at age 12. His devotion to the sport helped him make the USA Luge Candidate Team and the USA Luge Junior National Team, before earning a spot on the 2014 U.S. Olympic Team.

Jayson has received numerous accolades for his achievements in luge. From 2007 to 2008, he won three Junior World Cup Bronze Medals and the Junior World Luge Championship Bronze Medal. He is also a two-time U.S. Junior National Doubles Champion. In 2008, he was the Norton U.S. Nationals Doubles champion, and he and his doubles partner, Chris Mazdzer, were named the 2008 Luge Team of the Year. In 2010, he won the World Cup Bronze Medal, and he won silver medals in the World Cup Team Relay competition in 2011 and 2013. During the 2014 Olympic Winter games, he placed eleventh in the men’s doubles competition with his partner Christian Niccum, and he helped the U.S. place sixth in the team relay.

Mr. Speaker, every four years, our nation sends our very best athletes to represent us in the Winter Olympics. Therefore, I commend Jayson Terdiman for his hard work and achievements as part of the United States luge team, and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 5, 2014

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Greenville, Illinois, on its Bi-
centennial Celebration. The city will celebrate throughout the year with a variety of community events, including a Labor Day gala featuring a parade, historic re-enactments and musical performances, a July 4th opening of a time capsule buried in 1990, and the burial of a new time capsule on New Year’s Eve with mementos from the year’s festivities. The city will also erect a permanent monument within city limits to commemorate this historic occasion.

The City of Greenville was founded in 1815 by pioneer George Davidson and is one of the oldest communities in the state. Throughout its history, Greenville has played host to many important events. Notably, the city served as a key stop on the Underground Railroad, shepherd ing slaves to freedom from the slaveholding southern states. The city also hosted speeches by Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas during their 1858 campaign for the United States Senate.

Since its founding, the city has grown and now is the home to more than 7,000 residents. Over the past 200 years, Greenville has produced numerous noteworthy individuals. It was once the home of Colorado Governor Job Adams Cooper, Emmy-Winning television producer Robert Briner and Nobel Prize Laureate G. Krebs, among others.

I extend my congratulations to the City of Greenville upon this special occasion. It is my prayer that the Lord blesses its residents with another 200 years of health and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING MERNI FITZGERALD ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM FAIRFAX COUNTY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 5, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to rec-
ognize and commend Merri Fitzgerald on the occasion of her retirement after a long and distinguished career in public service for the residents of Fairfax County, Virginia. For the past 13 years, Merri has been the director of the Office of Public Affairs, serving as the “voice of Fairfax County.” Prior to that, she spent 15 years as the public information offi-
cer for the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Throughout her career, Merri dedicated her-
self to keeping Fairfax citizens well informed about the great work of their local government, while promoting engagement in our commu-

nity. In her role as Director of Public Affairs, she managed external and internal communications for the largest county government in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Na-
tional Capital Region. She and her staff pro-
vided communications strategy and services for more than 40 county agencies and cus-
tomer service divisions.

From routine communications about Board of Supervisors meetings to emergency alerts, Merri ensured Fairfax remained in constant contact with its constituents, and she was in-
strumental in pushing the County onto social media to foster two-way communications. Whether she was sharing news and information about a notable accompl-
ishment or a natural disaster, Merri was a calm, soothing, and informative voice for the Community.

Well-respected by her peers, Merri chaired the Northern Virginia communicators group and a similar committee at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, which encompasses 21 jurisdictions in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. In that role, she coordinated communications for the regional Emergency Preparedness Council, where we worked together for a number of years.

Prior to her current position, Merri served two terms on the Falls Church City Council. She also served as Chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission. Her keen polit-
cal sense, expert communications skills, and firm grasp of the news business has earned her the trust of the elected leadership through-
out the region. She was recognized as the Vir-

ginia Communicator of the Year in 2000, and in 2007 she was recognized as one of PR News magazine’s PR Professionals of the Year for her “’unerring service to the community and the media.”

