

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SHARON SWERDFEGER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Sharon Swerdfeger of Pueblo, Colorado and her lifelong commitment and work for Pueblo, Colorado and the business KR Swerdfeger Construction, Inc. she started with her husband, Keith.

In 1968, Sharon and Keith went into business for themselves at the age of 21 after learning the construction trade from Keith's father. They had a loan co-signed by Sharon's father for \$5,000 to purchase a backhoe and have some operating capital and began an excavation company specializing in water and sewer lines. From there, the company quickly expanded into natural gas distribution pipeline and telephone lines and has grown to a multi-million dollar business that has expanded throughout the Southwest United States. KR Swerdfeger Construction, Inc. will be celebrating 50 years in business in 2018.

Ms. Swerdfeger is also very active in the Pueblo community with civic service and activism. She is the founder of the Pueblo chapter of The National Association of Women in Construction and is President, charter and emeritus member of the Pueblo South High School Alumni Foundation. Her involvement with other organizations includes the Pueblo YMCA, Pueblo Community College Foundation, Colorado Business Education Coalition, Parkview Hospital Foundation, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pueblo County, St. Mary-Corwin Healthcare Foundation, the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center, Friends of the Library, Kiwanis Club and the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center.

Mr. Speaker, Sharon Swerdfeger has been a tireless business leader and advocate for her hometown of Pueblo, Colorado. She is a dedicated mother, wife, business owner and a valued member of the Pueblo Community. It is my honor and privilege to recognize and honor her today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FALLEN
MISSISSIPPI MARINE LANCE
CORPORAL (LCPL) ROGER
WAYNE DEEDS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi Marine Lance Corporal (LCpl) Roger Wayne Deeds who died while defending our great nation on November 16, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. LCpl Deeds was killed by enemy small arms fire while conducting combat operations against enemy forces during

Operation Steel Curtain in Ubaydi, Iraq. Also killed were Lance Corporal (LCpl) John A. Lucente of Grass Valley, California, Corporal (CPL) Jeffrey A. Rogers of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Corporal (CPL) Joshua J. Ware of Apache, Oklahoma. During the attack, LCpl Deeds moved forward under enemy fire and suppressed the enemy with machine gun fire. He then launched a recovery effort of his wounded comrades. He was providing first aid and security for the wounded when he was mortally wounded. This act of courage and selflessness earned him the Bronze Star Medal with Valor. LCpl Deeds was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), Camp Pendleton, California.

LCpl Deeds was born into a military family and lived on a number of U.S. Air Force bases including Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, Mather Air Force Base in California, Rhein Main Air Force Base in Germany, Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, and Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi. LCpl Deeds graduated from Biloxi High School in 2000. It was there he met his future wife, Sarah French. They were married in February 2004. "He's been my best friend for years. My everything," Sarah stated in an Associated Press news article.

Joyce Deeds, LCpl Deeds' mother, said her son exemplified the Marine Corps motto which is "Semper Fidelis," meaning always faithful. "They have a saying that no one is left behind," Mrs. Deeds said. "And that's how my son died. He was faithful to God, country, and family." Scott Deeds, LCpl Deeds' father, recently said that his son never saw a mountain he was not going to conquer and never backed down from a challenge, no matter how big. "Roger followed a very long line of family members from his father, to uncles, cousins, grandfathers and great grandfathers, who served in every battle or conflict since the Civil War," Mr. Deeds said. "Roger saw a calling in serving this great nation and he chose the Marines as he felt it was the best fit for himself and as he said, 'I want to be on the front line to provide protection for my brothers and freedom for those denied freedoms.' He will always be my mini-me. He was and will always be my son, my friend, my hero, and our Marine."

He was buried with full military honors at the Biloxi National Cemetery.

LCpl Deeds is survived by his father, Scott Deeds; his mother, Joyce Deeds; his sister, Gina McKnight; his wife, Sarah Deeds; his son, Alaric Deeds; and his daughter, Mikaleigh Deeds.

John 15:13 says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends". LCpl Deeds distinguished himself on the battlefield and in life. His service will always be remembered.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2810,
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I will vote against the conference report to accompany H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 (Roll no. 631). This bill is far from fiscally responsible.

We've yet to reach a bipartisan budget agreement, thus, this NDAA's base budget authority is \$77.4 billion above the cap set in the Budget Control Act. The GOP has demonstrated no concern for what this continued policy of budget-busting will do to our country's deficit. It will inhibit our ability to respond to future threats and will hollow out benefits for military personnel and veterans.

Of deep concern to me is the bill's full funding of nuclear weapons modernization and maintenance programs. The Congressional Budget Office released a report just last month highlighting that the true cost of these programs over the next 30 years will be \$1.2 trillion dollars. That's more than 20 percent higher than earlier estimates. This bill fails to make the tough decisions it needs to about our defense spending.

The legislation does take several steps in the right direction. It expresses a sense of Congress that climate change is a direct threat to national security, raises military pay by 2.4 percent and includes measures to counter Russian aggression. The bill also authorizes 3,500 visas to the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program—a program I worked to establish to help our Afghan allies seek refuge in the United States after they become the target of threats because of their assistance to U.S. personnel.

However, the fiscal reality of enacting this legislation is deeply troubling. On balance, the costs of this bill outweigh its benefits and I cannot support it.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my grave concern with the constant attacks on women's access to reproductive health care.

The women and girls currently under U.S. government custody in shelters, jails, and detention centers across this country who have had to relinquish their right to reproductive health care deserve our immediate attention.

I was disheartened to see the mistreatment of women in detention and children at the Office of Refugee Resettlement who are being

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

systematically denied access to their Constitutional rights. The Constitution guarantees all women the right to access abortions and prohibits the government from putting an undue burden on that right. However, the recent case of Jane Doe litigated in *Garza v. Hargan*, is a stark reminder of just how far this administration will go to deny a young woman her constitutional right to access an abortion.

Jane Doe, a 17 year old unaccompanied minor, came to the U.S. and was subsequently detained and placed in a government-funded shelter where she discovered she was pregnant. She immediately sought an abortion. However, she was inhumanely and unconstitutionally denied her right to an abortion. This administration's Office of Refugee Resettlement held Jane Doe hostage and barred her from leaving her shelter to access care, simply because the ORR Director Scott Lloyd and the administration disagreed with her health care choice to have an abortion.

Jane Doe's case is a heartbreaking one. While I am glad to see that the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals stood up for the rights of Jane Doe in that case and allowed her access to an abortion regardless of her immigration status, we know Jane Doe is not alone, and fear that many other young women's rights are being denied by this administration.

I have heard deeply concerning reports that the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services now enforces unconstitutional policies such as systematically counseling young women against accessing abortion. Similarly, there are reports of mistreatment of pregnant women and mothers in incarceration and detention. These reports illustrate that there are pregnant women sitting in solitary confinement without access to needed food and nourishment, women are sometimes shackled during labor, and others are ultimately denied adequate health care services. These policies and the mistreatment of women in incarceration and detention are simply shocking and represent a gross abuse of power by this administration.

