

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER
OF SPECIAL AGENT-IN-CHARGE
CJ HYMAN

HON. TREY GOWDY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. GOWDY. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in honor of a friend and an exceptional Special Agent-in-Charge at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. I want to recognize the career of Special Agent-in-Charge CJ Hyman, who retired in December after more than 30 years of distinguished service at the ATF.

Whereas, Special Agent-in-Charge Hyman began his career with the ATF in 1987, as a Special Agent in Charlotte, North Carolina. There Special Agent Hyman played an integral role in the forming of the Charlotte Violent Crime Task Force, in which he investigated and prosecuted narcotics and firearms trafficking as well as robberies, kidnappings, and homicides. Special Agent Hyman would be selected to lead the task force for five years, during which time he supervised and led the investigation of Eric Rudolph after he bombed an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1998.

Whereas, over the course of 30 plus years, Special Agent-in-Charge Hyman served in numerous other leadership positions including as the Resident Agent-in-Charge in the Greenville, South Carolina Field Office for ten years and as the Special Agent-in-Charge of the Charlotte Field Division, encompassing both North and South Carolina. In each position that Special Agent-in-Charge Hyman has held throughout his career, he has provided outstanding leadership and integrity in his service to the Carolinas.

Whereas, 31 December 2017, Special Agent-in-Charge Hyman officially retired from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, having faithfully served this great nation for more than 30 years. Be it

Resolved, That I, Trey Gowdy, do congratulate Special Agent-in-Charge CJ Hyman, his wife Leslie, their two children, Josh and Casey for their unwavering commitment and devotion to service of our great nation and thank them for their unwavering loyalty, dedication and contributions to the Carolinas and the Fourth Congressional District of South Carolina.

HONORING JUDGE CHUNG PAK

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent and friend, Judge Chung Pak, for his extraordinary career in public service and his exemplary commitment

to serving his community and the great State of Maryland.

Judge Pak is retiring after 31 years of splendid government service. For more than 23 years, Judge Pak served as an Administrative Patent Judge with the U.S. Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB), where he adjudicated more than 6,000 patent cases and personally issued over 2,000 opinions. Judge Pak has also served on the PTAB New Judge Training Committee, the PTAB Publication Committee, the Board of Patent Appeals, the Patent Academy Course Review Committee, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Diversity Council.

Judge Pak embodies the spirit of the American Dream and the immigrant success story. In 1971, he immigrated with his family from South Korea to Alabama, where he worked at the local Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant. In high school, he played nose guard on the football team, but it was his extraordinary skill on the tennis court that ultimately earned him a scholarship to Auburn University. After earning a degree in chemical engineering, Chung attended the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America, where he became a moot court champion.

Prior to his appointment to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Pak was an intellectual property counsel at Praxair, Inc. and Union Carbide Corporation, where he worked on a wide range of issues including domestic and foreign patent procurement, litigation, trade secrets, antitrust, and licensing. He also served as a Primary Patent Examiner and an Assistant Patent Examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for more than eight years.

Judge Pak is a widely-respected community leader who has volunteered his time and invested his energy in a number of state and local causes. He has served as Co-Chair of the NAACP Montgomery County's Multicultural Partnership Committee, Board Member of the Senior Executive Association, member of Germantown Police Advisory Committee, member of the Maryland Attorney General's Advisory Council, and as a Maryland Higher Education Commissioner.

In recognition of his passionate commitment to public service, Judge Pak has received the President's Volunteer Service Award, the Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Award, Progressive Maryland's Progressive Leader Award, and the Montgomery County Police Department's Award of Appreciation. He was also inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Judge Chung Pak for a long and distinguished career in public service and in celebrating his dedication to his community and our country.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF DR. EUGENE G. ARTHURS

HON. SUZAN K. DeBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. DeBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Eugene G. Arthurs, a visionary leader, dedicated scholar, and passionate advocate for science and technology, on the occasion of his retirement from SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics. Dr. Arthurs led SPIE from its headquarters in Bellingham, WA. During his tenure, SPIE grew to 19,000 members and 264,000 constituents representing optics and photonics experts and industry leaders in 166 countries, making Bellingham the home to a top international scientific society.