I can certainly attest to that. I had the dis-
tinct pleasure of working with Merri during my 14 years of service on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. She was a trusted member of our leadership team and helped the county manage numerous crises including: the tragic events of 9/11, which occurred shortly after her appointment as director of public affairs; local anthrax attacks; a screening facility and medical distribution cen-
ter; the 2002 Washington sniper shootings;

Hurricane Isabel in 2003, which damaged mul-
tiple roads and properties across the county and resulted in the loss of drinking water for most residents for several days; the shooting of two police officers outside the Sully District Station in 2006; a dustup over local soup kitchen caused by an alarming bureauc-
acy; the recent record snow storms, which lit-
erally shutdown the region for days; and an earthquake in 2011. Interspersed through those events, she coordinated public information about annual multi-million dollar bond ref-
enumbers and countless Board “presen-
tations.”

Most people probably don’t know Merri is a published author. Earlier in her career, Merri was an assistant to the Press Officer at the Peace Corps, an agency close to my heart given my international relations background and seat on the House Foreign Affairs Com-
mitee. During her time with the Corps, Merri authored two books for school-age children: one commemorating the Peace Corps’ 25th Anniversary and another on the role of Voice of America radio programming in U.S. efforts overseas.

As Merri begins this new chapter in her life, I want to extend my warmest regards to her and her family. I hope she is able to find a suitable new home for the growing collection of nutcrackers that used to be in her office at the Government Center, and I have no doubt she will find a way to continue making contribu-
tions to our community even in retirement.

Mr. Speaker, Merri Fitzgerald’s commitment to public service has set an example that will benefit our community for generations to come. Her accomplishments are truly out-
standing and deserving of our sincere appreci-
ation. When I was Chairman of the County Board, we often joked when retirement an-
nouncements like this came before the Board that we should not allow such talented and ded-
icated staff to leave public service, and I cer-
tainly wish that was the case here.

I wish Merri the best of luck in her retire-
ment, and I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in expressing our appreciation for her long and fruitful service to the residents of Fairfax County and the National Capital Region.

RECOGNIZING NACDS RxIMPACT DAY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 5, 2014

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2014 NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill. This is a special day where we recognize pharmacy’s con-
tribution to the American healthcare system. This year’s event, organized by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, takes place on March 12–13. Nearly 400 individuals from the pharmacy community—including practicing pharmacists, pharmacy school faculty and stu-
dents, state pharmacy leaders and pharmacy company executives—will visit Capitol Hill. They will share their views with Congress about the importance of supporting legislation that protects access to community and neigh-
borhood pharmacies and that utilizes phar-
macists to improve the quality and reduce the costs of providing healthcare.
Advocates from 40 states have travelled to Washington to talk about the pharmacy community's contributions in over 40,000 community pharmacies nationwide. These important healthcare providers are here to educate Congress about the value of pharmacists and protect access to the essential services they provide and improve outcomes to healthcare delivery system.

And just as these providers travelled to meet with us, Members of Congress have toured retail chain pharmacies in our own communities more than 250 times since 2009. There are 106 chain pharmacies in my own Congressional District, and those stores employ nearly 10,000 Washingtonians.

Patients have always relied on their local pharmacist to meet their healthcare needs. The local pharmacist is a trusted, highly accessible healthcare provider deeply committed to providing the highest quality care in the most efficient manner possible.

As demand for healthcare services continues to grow, pharmacists have expanded their role in healthcare delivery, partnering with primary care providers, nurses and other healthcare providers to meet their patients' needs. Innovative services provided by pharmacists do even more to improve patient healthcare. Pharmacists are highly valued by those that rely on them most—those in rural and under-served areas, as well as older Americans, and those struggling to manage chronic diseases. Pharmacy services improve patients' quality of life as well as healthcare affordability. By helping patients take their medications effectively and providing preventive services, pharmacists help avoid more costly forms of care. Pharmacists also help patients identify strategies to save money, such as through better understanding of their pharmacy benefits, using generic medications, and obtaining 90-day supplies of prescription drugs from local pharmacies.