We need to know why this is happening, how often it is happening, and what can be done to prevent these situations. This is why thirty-one of my colleagues and I have requested a Government Accountability Office report to examine the real situation of pregnant inmates and immigrant detainees in order to better understand efforts taken to protect them and their fetus.

This administration must stop denying women their constitutional rights. We must demand that this administration immediately end the cruel practices of intimidation and coercion, and uphold the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution. This administration must allow young women currently in government custody access to the health care they need, including abortion.

COMMENDING CHILD ADVOCATES
OF FORT BEND

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Child Advocates of Fort Bend for their continued commitment to helping foster children in Fort Bend County.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend is the only program in the entire state of Texas that is able to match every single foster child with a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA). These CASA volunteers advocate for the "best interests" of children in foster care and ensure that their needs are met. Through their CASA program, Child Advocates of Fort Bend trains volunteers so that they can best serve as a voice for these children in the courtroom. The lives of these children and by extension our communities, are stronger thanks to the dedication of these committed volunteers at Child Advocates of Fort Bend. We thank them for their commitment to volunteering their time for children who truly need it.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Child Advocates of Fort Bend. I thank them again for their dedication to foster children in our Fort Bend community.

HONORING MAJOR LESLIE R.
HADLEY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Major Leslie R. Hadley USAF Ret for his service to our nation. Major Hadley joined the United States Air Force and began pilot training at the age of 18. He piloted the B-24 Liberator, flying more than 30 missions in Europe and Korea, including historic D-Day missions over coastal France—June 4–7 1944.

Major Hadley was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism and earned four Air Medals and other commendations in the service of our nation.

A native of Ballardville, Massachusetts, Major Hadley was graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts and completed his study of statistics while in the service at the Harvard School of Business.

As a career officer, he lived in many places around the globe and retired while at McGuire AFB in New Jersey. He settled in Bucks County, Pennsylvania with his wife, Muriel Hart Hadley, and their children.

He was an active volunteer in his retirement years and composed many memoirs of the B-24 Liberator pilots and crews for their families.

He will be laid to rest with full military honors on November 16, 2017 in Washington Crossing National Cemetery, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In his life, Major Leslie R. Hadley demonstrated courageous, selfless service to the United States of America and devotion to family and friends. He has the gratitude of his beloved nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call No. 624 (on the passage of H.R. 3071). Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2810,
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-
TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Conference Report to the FY18 National Defense Authorization Act. This legislation helps ensure that our men and women in uniform are equipped to carry out their national security mission.

As the proud Representative of Naval Station Mayport—the East Coast homeport for Littoral Combat Ships—I commend the Committee for authorizing three more of these ships. The LCS platform currently provides a much-needed U.S. naval presence in global hotspots, especially in contested waters, and will do so for years to come. I would also like to commend them for allowing the Navy to make common-sense changes to the routine and low skilled maintenance requirements and practices of our forward deployed Littoral Combat Ships.

As the Navy and we in Congress work to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars while meeting the global threat, we must reevaluate our sustainment strategies so that LCS can be utilized to the fullest extent possible. However, I would like to express my strong belief that the more complex maintenance availabilities and modernizations still require the expertise, proficiency and experience of the U.S. ship repair industrial base. Without a strong industrial base, our assets and sailors would be unable to meet the requirements facing our Navy.

I thank the Committee for including detailed reporting requirements and a two-year sunset so Congress can work closely with the Navy to balance the importance of the U.S. ship repair industrial base and the flexibility needed for the Littoral Combat Ships on extended deployments.

This bill is a strong example of Congress's commitment to the LCS program and using taxpayer dollars wisely. I again thank the Chairman and the Committee for their hard work on this legislation.

THANKING THE MEN AND WOMEN
OF THE USS "WASP," USS "OAK
HILL," AND USS "KEARSARGE"

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize those in our military who have worked tirelessly to help Americans in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Despite my continuing concerns about the dreadful federal response to the devastation in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, I know that the dedicated men and women of our military have been working day and night to help bring much needed relief to those in need.

Without their help and aid, one can only imagine how much worse the situation would be now.

In the last two weeks, the USS *Wasp*, the USS *Oak Hill*, and the USS *Kearsarge* have returned home or are in the process of returning home. In both Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the sailors and Marines aboard these ships cleared roads to ease the flow of people and relief supplies, conducted search and rescue missions, helped deliver much needed supplies, and most of all, were a daily reminder to those they met that our country helps its citizens.

Speaking to the high tempo at which these men and women were working, the Navy reports that during the 68-day period of its hurricane relief deployment, the *Kearsarge* "conducted more amphibious and flight operations than would be completed in a routine six-month deployment."

And I would be remiss if I did not mention the invaluable contribution of National Guard personnel, including those impacted directly by the hurricanes, and those from all over the United States, including my home state of Wisconsin.

I would urge the Defense Department, even as these ships return home, to continue to ensure that its considerable resources and assets remain available to help Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in the trying weeks and months that still lay ahead. Our citizens in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands will need our help for many months to come and the military must continue to be a key part of that effort.

And I also strongly encourage the Administration to quickly send a new disaster funding request that accurately reflects the proposals that affected communities, including Texas, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, have put forward outlining the federal aid they need to help communities rebuild better.

Again, I salute the men and women in and out of uniform who have been and continue to help their fellow Americans during this deadly and devastating hurricane season. They are doing their part; now this Administration and Congress need to do ours in the coming weeks.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHOENIX
FIRE ENGINE COMPANY NO. 2

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Phoenix Fire Company No. 2 of Pottsville, Pennsylvania. The fire company will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on November 25.

The Phoenix Fire Company No. 2 originated from the Schuylkill Hydraulic Fire Company, which organized in April 1829 and was officially recognized the following year. This early company purchased a hand engine and was housed in Pottsville's original borough building. In 1861, a few days after the attack on Fort Sumter, the Schuylkill Hydraulic Company reformed into a military company called the Union Guards of Pottsville. They left for Harrisburg on April 24, 1861 and were greeted by Governor Andrew Curtin when they arrived.

Management of Pottsville's fire apparatus was then left to the borough council. The Phoenix Fire Engine Company was estab-

lished during reorganization meeting in September 1867. A hose carriage was purchased, and the company was headquartered at the corner of Centre and Norwegian Streets. In 1885, a cornerstone was set for a new fire house on East Norwegian Street, and this very house continues to serve as the station for the Phoenix Fire Company No. 2 today.

The company operated with horse-drawn equipment until summer 1919. In July that year, an American La France truck with a seventy-five-foot aerial ladder was purchased for \$18,000 and shipped to Pottsville. That truck saw extensive damage in 1925 when Phoenix Company responded to a major fire in Mechanicsville. After a six-month repair process, however, the engine was restored to working condition and served Pottsville well until 1939.