Dr. Arthurs' distinguished career as a physicist, educator, CEO, and global photonics community leader provided him with the opportunity to share his passion for the science and beauty of light with students, researchers, and politicians across the globe. He was one of the driving forces behind the launch of the National Photonics Initiative (NPI), an alliance of top scientific societies uniting industry and academia to raise awareness of photonics. He has been a tireless spokesperson for the need of the science and technology community to engage with policymakers.

Before he joined SPIE in 1999, he spent 25 years working in photonics in the United Kingdom and the United States. He was the first member of his family to get a science degree, receiving his Bachelor of Science with honors in physics and his doctorate in applied physics from Queens University Belfast. He taught optoelectronics at Queens and conducted research at the Imperial College of London before immigrating to the United States in 1980.

I would like to thank Dr. Arthurs for his commitment and dedication to the field. He has been an asset to the science policy community, and his guidance in the creation of the NPI provided a solid foundation in photonics advocacy work. I wish him the best and hope he continues to find inspiration in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GREGORY
O. DIAS, JR.

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleague, Representative DEVIN NUNES, rise today to honor the life of Mr. Gregory O. Dias, Jr., affectionately known as "Butch," who unexpectedly passed away on December 16, 2017.

Mr. Gregory O. Dias, Jr. was born in Hanford, California on December 31, 1948. His

• 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.

maternal grandfather bestowed the nickname "Butch" upon him at a young age and it stuck with him his entire life. Butch was the first born son of Gregory O. and Vivian M. Dias. He attended Kit Carson Elementary School and Hanford Union High School before attending California State University, Fresno. He was involved with his family's farm operation most of his life, eventually helping his parents form their family business, Gregory O. Dias and Sons Dairy and Farming Incorporated. Butch helped his parents grow the business into many dairies and farms throughout Kings and Tulare Counties.

In 1974, Butch married Alice Vander Tuig in Hanford, California. While growing their business, the couple had three children, Rachelle, Darren, and Gregory. Eventually, Butch and his wife acquired Delta View Dairy Farming, which they renamed Rachelle's Jerseys in honor of their daughter, Rachelle, who lost her life in a tragic car accident.

A third-generation dairy farmer, Mr. Dias was a great farmer and a true leader within the industry. He was passionate about farming, the land, and the animal and enjoyed working with his two sons Greg and Darren every day. In addition to agriculture, Butch enjoyed traveling the world.

He traveled the world learning about other cultures and making friends, all while promoting California agriculture abroad. Butch enjoyed talking, visiting, entertaining, and cooking. He was a "barbecue specialist" who often volunteered to cook for family events and community activities. His barbecue was renowned throughout the Central Valley. He believed one should give back to his community, and led by example, contributing extensively to the surrounding community.

Mr. Dias was involved in numerous organizations throughout his life: 4-H Mid Valley Chapter, Hanford FFA, State Champion Milk Judging Team, Kings County Herd Improvement Association, California Milk Advisory Board, Dairyman's Cooperative Creamery association, California Dairy Research Council, U.S. Jersey Association, Luso-American, Delta View School District, Widgeon Land and Cattle, Exeter Duck Club and Farm Credit West. Butch also bravely served his country in the Vietnam War as a member of the United States Navy.

Butch is survived by his wife Alice, their sons; Darren and his wife Tabitha, and Gregory and his wife Melanie. Butch loved his children and was blessed to become a grandfather to their children, Nixon, Wren, Hudson, Bristol, and Reed.

Mr. Speaker, today we ask our colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life of Mr. Gregory O. "Butch" Dias, Jr. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes Tuesday, January 9, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call No. 2, Aye; Roll Call No. 3, Aye; and Roll Call No. 4, Aye.

THERE IS LIGHT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great American Hero, The Eagle of The Senate and his coming battle. Our hopes and prayers are with JOHN MCCAIN. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell be included in the RECORD.