Pharmacists are the nation’s most accessible healthcare providers. In many communities, particularly rural areas, the local pharmacist is a patient's most direct link to healthcare. Eighty-nine percent of Americans reside within a five-mile radius of a community pharmacy. Pharmacists are one of our nation's most trusted healthcare professionals. Utilizing their scientific, pharmaceutical skills, pharmacists play a major role in medication therapy management, disease-state management, immunizations, healthcare screenings, and other healthcare services designed to improve patient health and reduce overall healthcare costs. Pharmacists are also expanding their role in new models of care based on quality of services and outcomes, such as accountable care organizations (ACOs) and medical homes.

As we refine healthcare reform and seek new strategies to improve patient care, pharmacists will play a critical role. I believe Congress should look at every opportunity to make sure that pharmacists are allowed to utilize their training to the fullest to provide the services that can improve care and lower costs. In recognition of the Sixth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill, I would like to congratulate pharmacy leaders, pharmacists, students, executives, and the entire pharmacy community represented by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, for their contributions to the good health of the American people.

THAT WHEREAS, The pharmacists of the United States and the American Pharmacists Association have always played an integral role in the healthcare delivery system and are committed to working with health professionals and policymakers to improve patient care and reduce healthcare costs; WHEREAS, In recognition of the Sixth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill, I would like to congratulate pharmacy leaders, pharmacists, students, executives, and the entire pharmacy community represented by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, for their contributions to the good health of the American people.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel John Rafferty of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our nation at the Deputy of the Army House Liaison Division on Capitol Hill. Lieutenant Colonel Rafferty will soon transition to the Legislative Director for the Commander of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Army Congressional Liaison officers provide an invaluable service to both the military and Congress. They assist Members and staff in understanding the Army's policies, actions, operations, and requirements. Their first-hand knowledge of military needs, culture, and tradition is a tremendous benefit to Congressional offices.

A native of Great Falls, Virginia, Lieutenant Colonel Rafferty enlisted in the Army in 1987 and served in Germany with the 8th Infantry Division. Two years later, he left the active Army to return to college and pursue a commission as an Army Officer. He received his commission as Second Lieutenant and Lieutenant in the Regular Army as a Field Artillery officer. During the next twenty years, LTC Rafferty served in a variety of tactical assignments, including service in 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 75th Ranger Regiment, staff officer in the 25th Infantry Division, command of two artillery batteries in the 1st Armored Division, and command of 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division. Along with becoming an Army Ranger and Master Parachutist, he served multiple combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, he was selected as an exchange officer for the U.S. Marine Corps Ambushive Warfare School and for the United Kingdom Joint Services Command and Staff College with the British Military.

Lieutenant Colonel Rafferty is both warrior and scholar. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Longwood College, a Master of Arts in Defense Policy from King’s College-London, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His devotion to his country is matched only by his commitment to family. Lieutenant Colonel Rafferty is married to the lovely Tracey Lowery Rafferty. They're proud parents of a thirteen-year-old daughter, Erin, and a twelve-year-old son, Evan. Lieutenant Colonel Rafferty’s great work has not gone unnoticed. His military awards include the Combat Action Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, three Bronze Star Medals, and the Iraq and Afghanistan Campaign Medals. He was inducted into the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara and is a Distinguished Member of both the 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment and 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Lieutenant Colonel John Rafferty as he proceeds into the next chapter of his remarkable career, and continues to serve the military and the nation as the Army's legislative representative on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dan “Ox” Ochsner for more than a decade of outstanding service to the nation's oldest and most successful ice cream parlor. 106 chain pharmacies in my own Congressional District, and those stores employ nearly 10,000 Washingtonians.

As we refine healthcare reform and seek new strategies to improve patient care, pharmacists have expanded their role in healthcare delivery, partnering with primary care providers, nurses and other healthcare providers to meet their patients' needs. Innovative services provided by pharmacists do even more to improve patient healthcare. Pharmacists are highly valued by those that rely on them most—those in rural and under-served areas, as well as older Americans, and those struggling to manage chronic diseases. Pharmacy services improve patients' quality of life as well as healthcare affordability. By helping patients take their medications effectively and providing preventive services, pharmacists help avoid more costly forms of care. Pharmacists also help patients identify strategies to save money, such as through better understanding of their pharmacy benefits, using generic medications, and obtaining 90-day supplies of prescription drugs from local pharmacies.

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