It is an honor to recognize such a historic and distinguished fire company. I am grateful for the Phoenix Fire Company's 150 years of outstanding service to our community, and you can count me as a strong supporter for a successful future.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2810,
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I will vote against the Conference Report for H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018.

The agreement includes several provisions that I strongly support, including giving servicemen and women a well-deserved raise of 2.4 percent. Those who serve in uniform have made extraordinary sacrifices for our country and have earned and deserve a pay raise. The Conference Report also includes funding for Ukraine and Eastern Europe security initiatives to counter Russia's heightened military provocations and annexation of Crimea. Additionally, it includes a provision recognizing climate change as a direct threat to our national security interests.

Despite these important initiatives, I have strong concerns with the Conference Report. The agreement authorizes more than \$692.1 billion, which is \$74.2 billion more than the FY 2017 authorized level and \$26.4 billion more than the president's request. This includes \$65.7 billion to the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) fund, an account which is not counted in the budget and is not paid for. It adds to the deficit and is used as a slush fund by the Pentagon.

Unlike every other federal agency, the Department of Defense (DOD) refuses to complete a financial audit so taxpayers know how the biggest bureaucracy in the federal government spends their money. In fact, a shocking report released last December exposed \$125 billion in administrative waste that the Pentagon tried to bury from being viewed by the public.

The Conference Report also authorizes \$13 billion for the F-35 program, including 90 new planes, 20 more planes than the Trump Administration requested. While I strongly support a modernized military, I have serious con-

cerns about the growing costs of the F-35 program. The Pentagon has projected that the lifetime operating and sustainment costs for the F-35 fleet will total more than \$1 trillion.

I refuse to support increased bureaucratic waste at the expense of American taxpayers and our men and women in uniform. A more accountable and transparent department would ensure taxpayer dollars are directed towards the needs of our troops and the benefits they deserve, rather than buying unnecessary weapon systems, sustaining a Cold War era military force, and giving the president a blank check to fund wars Congress hasn't authorized.

I have always advocated for maintaining Congress's constitutionally-confirmed prerogative to declare war under the War Powers Act and limiting the President's authority to engage in armed conflict without the consent of Congress. I strongly oppose the NDAA's continued authorization of spending for wars that are not congressionally approved. The Pentagon uses the 2001 Authorization of Use of Military Force (AUMF) to continue to justify the more than 16 years our troops have been fighting in the Middle East. In his short time in office, President Trump has already sent troops to Afghanistan, Iraq, Niger, Syria, and elsewhere without seeking a new Authorization of Use of Military Force (AUMF), a violation of the War Powers Act.

Additionally, the Conference Report prohibits the closing of Guantanamo Bay, which costs more than \$100 million each year to house 41 prisoners and has been used as a top recruiting tool by terrorists. Frankly, the prison at Guantanamo Bay has been a black eye for the United States, has eroded relationships with our allies, undermined U.S. missions abroad, and put U.S. citizens and our troops at risk of retaliation.

Congress can make responsible cuts to our defense budget without jeopardizing the safety of our troops or undermining our national security. Fiscal responsibility and accountability at the Pentagon would allow for funds to be better spent supporting the basic needs of our troops, meeting our obligations to veterans of past wars, and ensuring our true defense needs are prioritized.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALL-
EN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC)
DAMIAN LAQUASHA HEIDELBERG

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi soldier Army Private First Class (PFC) Damian Laquasha Heidelberg who paid the ultimate sacrifice on November 15, 2003, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. PFC Heidelberg was killed when two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters collided in Mosul, Iraq. He served as an administrative specialist in the Army. PFC Heidelberg was assigned to 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

According to the Associated Press, PFC Heidelberg, a Shubuta, Mississippi native, was a former choir member and church usher. He

was remembered by Staff Sergeant (SSG) Sylvester Watkins on a memorial website. "I served with him in the TOC and he was always smiling and always spoke," SSG Watkins said. "When I heard of his passing, I was home on mid-tour leave from Iraq. I felt bad because it wasn't me. That kind of trait found in Heidelberg is so hard to find, it must remain on earth. However, I realize his body planted in the ground is merely a seed which, after the winter, will blossom and show its wonderful colors. We will then know he is again among us. We love you, brother."

Phyllis Heidelberg, PFC Heidelberg's aunt, told the Associated Press that her nephew was a good man. "He was a wonderful young man, sweet and mild mannered," Ms. Heidelberg said. "He was slow to speak, loved to go to church, and always had a big smile." Jerry Jones, one of PFC Heidelberg's childhood friends, said of his determined work ethic. "He told me that he was trying to make something of himself," Mr. Jones said. "He was trying to make it for his family and his baby."

Prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army, PFC Heidelberg was a student in the auto mechanic program at the Finch-Henry Job Corps Center in Batesville. To this day, a plaque commemorating PFC Heidelberg's service is on display at the facility. Earlene Brewer, a career and technical training instructor, recently said PFC Heidelberg was a standout student. "He was a good soul," Mrs. Brewer said. "He was very friendly. His parents raised him right."

PFC Heidelberg is survived by his father, Grady Jones; his mother, Deborah Heidelberg; and his daughter, Stacie.

PFC Heidelberg's service and sacrifice to protect America will not be forgotten.

HONORING THE DODGE FAMILY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, this year the Riverdale Neighborhood House is celebrating its 145th Anniversary, and to mark the occasion they are honoring the family that started it all for them, the Dodges, at their annual anniversary gala.

Few names are as synonymous with RNH and the Northwest Bronx as the Dodges. Their roots in the community run deep, starting in 1872 when Grace Hoadley Dodge founded the Riverdale Neighborhood House. Grace, at the age of 16, created a small library in one of the greenhouses on her family's property in Riverdale. The library became a hub for the workers in Riverdale and grew from there. In 1884, Grace helped Riverdale Neighborhood House acquire its own building, which provided community based services for the workers of Riverdale.

In 1917, Grace's brother, Cleveland Hoadley Dodge, established the Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation. At the time, the Dodge family was profiting greatly off their copper mining business due to the Great War. Dodge was determined, as he wrote to his Presbyterian pastor, that "I will not burn my pockets by keeping a cent of the money coming to me from war profits." He set up the Foundation with the very general proviso that its income should be used "for the betterment of mankind." Ever

since its establishment, grants have been made by the Foundation to charitable and cultural institutions in New York City. In many cases, members of the family had helped to found them and subsequent generations have continued to support them.

The combined good works of RNH and the Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation are too many to list. Through the years, many members of the Dodge family have shared their wealth, wisdom and support to the programs and services at RNH: Grace Parish Dodge, (Mrs. Cleveland H. Dodge) contributed to the Bayard Dodge Pool project in 1945; Mrs. Pauline M. Dodge, (Mrs. Cleveland E. Dodge) served on the RNH Board for many years, and Grace's grand nephew and grand nieces, Alfred H. Howell, Elizabeth Dodge R. Haxall, and Ruth Rea Howell, also served RNH during their lifetimes.