There is darkness
And there is light
Coming out of the darkness burning ever so bright
With the kind of faith of our Fathers, which
built this Nation ignites
Of hope, faith, honor, service, and courage
ever so bright
Now, there is a battle,
And there is a fight
Looming out in the darkness on the floor of
the Senate on this very night
With all of our Nation's prayers in sight
As once again,
America's Son, her Hero, her friend,
John McCain is in the battle for his life.
As this great leader's heart once again must
somehow ignite
But, where there is darkness,
there is the light.
And you'll find men like John McCain,
this Top Gun whose soul burns ever so very
bright
Coming out of the darkness burning so
bright
Who out of this darkness will bring his light,
The kind which built this great Nation to its
very height
As has John been armed with throughout the
generations,
with "The Faith of His Fathers" so all in
plain sight
Who have fought and served this Nation with
all of their might
Like Father Like Son, as has John always
this one
Courageously served this Nation,
starting with his ancestor serving under
George Washington
As his Grandfather and Father,
the first Admiral team serving this Nation
as one
All too has John all in his life's work in what
he has done
Showing us all,
the definition of courage as one of America's
Greatest of Sons
Not as The Lion of The Senate but as an
Eagle this one
Who throughout the years has soared on the
floor of the Senate,
battling for each and every one
Crossing the aisle,
this man of such style when it had to be done
Leading everyone
Now there's a battle
And there's a fight
Upon, the Senate floor on this very night
With America's Hero heart burning bright
Coming out of this darkness shining his light
To teach us all what is magnificent and what
is right
Now, it's fourth and long
As America's Son's heart beats strong.
My money is on John,
Whose life sings like a song,
Who has always come out of the darkness,
With the heart of a champion and an eagle to
which it belongs.
No matter the battle,
No matter the fight,
Even as a POW, this Hero came out of that
darkness shining bright.

John, your roommate in the Hanoi Hilton
Bud Day,
up in Heaven,
is watching over you on this very night.
Because, John has always come armed with
his light.
No matter the battle,
No matter the fight,
Either way John, the world still wins.
Continuing as the leader of the Senate, as
America's friend
Or as an Angel in The Army of our Lord
whose time so begins
To watch over us again and again
To fight that battle against the darkness
which we must win
John, win that war.
Win that fight!
For you have blessed this great Nation with
all of your light
But, my money's on you John,
because in the end the darkness does not
match the light,
The kind brilliance which emanates from
your great soul on this very night.
God bless you our Son in your upcoming
fight
As you bless our hearts once again,
we look upon your light.
There is light.
Amen.

COMPACT IMPACT RELIEF ACT

HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I reintroduce the Compact Impact Relief Act to address the costs of providing local public services to migrants under the Compacts of Free Association.

I am very pleased to have the support of our colleagues from Hawai'i and the Northern Mariana Islands, as original cosponsors.

Under the Compacts, an unlimited number of citizens from three Freely Associated States (FAS)—the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau—may live and work in the United States.

Compact migrants effectively enjoy the same freedoms of movement and to work as lawful permanent residents, like green card holders, in our country do.

As such, our bill seeks to allow Compact migrants to participate in select federal programs, if they meet the program criteria, the same way that green card holders can under current law.

Importantly, our bill ensures that federal resources are not diverted from U.S. citizens and nationals in order to accommodate Compact migrants.

Economic conditions and the reality of climate change for Pacific island nations have driven more and more Compact migrants to the United States.

Guam remains the primary destination for Compact migrants, followed closely by Hawai'i.

According to the most recent Census Bureau figures, more than 76,000 FAS citizens reside in the United States, including nearly 18,000 on Guam.

I appreciate that the Compacts remain important to American strategic interests in the Asia-Pacific region, including Guam's security.

I also know—firsthand—the significant contributions that Compact migrants make to

Guam and other communities as far away as Springdale, Arkansas.

Many citizens of the Freely Associated States serve proudly in the United States military.

However, insufficient support from the federal government causes serious strain on local jurisdictions with significant Compact migrant communities.

The costs borne by GovGuam and other local governments are simply unsustainable.

Congress must act to provide federal relief to Guam and other jurisdictions required to serve these underprivileged Compact migrant communities.

Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what the Compact Impact Relief Act would do.

Our bill includes novel policy changes that would provide additional federal resources for Guam, Hawai'i, and other states and territories.

