global leader in STEM and in business, we need international students. They help America lead in technological innovation and scientific discoveries. Not only that, nearly one-quarter of the founders of the "billion dollar startups" first came to America as international students.

Our economy is stronger because of international students and their families that supported 450,000 jobs and contributed nearly \$37 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2016–2017 academic year.

In my home state of Rhode Island, international students supported almost 2,500 jobs and contributed over \$235 million to the state economy in the same period.

Cross-cultural exchange between international students and U.S. students creates mutual respect for cultural differences. In some cases, future U.S. and foreign leaders will have studied or conducted research together, creating even more direct diplomatic ties beneficial to national security.

Unfortunately, fewer international students are applying to study in the U.S. The number of newly arriving international students declined in fall 2017—with 45 percent of campuses reporting drops in new international enrollment according to the Institute of International Education. In February, for the first time in over a decade, the Council on Graduate Schools reported that international graduate student enrollment went down last fall.

The current administration continues to spread anti-immigrant rhetoric and propose extremist limits on travel and immigration to our country. Many international students now see the U.S. as less welcoming to foreigners than other countries. There is also uncertainty about whether they will be granted visas to go to school and to work here.

This is truly a loss for our country because we are in a global competition to attract international talent. Our country's loss will be an-

other's gain, as these students will go to school in Canada, Australia, China or another country that has more welcoming policies.

The month of May is a critical time when international students must commit to their college or university of choice. Therefore, I would like to recognize the vital economic, academic and cultural contributions that international students make and to say you are welcome here.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR JOHN MORETTA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION INTO THE PRIESTHOOD AND HIS 35TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF RESURRECTION CHURCH IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 50 years of priesthood for Father John Moretta from Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights.

Father John has worked tirelessly to empower his community through the activism he leads from Resurrection Church.

From paving the way forward on environmental justice issues, to keeping crime away from marginalized families through its Neighborhood Watch Group, and working with grassroots advocates like the Mothers of East L.A. to fight for DREAMers, Father John has served as the lynchpin of the Boyle Heights community for 50 years.

As we mark his Golden Jubilee, I'd like to thank Monsignor John Moretta for his service to Boyle Heights.

It is my honor to work with him to serve California's 34th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE PATTI BELLOCK

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Representative Patti Bellock of Hinsdale, Illinois. Representative Bellock has served as a member of the Illinois General Assembly, representing the 47th district since 1998, and has been a champion for victims of domestic violence.

On Saturday, April 28, Representative Bellock will be recognized by Family Shelter Services, which works to combat domestic violence in DuPage County, and provides relief and support to victims from all walks of life. Representative Bellock is being recognized for her constant support of the agency's mission, advocacy for tougher laws on domestic violence and efforts to keep Family Shelter Services funded in whole.

During Representative Bellock's time in the Illinois General Assembly, she has been a strong voice for victims of domestic violence and tougher laws on domestic violence. Representative Bellock is a member of the Human Trafficking Task Force and has received na-

tional attention for her leadership in passing the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). GATA eliminates duplicative grant requirements and reduces administrative burdens for agencies, while increasing accountability and transparency throughout the process. GATA provides relief and support to agencies like Family Shelter Services, allowing them to best serve communities in need.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing and thanking Representative Patti Bellock for her tireless work advocating for victims of domestic violence and tougher laws on domestic violence.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. GRACE HATCHER ADKINS' 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and birthday wishes to Mrs. Grace Hatcher Adkins. She will celebrate her 90th birthday on Friday, May 18, 2018 at Westwood Schools Auditorium at 225 Fuller Street in Camilla, Georgia.

Mrs. Adkins was born in 1928 to Mr. Clifford Edward Hatcher and Mrs. Agnes Faircloth Hatcher. The Newton, Georgia native began teaching in 1946 at the age of 18, and used the valuable lessons instilled in her by her family to guide her students.

Mrs. Adkins' life's work always centered on young people and helping them reach their full potential. She truly understood that "Education is the passport to the future; it belongs to those who prepare for it today." Throughout her remarkable 58 year career, she made it her mission to help every child be successful. She devoted countless time and energy into helping and supporting her students, especially those with learning disabilities. In 1980, she created one of the first Learning Labs in the State of Georgia at Westwood Schools in Camilla. The impact of the Learning Lab was so profound that educators from across the nation inquired about her techniques, which she acknowledged were fueled by her immense love for teaching and her desire to reach every student. Westwood Schools ultimately named the Learning Lab in her honor.

The poet Maya Angelou once said that, "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." Grace Hatcher-Adkins threw a prodigious amount of care and attention back to the students that she loved so dearly. She inspired several of her students to become lawyers, doctors, educators, professionals, business owners, and leaders in their own communities. Her optimistic attitude, powerful presence, and personal interest and care for each child, no matter the learning level, made all of her students feel valued and respected.

Mrs. Adkins has accomplished much in her life, but none of it would have been possible without her unwavering faith in the Lord, the love and support of her late husband, Bill, the family she cherishes so dearly, and the encouragement from all of those who have positively impacted her life over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than