The commitment the Dodge family has shown to RNH and our neighborhood is inspiring. They have done a wealth of good for my constituents and I want to thank them as they receive this great honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 623, 624, and 625 on Monday, November 13, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on roll call vote 624, and "Nay" on roll call votes 623 and 625.

COLORADO NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS PROGRAM AWARD-EES TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Connect Charter School in Pueblo, Colorado, which was recently named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School by U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

With this award, the Connect School has been recognized as one of the nation's highest performing educational institutions. Members of the Pueblo community know that this honor is well deserved. The dedication shown by the teachers, administrators, and school staff is extraordinary, and I know they have a profound impact on the lives of each student who attends Connect School.

National Blue Ribbon Schools are among the nation's highest performing educational institutions, as measured by state assessments, nationally normed test scores, and graduation rates. Now in its 35th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has recognized over 8,500 public and private elementary, middle and high schools. The Connect School should be proud of its inclusion in the 2017 award group, and I join the Pueblo community and entire state in offering my enthusiastic congratulations.

HONORING JAMES HENRY FORD

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the life of James Henry Ford of Martinsville, Virginia. Jim passed away on October 28, 2017. He was a fine man who always had the interests of his community at heart.

Jim grew up in Martinsville and made his career practicing law there for 58 years after he studied at Roanoke College and the University of Virginia Law School. As an active member of the Martinsville and Virginia State Bar, he served two terms on the Virginia State Bar Council. I came to know Jim when we served together on the Blue Ridge Boy Scout Council, which covers 21 counties and nine cities in Virginia, in the 1980s and 90s. I greatly respected his contributions as well as his commitment; whenever the council met, he would drive over an hour from Martinsville to Roanoke. This level of dedication was typical of Jim, who found every venue he could to serve the community around him. Along with the Boy Scout Council, he served as president of the Martinsville Jaycees, the YMCA, and the Kiwanis. He helped found and later led the Piedmont Arts Association. As a lifetime member of Martinsville's First Presbyterian Church, he served variously as Deacon, Elder, and Clerk of Session. For many years he served as Chairman of the Martinsville Planning Commission and as Secretary of the United Fund of Martinsville and Henry County. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Patrick Henry Scholarship Fund.

Jim garnered honors for his work with these organizations, including the Scout's Silver Beaver Award, the highest award a volunteer can receive at the council level, and the Jaycees' Distinguished Service Award. His service was a gift to the people of Martinsville and its surrounding communities. Our society counts on people like Jim, the men and women who dedicate their time, their resources, and their passion to the places they call home. They do so not in search of monetary gain or the acquisition of power, but out of a sense of duty to their community and joy in improving the lives of their fellow citizens.

Jim is survived by his wife Sandra, his daughter Margaret, his son Martin, and his grandchildren Wesley, Sandra, Jimmy, and Charlotte. My thoughts are with them in this difficult time. The Martinsville/Henry County area is diminished by his passing, as we all are.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE WITH RESPECT TO UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARDS YEMEN

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I have heard from many of my constituents who are concerned about U.S. involvement in Yemen. The

country is in ruins, civilians are paying the price, and there seems to be little to no interest in using our considerable heft and moral authority to search for and find a diplomatic solution.

We are no closer to peace in Yemen today than when the first bombs dropped. What we do have after over two years of war and suffering is a fractured country, repeated attacks on health and other civilian facilities in a country now experiencing a deadly cholera outbreak that could eventually reach 1 million suspected cases by year's end, limited access to lifesaving humanitarian aid, including the decision last week by the Saudi-led coalition to close all ports and ground all humanitarian flights into the country that will only make a bad situation, worse.

That decision was quickly condemned by the United Nations and others who warned about the dire consequences for Yemen's 27 million citizens. In the face of international pressure and condemnation, it appears the Saudi-led coalition may now reopen some ports but the situation remains dire.

There are serious questions that need to be answered about U.S. involvement, direct and indirect, including what it is actually helping to achieve, and what are the costs. While participation in the Yemen civil war preceded this Administration, that fact does not remove the responsibility of the President and this Congress.

The final FY 2018 Defense Authorization bill (H.R. 2810) that we are going to consider later this week includes a provision calling for a U.S. Security Strategy for Yemen from this Administration. That would be a step forward. Unfortunately, the bill that will come before the House this week would strip—without public debate, discussion, or deliberation—a provision from the House-passed bill that would have barred any use of taxpayer funding to deploy members of the U.S. Armed Forces to participate in the ongoing civil war in Yemen.

Additionally, the House-passed version of H.R. 1298 barred the use of taxpayer funds authorized in the bill to conduct U.S. military operations in Yemen. That provision was also dropped in conference with the Senate, again with no public debate or deliberation. If we agree that the humanitarian situation is horrific, that a political solution is the only solution, then why keep the pathway open for broader U.S. military engagement?

The provisions in the House-passed version of H.R. 2810 would have put strong teeth behind the resolution we are considering today and behind the concerns expressed during this debate and in this resolution regarding the humanitarian crises that is unfolding in Yemen as a direct result of this damaging conflict.

Mr. Speaker, it is not in our nation's interest to make a dangerous region only more volatile. It is not in our nation's interest to see Yemen become an even more broken and divided nation and even a failed state. And it is not clear that continuing to do more of the same will not reverse those trends or bring us closer to the diplomatic solution that is almost universally recognized as the only effective solution.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring a resolution recognizing the needs of children of incarcerated parents.

The U.S. continues to lead the world in the rate of incarceration with over 2.3 million people behind bars. Not only does the system disproportionately impact the lives of low income families and minorities—it also hurts the goals of rehabilitation and breaking the cycle of violence in our communities.

As Congress works to address the problems facing our criminal justice system, we should do so with more than just the offenders and ex-offenders in mind. We need to raise awareness of the unique problems faced by children of incarcerated parents. When families are separated by the criminal justice system, it turns their whole world upside down. The family often loses a source of income and child care. Some children are forced to enter the foster care system. Without the proper resources and nurturing, these children are more likely to follow in the footsteps of their parents and face a life of crime themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMANDA GRADY SEXTON FOR BEING AWARDED THE 2017 SANDRA MATHESON AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY COMMITMENT TO VICTIMS OF CRIME

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Amanda Grady Sexton, the Director of Public Affairs for the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, for receiving the 2017 Sandra Matheson Award for Exemplary Commitment to Victims of Crime.

Amanda is incredibly deserving of this recognition; having worked tirelessly at the New Hampshire Coalition for 15 years to ensure protections for survivors of sexual assault in the Granite State. She led the effort in the state legislature to pass legislation that strengthens New Hampshire's Rape Shield Law and established critical protections for survivors of sexual violence. She has also supported other initiatives to extend the statute of limitations in cases of child sexual abuse and criminalized acts of human trafficking and domestic violence in state law.

Though Amanda's voice is essential in New Hampshire, her advocacy extends beyond the Granite State. She regularly advises me and other members of the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, and assisted Congress with the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and the passage of the Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act.