In particular, the Compact Impact Relief Act ensures that Guam—and other territories—can utilize fully important federal programs including: Job Corps centers funded by the U.S. Department of Labor; national and community service programs like AmeriCorps and the Youth Conservation Corps; and an accurate 10-year census that counts Compact migrant residents.

Our bill would permit Guam and other affected jurisdictions to apply costs spent providing public services to Compact migrants toward the non-federal portion required to provide Medicaid to Americans.

The bill also classifies Compact migrant schoolchildren as “federally connected students” to make local schools serving them eligible for impact aid funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

Importantly, our bill authorizes additional funding so that Compact migrant students do not take resources away from school districts receiving federal impact aid currently.

Next, our bill requires comprehensive assessments of: the Compacts and their implementation; the economies of jurisdiction affected by the Compacts and the three Freely Associated States; and the unique health needs of Pacific Islanders.

As the United States looks to renew the Compacts ahead of their expiration in fiscal year 2023, the federal government cannot continue to force local jurisdictions to shoulder the substantial costs of accommodating Compact migrants.

Guam and other states and territories affected by Compact migrants need to be reimbursed fairly for the costs of serving these underprivileged communities.

Congress must increase mandatory funding for Compact impact to the level recommended by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), as I have called for consistently.

In the meantime, I urge this House to pass the practical policy changes included in my Compact Impact Relief Act into law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Monday, January 8,

and Tuesday, January 9, 2018, due to a family emergency.

If I had been able to vote, I would have voted as follows:

On the Quorum Call for establishing a quorum in the House of Representatives for the Second Session of the 115th Congress, I would have answered “present.”

On H. Res. 676, supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression, condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests, and for other purposes, I would have voted “yea.”

On H.R. 4564, the Post-Caliphate Threat Assessment Act of 2017, I would have voted “yea.”

On H.R. 4581, the Screening and Vetting Passenger Exchange Act of 2017, I would have voted “yea.”

IN HONOR OF PHYLLIS HAHN'S RECOGNITION FOR HER OUT- STANDING WORK SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Phyllis Hahn on being recognized with twin Certificates of Commendation for her outstanding cooperation and participation in serving our veterans.

Inspired by her family's long tradition of military service and the deep national patriotism and commitment to supporting our armed forces she grew up with during World War II, Phyllis has been dedicated to assisting and honoring our veterans for almost 70 years. Phyllis joined the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 1 at 15 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary No. 3511 one year later because she was too young to serve in the military herself. Since then, she has been an active and faithful member of both organizations, currently serving as the president of the American Legion Auxiliary and treasurer of the VFW Auxiliary.

Phyllis' patriotism and dedication to supporting our veterans is exceptional. She understands the needs of our former servicemen and is committed to giving them the assistance they need and deserve. Phyllis has made an excellent example to her friends, her family, and people across our state.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Phyllis Hahn for her recognition, and thank her for her commitment and many contributions to our veterans and to our great state.

RECOGNIZING GREG KOSTKA IN HONOR OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, each year for the past 57 years the Congress has passed annual legislation to authorize the

policies, programs, and activities of the Department of Defense. Today, we refer to this important legislation as the National Defense Authorization Act. Crafting this bill is no easy task, and it couldn't be done without the countless hours of work put in by the House Armed Services Committee staff and the attorneys at the House Office of Legislative Counsel. Today, I rise to honor a member of the legislative counsel team to thank him for his 31 years of service to the House of Representatives, and especially to the House Armed Services Committee.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, Greg Kostka joined the House Office of Legislative Counsel in 1986 and has had a hand in the drafting of each National Defense Authorization Act since the Fiscal Year 1989 bill. While Greg's focus areas have been in military personnel, military justice, military construction, and readiness, he is known by his colleagues as someone capable of drafting in virtually any area of defense law if called upon. And from 2016 to 2017, Greg served as the defense team lead in the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Greg's expertise and interest in the military extended beyond his time drafting legislation in his office. As an amateur historian of the Civil War, Greg wrote an unofficial history of the role of the Third U.S. Regular Infantry during the American Civil War. I understand that he also participated in Civil War reenactments.