Through her incredible work, Amanda has given hope and a voice to countless victims of crime in New Hampshire and nationwide, and has helped reduce the stigma associated with sexual assault.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have benefitted from Amanda's work, I thank her for everything she has done and will continue to do for our state, and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to our continued work together to make New Hampshire be an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

HONORING MICHAEL M. MCHUGH

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to acknowledge an individual who has been an invaluable asset to the Saint Joseph's Medical Center community, Mr. Michael McHugh.

Mike, as he is better known, was born in Yonkers and graduated from Manhattan College where he received a degree in Civil Engineering. Upon graduation, Mike joined Moretech American Corp. where he remains to this day. At Moretech, Mike serves as the Executive Vice President and is directly responsible for the company's Safety Program in its Northern Regional Offices. He is also responsible for business development in New York City Metropolitan region. Moretech has worked on several big projects in the area, including the Second Avenue Subway, East Side Access, World Trade Center Recovery and Rebuilding, in addition to several projects for the Water Supply. Mike's activity on the construction industry also extends beyond Moretech. He serves as a trustee for The Moles in addition to several committees for the General Contractor's Association of New York.

Mike joined the Board of Saint Joseph's Medical Center in June 2012. Since that time he has also served as member of the Board's Ball Committee and the Planning and Building Committee. And in June 2017 he became a member of the Personnel Committee of the Board. Mike's extensive knowledge and expertise in the construction industry has been a tremendous asset to Saint Joseph's for all the years he has served as a member of its Board of Trustees.

In addition to serving on the Board of Saint Joseph's Medical Center, Mike is a member of the AOH and is currently President of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in Westchester County. He was also active in AYSO, CYO, and was President of the Little League when he was raising his family in Ardsley, another community I represent.

This year, Saint Joseph's Medical Center is honoring Mike at their 2017 Annual Ball with their 2017 Outstanding Service Award. They could not have picked a more deserving honoree. I want to congratulate Mike on receiving this well-deserved honor, and thank him for all he has done to service the community.

HONORING JEFF SPENCE OF PENNSYLVANIA ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN 29 YEARS OF SERVICE IN LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I extend my sincere congratulations to my constituent, Detective First Class Jeff Spence of the York City Police Department, upon his retirement after almost 30 years in law enforcement.

I've long appreciated the commitment of people who devote themselves selflessly to serving our Nation and communities. After graduating from William Penn Senior High School in York, Pennsylvania, Mr. Spence served our Nation in the United States Air Force. He began his law enforcement career in the patrol division of the York City Police Department, where he was later promoted to Detective and later Detective First Class.

Mr. Spence has earned countless awards and commendations for his service, including Police Officer of the Year by both the City of York and York County, as well as induction to the York City School District Hall of Fame. His peers describe a true professional whose tireless dedication, professionalism and sacrifice touched the lives of countless people and challenged all with whom he served to be the best. His legacy of service to our Nation and community sets the standard for all to follow.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's. Fourth Congressional District, I thank and congratulate Jeff Spence on his service and wish him and his family great happiness and success in their future adventures.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAIR—MINNESOTA CHAPTER

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Minnesota Muslims in recognizing the 10th anniversary on the founding of the Council on American-Islamic Relations—Minnesota Chapter (CAIR—MN). CAIR—MN is among the 35 Regional Offices and chapters across the United States that are working to enhance reinforce core American values by encouraging dialogue, promoting social justice, protecting civil liberties and fostering freedom of religion. CAIR—MN is to be commended for their advocacy work to advance civil rights and ensure that America remains a beacon of hope, freedom, opportunity and respect for people of all backgrounds.

At a time when Muslim Americans and Muslim immigrants face unprecedented levels of intolerance and abject bigotry, the work of CAIR—MN is vital. Minnesotans treasure our diversity and the desire for open and meaningful dialogue as we work together to strengthen our communities. Our growing and vibrant Muslim community in Minnesota is an important part of the fabric of this country, and I am pleased that CAIR—MN is actively engaged with our local communities across our state.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Minnesota families of many cultures, ethnicities and faiths. CAIR—MN plays an important role in protecting our state's culture and tradition of respect for all. Please join me in recognizing CAIR—MN for 10 years of advocacy and dialogue on behalf of Minnesota Muslims.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUSTY SELIX

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the leadership of Rusty Selix, whose outstanding advocacy and efforts on behalf of mental health have changed, improved and saved lives. Rusty has been a leading expert in mental health policy and finance for the past 30 years, and state and local government policy and finance for 40 years. His work has been focused on mental health since 1986, when he became the Executive Director and legislative representative of the California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies, a statewide association of non-profit, publicly funded mental health providers. He also served as the Executive Director of the Mental Health Association (Mental Health America) in California from 1993 until 2014 and has worked with every major mental health organization nationally and in California. He has served as Chair of the Policy Committee for the National Council for Behavioral Health and Mental Health America, helping to guide national mental health policy for many years. Rusty was the original co-author and leader, with Senator and now Mayor Darrell Steinberg, of the Proposition 63 Campaign—the November 2004 California ballot measure which is transforming the state's public mental health system.

Beyond his innumerable and far-reaching accomplishments, I honor Rusty for the spirit and manner in which he has achieved them. Rusty has been able to intuitively and adeptly reach out and bring together with a diversity of stakeholders in collaborative efforts to attain a united goal. Guided by an unwavering focus on mental health, Rusty combines a clear understanding of the "big picture" with a solid, grounded sense of what can be shifted or altered to achieve change. Be it legislative, financial or organizational Rusty can see the necessary steps ahead and present his position in a way that encompasses and appeals to the needs and interests of those who can impact their own systems to accommodate the proposed change. With an authentic, non-defensive posture, Rusty is truly open to listening and learning about the others' concerns and able to skillfully propose feasible solutions to potential problems.

Rusty's tireless work has always been about creating the change that can bring reality to his vision of improving lives and systems and not about self-aggrandizement. He acts with great integrity and, as such, is trusted for his honesty and his ability to follow through. Throughout our work together on mental health policy, he has always acted as an immediate, knowledgeable, and trusted resource.

Mr. Speaker, I know many in the state government and the mental health and substance use disorders community will miss the work

and presence of Rusty Selix as he takes a step back from his active role with CCBHA and will serve as the Senior Policy Consultant for this organization for which he has done so much. He has been an incomparable force with a strong, solid voice. His legacy will live on for years to come and I'm pleased that he will continue to be a voice for behavioral health care providers and those that they serve in the great state of California.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SPECIALIST (SPC) JEREMIAH JOSEPH DIGIOVANNI

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi soldier Army Specialist (SPC) Jeremiah Joseph DiGiovanni who paid the ultimate sacrifice on November 15, 2003, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SPC DiGiovanni was killed when two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters collided in Mosul, Iraq. SPC DiGiovanni was among 17 soldiers killed in the collision. SPC DiGiovanni was assigned to 4th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

According to the Associated Press, SPC DiGiovanni, a Covington, Louisiana native, graduated from North Pike High School in Summit, Mississippi. He joined the Army in November 2000. He later received training for his job as a Black Hawk crew chief. Joe DiGiovanni, SPC DiGiovanni's father, said his son's job was very important to him. "It was 250 miles an hour, pants on fire with both doors open," Mr. DiGiovanni said. "He was a Black Hawk Crew Chief and he lived to get in that helicopter and fly."

Tonja Ludlam, a friend of SPC DiGiovanni, wrote a post about him on a memorial website. "To all who knew DJ, we were touched deeply by a boy who grew to be a man before our eyes," Tonja wrote. "He was so proud to wear the uniform, be the best soldier he could be, and so proud to serve our country. He studied hard to be a Crew Chief and do what he loved the most. I miss his smiles and the fun we had in the short time I knew him."

During his three years of service, SPC DiGiovanni was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Basic Aviation Badge, and the Sharpshooter Qualification Badge.

The funeral was held at Calvary Baptist Church in Pricedale Community, Mississippi, where SPC DiGiovanni was raised by his father and stepmother, Helen DiGiovanni.

SPC DiGiovanni is survived by his father and stepmother, Joseph A. DiGiovanni and Helen DiGiovanni; his mother and stepfather, Laurie A. Brock and Kendall Brock; his six stepsisters, Brandy Blackwell, Misty Blackwell, Kaitlin Brock, Sarah Brock, Hannah Brock, and Elisabeth Brock; his three brothers, Brett Kennedy, Kendall Brock, and Noah Brock.

SPC DiGiovanni's service and sacrifice to protect America will always be remembered.

HONORING LOUIS C. ROSE, MD

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a medical professional who has done tremendous work in my district, Louis C. Rose, who this year will be honored at the Saint Joseph's Medical Center's Annual Ball.

Louis is a native of the Bronx and a graduate of C.W. Post College. He received his medical degree at Rutgers Medical School and finished his residency in orthopedic surgery at New York Medical College. After becoming Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery, he was invited to join the faculty in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at NYMC.

In 1999, Louis joined the staff at Westchester Medical Center where he accepted the position of Chief of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Cornell affiliate hospital in the Bronx. There he served as Chief medical officer and Chairman of the Board, and he was also appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Presbyterian Hospital System. Currently, Louis serves as Chief of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Associate Director of the Department of Surgery at Saint Joseph's Medical Center.

Louis has been very active in the community as well. He has organized many community health programs in the Bronx and his service has been recognized by a wide array of civic and health care leaders. Awards include the New York State Liberty Award, the highest award given to a civilian in the State of New York, the New York State Senatorial Award, and he has received a proclamation from the City of New York for all of his community work. Louis is also an appointed NYC Police Surgeon and has served on the Medical Advisory Board of the NYS Athletic Commission.

In addition, Louis is the Founder and Executive Medical Director of Throgs Neck Multi Care, a comprehensive medical facility specializing in the treatment and care of all orthopedic trauma, injuries, and degenerative changes. He served as President of the Bronx Medical Society from June 2013 until May 2014 and is still an active member.

As you can see, Saint Joseph's is privileged to have such an accomplished and outstanding physician as Dr. Louis Rose. He is most deserving of this recognition, and I wish to congratulate him on the honor.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO
UPDATE THE SELECTIVE SERVICE
REGISTRATION SYSTEM

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to make a commonsense update to the Selective Service Registration system.

As my colleagues know, our country has long recognized the moral dilemma faced by those with strong religious or moral grounds against serving in the military and engaging in

war. As noted by the Supreme Court in *Welsh vs. United States*, there are many in our country "whose consciences, spurred by deeply held moral, ethical, or religious beliefs, would give them no rest or peace if they allowed themselves to become a part of an instrument of war."

Historically, Congress has provided for alternative service or exemption from service for those whose scruples and conscience cannot allow them to participate in combat or in any form of military service.

In today's all-volunteer military, those who have moral objections to participating in war can opt not to join the military. However, under the Universal Military Training and Service Act, all men between the ages of 18 and 26, including conscientious objectors, are still required to register for a national draft, should Congress authorize one.

My bill would require that the Selective Service provide registrants, at the time of registration, with the option to indicate a desire to be classified as a conscientious objector.

My bill would make clear that simply making that indication at registration does not bind the U.S. in any way and does not assure that the registrant will be so classified.

Finally, the bill would allow the Selective Service system to also accept, at the time of registration, written statements in support of a conscientious exemption claim.

I want to be clear that the legislation does not change current requirements for how such claims are handled. Under current law, those who pursue a conscientious exemption from military service during a draft can only put forward an actual claim, with supporting evidence, after they get an induction notice.

Again Mr. Speaker, our nation has a history of recognizing, as noted by the Supreme Court in *Gillette v. United States*, "the situation of conscientious objectors to war, who, absent special status, would be put to a hard choice between contravening imperatives of religion and conscience or suffering penalties." My bill simply tries to make the process of registering those objections more direct and straightforward.

HONORING DR. JACK BERMINGHAM

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Dr. Jack Bermingham, the President of Highline College, on his retirement.

Dr. Bermingham's academic career began in 1979, upon earning his Ph.D. in History from the University of California, Santa Barbara. After serving on the faculty of the University of the West Indies in Jamaica, he moved to Washington state where he later became the Dean of Social Sciences at Pacific Lutheran University. His career at Highline College began in 1994 when he joined the College's administration as Academic Vice President. His career at Highline progressed and he was appointed to serve as the college's President in 2006.

During his tenure at Highline College, Dr. Bermingham fought to further education on many fronts. He expanded the College's col-

laborations with businesses, K-12 schools, four-year institutions, and local organizations in order to improve the community's access to education. Under his leadership, the college began offering four-year degree programs, among them the Bachelor of Applied Science in Cyber Security, which received regional, national, and international recognition. Dr. Bermingham also served on numerous boards and committees at the national and regional level.

Dr. Bermingham has also been a leader in international education. He has presented at international conferences, including in Turkey, Hong Kong, and Botswana. He served as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Board of Community Colleges for International Development, which also recognized his outstanding work in international education in 2005. That same year, he was also recognized by the Polytechnic of Namibia for his instrumental role in the success of that institution's international partnerships. Additionally, for the past seven years under Dr. Bermingham's presidency, Highline College has hosted the Pacific Rim Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition which attracts teams from international universities and institutions.

Throughout his career, Dr. Bermingham has been an ardent champion of diversity and social justice. Highline College has become the most diverse higher education institution in Washington state. It is also a place where many immigrants and refugees begin their journey to achieve their academic and professional dreams. Highline College was awarded the Equity Award from the Association of Community College Trustees in 2016, and for the last four years has been awarded the High Education Excellence in Diversity Award. Dr. Bermingham made it a priority for Highline College and their faculty to serve all students, regardless of color, creed, ethnicity, or economic situation.