Greg was a regular participant in annual legislative update programs for the military's Judge Advocate Generals and accompanied committee staff on visits to several military installations. Greg brought his expertise and interest with him every day, and his work showed that he cared deeply about the men and women who serve in uniform.

Greg's professionalism and institutional knowledge have been greatly appreciated by his colleagues in the Office of Legislative Counsel as well as by Members and staff who have had the pleasure of working with him over the years. After 31 years of dedicated service to the House of Representatives, Greg announced his retirement from the Office of Legislative Counsel on December 31, 2017.

On behalf of all the Members and staff of the House Armed Services Committee, I offer my sincere gratitude to Greg for his expertise and wise counsel over the years and wish him, and his wife Jeanine, all the best in his retirement.

HONORING GUS FRANK, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gus Frank, Chairman of the Forest County Potawatomi Executive Council, who recently announced that he is retiring after 20 years of dedicated service to his tribe. Gus has worked tirelessly for the benefit of his people—and he's always done it with a smile on his face. I'm proud to have worked with Gus for several years on many issues affecting our communities and I'm proud to call him a friend. I congratulate him on his retirement. Gus has truly earned it.

HONORING CARRIE STUART OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I extend my sincere congratulations to my constituent, Carrie Stuart, on more than 20 years of service with the Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce.

Carrie began her tenure at the Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce as a temporary employee, but later became the full-time Office Manager. In 2008, she was named the organization's president.

During her tenure, the Chamber created a dialogue with other economic organizations in Adams County to attract new businesses and grow the local economy, instituted new programs to benefit Chamber members, invested thousands of dollars back into the local community, and worked with the business and education community to identify critical workforce development needs.

Carrie also has been an active member of many community service organizations, including the United Way of Adams County, Main Street Gettysburg, the Adams Economic Alliance, and many others.

Carrie Stuart's tireless dedication and professionalism has touched the lives of countless people and challenges all with whom she serves to be the best. She continues to build an impressive legacy of service to our community.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and congratulate Carrie Stuart on her 20 years of service and look forward to working with her in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF ANN ELIZABETH LEE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Ann Elizabeth Lee, a longtime resident of Conroe, TX, and a devoted educator, community leader, and friend.

Born in Austin, TX, Ann Lee discovered her natural talent and love for music at an early age. After relocating with her family to Taylor, TX, Ann worked to improve her musical abilities and became heavily involved in music programs, such as the Honors Band, Stage Band, and the choir at Taylor High School.

Upon her graduation, Ann attended Sam Houston State University, where she majored in Music Education and continued to refine her talent. Ultimately, Ann graduated magna cum laude, ranking in the top ten percent of her class.

In 1977, Ann moved to Conroe, TX, where she began a new chapter of her life as the choral director for Conroe High School—a position she held for eight years. Throughout her time in Conroe, Ann worked with countless young men and women, instilling in them a love for music and a discipline that would

guide them throughout the remainder of their lives.

In addition to her position at the high school, Ann took on the role of Director of Music at the First United Methodist Church in Conroe. There, Ann uncovered her passion for music ministry, began performing for her church's congregation, and worked tirelessly to serve her community. Her love for the people of Conroe led her to join the Conroe Lions Club, where she worked in her community for over thirty years.

In 1984, Ann became the director of the Conroe Chorale. Ann took the Chorale, now known as the Montgomery County Choral Society, to new heights. She organized community concerts and traveled with the group on multiple international trips, taking their performances and concerts across Europe.

Ann's passion for her students, her church, her community, and her music led her to positively influence the lives of everyone who crossed her path. She made a lasting impact on the people of Conroe, and I was honored to call her my friend.

I join Ann's family, friends, and the thousands of people she impacted over her lifetime in recognizing and honoring her many years of service to the Conroe Community. Ann passed away on November 13, 2017, and she will be sorely missed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PHILIP MARKOWICZ

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life of Philip Markowicz, who was a resident of Sylvania, Ohio and Aventura, Florida. Phil was also a renowned author and lecturer on the Holocaust and Judaism as a survivor of the Holocaust. As a business leader, he founded Phil's TV and Appliance in Toledo, Ohio.