Dr. Bermingham's legacy is one of harmony, inclusion, and academic excellence. He has proven himself to be a tenacious leader, and has also shown to have the ability to connect with people through kindness and compassion. He will be greatly missed at the college by faculty, students, and the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Dr. Jack Bermingham on his twenty-three years of service at Highline College and wish him the very best in his retirement.

EMERGENCY SERVICES AWARDS

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first responders of Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Recently, I was privileged to speak to nearly 300 first responders at the 45th Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce's Emergency Services Award Dinner and offer them my heartfelt thanks. As an EMT myself, I understand the love that these individuals have for their neighbors and their community. Mr. Speaker, I was honored to recognize:

Robert Dondo, William Fluck IV, Eoghan Lowry, Karen Gibbons, Lisa Aron, Steven

Vance, Michael Nyari, Keller Taylor, Zuri Kalix, Darren Carroll.

Christopher A. Horner, John Thomas, Jim Snock, Mark Potent, Scott Martin, Jessica Leal, Kevin Murphy, Michael Ray, Nancy Mayers, Pat Mattes.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank these men and women for their service to our community.

HONORING WASHINGTON PHOTO SAFARI

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the District of Columbia-based Washington Photo Safari, which has just hosted the 35,000th participant in its amateur photographers training program.

Founded by professional architectural photographer E. David Luria, Washington Photo Safari was the first community-based field photography training program in the country. With 11 instructors, the program provides more than 40 photography skill sets in 140 different venues throughout the District.

Most of Washington Photo Safari's participants come from the D.C.-area. The participants' skill levels range from people who have just bought their first camera to seasoned professional photographers who value Mr. Luria's knowledge of when, where and how to capture the best images in the District.

Averaging just six to seven participants per training session, the "photo safaris" take place at some of the District's most iconic landmarks, including the National Mall, Washington National Cathedral, Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, Tidal Basin, Capitol Hill, Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, Smithsonian National Zoo, National Gallery of Art and National Museum of American History.

The Washington Photo Safari has received Trip Advisor's Certificate of Excellence Award for the past five years due to dozens of five-star reviews from its customers, solidifying its place on Trip Advisor's list of top 10 outdoor activities in the District. In addition, with its success, similar programs have been implemented in 20 other U.S. cities with guidance provided by Washington Photo Safari.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Washington Photo Safari for its achievements and contributions to the District of Columbia tourism industry, as well as for serving as a member organization of Destination DC, Cultural Tourism of DC and the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

INTRODUCING THE RECIDIVISM REDUCTION ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the Recidivism Reduction Act to

help streamline our Social Security system and reinstate fairness for ex-offenders who have served their time.

The Recidivism Reduction Act will quickly restore federal disability benefits for eligible individuals after incarceration. Access to federal disability and health care benefits is a critical component of successful re-entry into the community when individuals are released from prison or jail, especially among the mentally ill.

Typically, federal disability benefits are either suspended or terminated depending on the length of incarceration. However, upon release these benefits should be reinstated promptly to help provide access to essential treatment services and supports, housing and necessary income. Currently, due to barriers in federal law, it often takes several months to reinstate benefits. Addressing this delay will help foster successful transitions into the community and reduce the likelihood of recidivism.

The bill does not grant individuals new benefits; rather it removes bureaucratic hurdles to ensure that individuals promptly receive the benefits to which they are entitled in order to break the cycle of recidivism.

When individuals have prompt access to disability and medical benefits after incarceration, they are better equipped to transition successfully into the community, which would help reduce prison overcrowding and save taxpayer money. By cosponsoring the Recidivism Reduction Act, we can make the technical corrections to current law that will make a real difference.

WENDY AND JEFF MAURER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, this year, the Hebrew Home at Riverdale is celebrating its incredible 100th anniversary, and on that special occasion they have chosen to honor two individuals who have given so much back to the community, Wendy and Jeff Maurer.

For Wendy and Jeff, philanthropy comes from the heart and is an integral part of their lives. They have devoted their time and resources to a select group of meaningful not-for-profit organizations, focusing predominately on Jewish and health causes that truly make a difference in countless lives. Wendy and Jeff's ties to the Hebrew Home are strong and deep rooted. Jeff's great grandparents were among the initial families who founded the Hebrew Home in 1917; his grandparents and parents, and Wendy's parents were all residents at the Home. In 1991 Jeff joined the Board of the Hebrew Home and became Chairman of the Board in 2004.

Under Jeff's leadership, and in collaboration with the Home's executive management and Board, the Hebrew Home has expanded significantly, evolving into RiverSpring Health. The organization has grown from 1,000 older adults in its care, to 12,000 throughout New York City, continuing its great legacy.

Wendy served as Sisterhood President and Board member of Temple Israel of Great Neck, and has held a number of roles with the Manhattan chapter of the UJA Federation, most recently as co-chair of Connections, an arm of women's philanthropy. She left teach-

ing in 1975 to raise their two children and to concentrate on the family's charitable interests, as well as to further her own education. She earned her Masters in Social Work in 1991.

Wendy and Jeff have done so much for our community, and have helped countless individuals along the way. They are most deserving of this wonderful recognition from the Hebrew Home and I want to congratulate them both on this great honor.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA BUSH MIDDLE SCHOOL, IRVING, TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Barbara Bush Middle School located in the Valley Ranch area of Irving, Texas. This prestigious school was named after America's former First Lady, Barbara Bush, in honor of her commitment to public education and the good of all children. Barbara Bush Middle School opened its doors during the fall of 1998 as the sixth middle school in the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District. In 2010, the campus was authorized as an International Baccalaureate World School offering the Middle Years Program. This institution serves and celebrates a wonderfully diverse community and student body.

As they soon celebrate their twenty year anniversary, Barbara Bush Middle School, home of the Broncos, has accrued numerous accolades in Academics, Fine Arts, Athletics, and individual accomplishments at both the local and state levels. Students participate and compete in a wide array of activities within the University Interscholastic League: orchestra, band, choir, theatre, basketball, cheerleading, football, track and field, volleyball, soccer, art, writing, oral reading, and spelling. The awards that the school has earned includes medals from the Special Olympics Competition in bowling and track and field, progression belts in the Kick Start Karate Program, and even the awarding of "Ambassador of the Year" by the Friends of Texas Public Schools to Principal Matthew Warnock in 2012.

Barbara Bush Middle School is fortunate to receive significant and ongoing support from the community's civic organizations, churches, businesses and their own Parent-Teacher Association in the form of scholarships, grants, volunteer hours and donations. The school, on average, has about eighty students each year take part in a mentorship program made possible by local churches and Big Hope, as well as gifts of school supplies and other necessities often given to students by local businesses. To help foster global caring and responsibility, and to show appreciation for all that is done on behalf of the school, the Barbara Bush Middle School Broncos have enthusiastically contributed thousands of dollars and other items to numerous local, national and international charities such as: The Pulsera Project-Color the World, Limbs International, Operation Kindness, UNICEF, North Texas Food Bank, Metrocrest Services, American Heart Association, Children Cancer Fund, and victims of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey.

The teachers, staff, and students of Barbara Bush Middle School constantly strive to honor the former First Lady's legacy, which is captured in their school's motto, "It's a great day to be a Bronco at Barbara Bush Middle School where our number one goal is high achievement for each student!" Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the fine members of Barbara Bush Middle School. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in wishing the school continued success in all of its endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE SENTINEL OF
SAFETY AWARD WINNERS

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize twenty mining companies awarded the National Mining Association's (NMA) Sentinels of Safety award, the oldest occupational safety and health award in our nation. Presented annually, the award recognizes mines that have worked the most employee hours in a year without experiencing an injury.

In addition to the Sentinels award, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health recognized three mining companies that "have made an extraordinary effort to apply technology or improve processes in innovative ways, above and beyond mandatory requirements, to improve mine worker safety and health."

The Sentinels award was created in 1925 by a mining engineer, then-Secretary of Commerce and future President Herbert Hoover, who desired to "stimulate greater interest in safety among the nation's mineral extractive industries and to encourage the development of more effective accident prevention programs by according national recognition to operations achieving outstanding safety records."

The U.S. mining industry continues to make great strides in safety performance. Last year, 85 percent of the more than 11,000 mines in our country operated without a single injury. This year's Sentinels award winners are the top twenty operations among the 3,500 mines operating without a single injury.

The National Mining Association continues to be a leader in mine safety and health.

Our miners are indeed a precious national resource serving as the front-end of the supply chain for the energy, minerals and materials that are indispensable to our standard of living and prosperity. We should be thankful for what they provide our great country and proud of them for being both more productive and safer than ever before.

The following are the 2016 NMA Sentinels of Safety and NIOSH technology award winners: Freedom Mine—The Coteau Properties Co, Barrick Cortez—Barrick Cortez, Inc., South Arturo Mine—Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc., Barrick Cortez Underground—Barrick Cortez, Bull Mountains Mine No. 1—Signal Peak Energy, LLC, Briggs Plant—Fordyce Holdings, Inc., Murphy Plant—Fordyce Holdings, Inc., Ceredo Dock—Kanawha River Terminals, LLC, Cargill Deicing Technology, Cleveland—Cargill, Inc., St. Genevieve Facility—Tower Rock Stone Co., Portage Aggregate & Supply LLC, Curtin Gap Quarry—Han-

son Aggregates Pennsylvania LLC, Siderite Mine—Sidco Minerals Inc., Coon Cedar Grove Mine—Marfork Coal Co., LLC, Buick Mine/Mill—The Doe Run Co., Decker's Creek Limestone Co—Decker's Creek Limestone Co., Kinross Gold, Freeport-McMoRan, Peabody.

On behalf of Alabama's First Congressional and the entire House, I applaud this year's winners and look forward to continuing to advocate for the health and safety of our miners throughout my time in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. RUBIE ELLA
NIXON SCHUMPERT

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great South Carolinian and accomplished educator who will celebrate her 100th birthday on November 22nd.

Mrs. Rubie Ella Nixon Schumpert is the third of nine children born to Mr. Sumter Nixon and Mrs. Ella Bell Suber Nixon on November 22, 1917. She received her elementary education in South Carolina and Maryland, and her high school education at Harbison Institute in Irmo, South Carolina where she was class valedictorian.

She attended Barber-Scotia and Benedict colleges and obtained her Masters of Education degree from South Carolina State College. She did further studies at Wake Forest University and the University of South Carolina. Mrs. Schumpert earned certification in six areas of study: Elementary Education, Social Studies, English, Mathematics, French and Counseling.

Mrs. Schumpert began her professional career in Lexington County, South Carolina, where she served as an elementary and high school teacher, head teacher and elementary school principal. Later in her career, she worked in Richland County School District One at C.A. Johnson High School as a guidance counselor and was chair of the Math Department. While at C.A. Johnson, Mrs. Schumpert co-authored a mathematics textbook through a federal grant for non-college bound students through the University of South Carolina.

She recorded television lessons for the U.S. military to help young soldiers achieve success in algebra courses. She also served on Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) committees evaluating schools across the state of South Carolina. Upon retiring from the District One School System, Mrs. Schumpert worked at Benedict College as a professor of mathematics for ten years. She has long been active in the community serving on numerous professional and civic organizations.

Mrs. Schumpert was married to the late John Barton Schumpert, and they had two daughters, LaVerne S. (Alphonso) Bassard and LaMaris S. Mack. She also has four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I began my professional career as a classroom teacher in the public schools of South Carolina, and I have always revered the profession of educator, especially those at the grade school level. I am honored to pay tribute to this great educator, Mrs.

Rubie Ella Nixon Schumpert and ask that you and my colleagues join me I wishing her a Happy 100th birthday.

HONORING HEBREW HOME 100TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is a true privilege for me to honor one of the great institutions in my district, the Hebrew Home, which this year is celebrating its remarkable 100th Anniversary.

Operated by RiverSpring Health, The Hebrew Home for the Aged's history dates back to 1917, when a group of civic minded individuals began providing shelter for poor, aging immigrants in a small synagogue in Harlem. As the needs of the community grew, so did the Hebrew Home. They expanded their reach by moving to a beautiful 32-acre campus in Riverdale, where they then became known as the Hebrew Home at Riverdale.

From there, the Hebrew Home's services continued to expand. Today they offer many options to meet the evolving needs of older adults. In addition to their award winning nursing care, their care solutions include assisted living, independent living, rehabilitation services, care management, home care options, and specialized programs including elder abuse prevention. With a comprehensive and caring approach to healthy aging, the RiverSpring Health family of care solutions offers help and support to over 12,000 residents, patients, and members, empowering them to live the fullest lives they can each and every day.

Of course, to meet its mission of helping older adults live full lives the Hebrew Home must maintain strong leadership. It starts at the top with Dan Reingold, the CEO and President of Hebrew Home, who has been instrumental in the Home's continued success and sterling reputation. Dan and his team have done tremendous work day after day and I am proud to call him a friend.

As Congressman for the Northwest Bronx I am truly fortunate to have such a wonderful institution working with me as a partner in the community. With their countless years of expertise, a commitment to healthy aging, and compassion for our communities, the RiverSpring Health team has been dedicated to helping families live forward, every day. Congratulations to the entire Hebrew Home organization on 100 years of exemplary service to the community.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and

any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland,

to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
SH-216

DECEMBER 6

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine firearm accessory regulation and enforcing Federal and state reporting to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 664, to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Navajo in Utah, to authorize construction of projects in connection therewith, and S. 1770, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Hualapai Tribe and certain allottees in the State of Arizona,

to authorize construction of a water project relating to those water rights claims.

SD-628

DECEMBER 13

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine the consumer welfare standard in antitrust.

SD-226