Phil was born in 1924 in Przerab, Poland where he attended the Przedborz Yeshiva and was known as a Bible and Talmud prodigy, and had the intention of becoming ordained as a rabbi.

Unfortunately, the 1939 Nazi Invasion of Poland shutdown the Przedborz Yeshiva and as a teenager through the first years of World War II Phil was confined in the Lodz Ghetto working as a slave laborer under Nazi rule. He spent all of his nonworking time in intensive study of many of the classic works of history, philosophy and political thought, supplementing his orthodox religious studies.

When the Lodz Ghetto was dismantled, Phil was deported by the Nazis to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. He realized that staying there meant certain death and he sneaked into an outside work detail, avoiding the gas chambers and crematoria. Along with his brother, Henry, he survived slave labor concentration camps, disease, beatings and starvation, culminating in a death march, until he was liberated by the American forces in the spring of 1945. His body was wracked with typhus and tuberculosis and he weighed only 87 pounds. He and his brother were the only survivors of the Holocaust—their entire family had perished.

After a few months of recovery in a hospital, Phil was sent to a Displaced Persons camp in Germany where he was elected to the governing council. It was there that he met and married his wife, Ruth Fajerman Markowicz, who was also a Holocaust survivor, and they had a son, Allen Markowicz. The Markowicz marriage and the birth of their son were the first of each in the camp.

After waiting for five years, the family was permitted to immigrate to the United States in 1950, and upon arriving in Toledo, Ohio, Phil found employment, sometimes working two or three jobs at a time while studying the newly growing field of television and electronics. In less than 10 years Phil and his wife Ruth established a successful business, Phil's TV and Appliance, and added two daughters to their family, Sylvia and Diane.

Phil eventually resumed his study of Torah. He wrote a well-received memoir, *My Three Lives*. A musical oratorio which was inspired by Mr. Markowicz's life and philosophical writings, *Tikvah (Hope)*, has been performed at the Toledo Museum of Art; in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois; at Bowling Green State University; at the Detroit Holocaust Memorial Museum; in North Carolina; at the Jewish Theater of the South in Atlanta; and was part of the Martin Luther King Memorial Week ceremonies in Atlanta in 2006. Phil was a featured interviewee on the award-winning documentary *Bearing Witness: The Voices of Our Survivors*.

Phil spoke on the Holocaust and on Torah at various venues, including Universities, secondary schools, religious institutions, seminars and Public Television. He was invited to lead religious services, read from the Torah and its accompanying Haftarah, and present sermons. Phil served as a president of the Tarbut Society, one of the Torah study groups in which he participated, and was a member of Congregation B'nai Israel in Sylvania, Ohio and the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center Synagogue in Aventura, Florida.

In addition to his wife, Ruth, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Diane Markowicz; his brother, Henry Markowicz; and the rest of his family in the Holocaust.

Phil will ultimately be remembered for his dedication to his family, and we offer his children, Dr. Allen and Sylvia, his nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, and his friends our prayers. May they find comfort in the poignant and profound memories of what Phil endured and survived, and what his life has embodied for generations to come.

SUPPORTING H.R. 535 AND H.R. 3320

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of two measures, H.R. 535 and H.R. 3320.

Both of these measures are aimed at strengthening our bonds with Taiwan, a partner in every sense of the word—in trade, in technology, and in culture. Over the last decade, Taiwan has emerged as a vibrant and liberal democracy of more than 23 million people, and remains a key ally in the Asia Pacific region. I support H.R. 535, which would

strengthen U.S.—Taiwan relations by encouraging travel between the two nations by high-level officials, and H.R. 3320, which directs the Secretary of State to develop a plan to regain Taiwan's observer status in the World Health Organization.

Adoption of these bills would underscore the United States' commitment to our relationship with Taiwan, and I encourage my colleagues to support them as well.

IN HONOR OF EUGENE AND RUTH ANN YINGER'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Eugene and Ruth Ann Yinger on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

This significant benchmark is a symbol of their commitment to each other and to their family. I am happy to join their friends and family in extending my best to them on this special occasion.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Eugene and Ruth Ann on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. I wish them the best today and for many more blessed years to come.

RECOGNIZING MS. MARIE COLEMAN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE U.S. RAIL INDUSTRY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Ms. Marie Coleman for her many years of service to the U.S. Rail Industry. On January 10, 2018, Marie will have dedicated 50 years of service to several prominent American railroads. With decades of success serving the people of Pennsylvania and Americans across the country, I know I will neither be the first, nor the last, to applaud her distinguished professional accomplishments.

Ms. Coleman began her career in 1968 with the Pennsylvania Railroad. Shortly thereafter, she moved to work for Penn Central, where she remained from the time of its founding until April 1976, when, through an Act of Congress, it was included in a merger to form the Consolidated Rail Corporation. There, she served in numerous roles for more than a decade from 1976 to 1998. In the 20 years since, she has served the Norfolk Southern railroad system.

A lifelong Pennsylvanian, Ms. Coleman is a proud railroader who has served under 11 different CEOs. Her unwavering dedication throughout her career helped bring an industry back from the brink of extinction to become a powerful catalyst for American economic growth. There is no doubt that Ms. Coleman's service to the U.S. Rail Industry contributed to its success.

We can all look to Ms. Marie Coleman as an example of how one person's professional

hard work and dedication can not only be a rewarding journey, but also help shape the future of one of America's most important industries.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Coleman on reaching this incredible milestone in her career and wishing her luck in her continued role at Norfolk Southern.

HONORING PATRICK McMULLEN

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Patrick McMullen for his service to the Committee on Ethics. Since 2011, Patrick's skill as a lawyer and manager has been integral to the Committee's important work enforcing the House ethics rules.

Patrick served as an Investigative Counsel for the Committee during the 112th and 113th Congresses. In that role he worked tirelessly to provide the Committee Members with fair and creative advice on difficult issues.

In the 114th Congress Patrick rose to become the Committee's Director of Investigations. In this role, he has managed a team of nonpartisan attorneys and investigators that successfully handled a busy docket of investigations. Throughout that time, he instilled in his team a dedication to uncovering the truth with care and impartiality.

At the House Ethics Committee, we are responsible for protecting the integrity of the House of Representatives. The staff works every day to increase the American people's confidence in Congress. The work of the Ethics Committee is done confidentially so people do not often know everything happening behind the scenes by our incredible, non-partisan staff. As Patrick prepares to leave the Committee, I appreciate this opportunity to recognize the great work he and his team have done. He truly has been a leader in our office and in increasing confidence in Congress.

While I am saddened by his departure from the Committee, I wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING PATRICK McMULLEN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Patrick McMullen for his service to the Committee on Ethics. Patrick has been a dedicated public servant, and has worked hard to ensure that all House Members, officers, and staff meet the highest ethical standards.

During his tenure with the Committee's investigations team, the Committee has conducted more than 225 investigations. As Director of Investigations, he has helped the Committee assemble and has overseen a terrific team of nonpartisan attorneys and professional staff who make this possible.

Patrick's commitment to conducting fair, thorough, and nonpartisan investigations and leading the investigations team with these

principles has been an asset to the Committee and its Members as they carry out the Committee's important service to the House and the public.

On behalf of a grateful Committee, we thank him for his service and wish him all the best in his transition to the next phase of his career.

REPORT TO CONGRESS REGARDING THE ARIZONA BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT PLANNING CONVENTION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great satisfaction and pride that I report the outcome of the first formally authorized national Convention of State Legislatures to convene in 156 years. The "Arizona Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA) Planning Convention" was held September 12–15, 2017 in the chamber of the Arizona House of Representatives. The purpose of the convention was to discuss and plan for an eventual Article V—convention of states to propose a federal balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

The convention was formally called by the Arizona legislature's passage of HCR2022 sponsored by the Arizona Speaker of the House, J.D. Mesnard, on March 16, 2017. Pursuant to that resolution, the purpose of the convention was to create a proposed set of rules for adoption by and to govern a future single subject Article V convention to propose a BBA. Additionally, delegates were instructed to address the logistics involved in preparing for and participating in an upcoming Article V BBA convention. This report is intended to inform the work of the Arizona BBA Planning Convention and highlight areas of importance.

The Arizona BBA Planning Convention has created a roadmap for future conventions to draw upon when they convene, and has provided a sense of security to those who questioned the ability of State delegates to hold a convention that would address solely its single purpose and nothing more. It was an important endeavor that deserves proper cataloging in the appropriate annals to include the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the Library of Congress, the National Archives, State Libraries, and the participating State Legislatures' records. I submit this congressional report and ask that you consider the work of the delegates as legitimate and pertinent.

In keeping with the traditions of past national conventions, the Arizona BBA Planning Convention has encouraged delegations to create a report of the convention to their state. Georgia, Michigan and Minnesota, among others, are states whose delegates have provided a comprehensive assessment. We encourage them to submit their work to the above archives as well, and hope to preserve this work and encourage more national conventions on a variety of topics in the future.

Therefore, I include in the RECORD a report to Congress in regard to Arizona balanced budget amendment:

It is with great confidence that I believe each member of Congress possesses the same depth of gratitude for the work of our

Founding Fathers as those of us who attended this first fully authorized convention of states since the Civil War. We are all tasked with the grand responsibility to govern the people. In doing so, we reach with one hand into the future to focus on protecting the prosperity of our children's children, and with our other hand we reach to the past to learn and explore what happened so that we are better able to protect and preserve the vision of those who built this great Republic.

One such visionary was Col. George Mason, who insisted that the States should also be able to propose amendments to the Constitution. He imagined that there would come a time when the Legislatures would be called upon to take appropriate action, and that there ought to be a second mechanism to update our founding document should the need arise. This method has recently gained interest and popularity across the country, and for several years State Legislators have been examining the viability of such an exercise.

It can be legitimately argued that the time George Mason envisioned is before us. The momentum is increasing and the reality of an Article V Convention of States is becoming ever apparent. Greater Legislators than I were aware of the need to prepare the way in advance, and it has been an honor to join them in that effort. We hope to work together with Congress to restore fiscal accountability through the requirement of a balanced budget, and preparing a proposed set of rules for the Balanced Budget Amendment Convention is our gift to future delegates to make that process easier.

We present this report to you in hopes that you will consider the work that has been accomplished thus far. The Phoenix Correspondence Commission was created as an outgrowth of this convention, and as a founding member of that Commission, I look forward to beginning the conversation needed to prepare for the much-anticipated Article V Convention of States.

"We face the most predictable economic crisis in history." That was the conclusion of Erskine Bowles, co-chair of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform (Simpson-Bowles Commission), to the U.S. Senate Budget Committee on March 8, 2011. At the time of this ominous warning to the nation in 2011, the national debt had just eclipsed \$14 trillion. It took 206 years for our nation to amass \$1 trillion in debt; it has increased by over \$6 trillion in the just the last seven years. Had Congress acted on the commission's proposal, it would have reduced the national debt by \$4 trillion over a decade and put Social Security solidly on the road to solvency. Congress ignored this unequivocal national wake up call. "The fiscal path we are on today is simply not sustainable," Bowles said. "This debt and these deficits that we are incurring on an annual basis are like a cancer and they are going to truly destroy this country from within unless we have the common sense to do something about it." States are exercising the common sense to do something about it. Acting under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, 28 of the required 34 States have now called for a convention of states to propose a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution in order to avert this "most predictable economic crisis in history." In September of 2016, at the call of the Arizona Legislature, 19 States convened in their official capacity to propose rules for conducting an Article V balanced budget convention of states.

We call upon Congress, the States, and people of good faith everywhere to extend their utmost efforts to support this constitutional remedy for curing the national fiscal "cancer" before the exponentially increasing national debt "destroy[s] this nation from within."

The Phoenix convention was instructive in preparing for a future Article V BBA convention. We learned much about the process of communicating with the state legislatures and the need to continue to educate them on the logistics of a convention. We were encouraged from the manner in which the delegates conducted themselves that any future convention, like Phoenix, will stick to its task and never "run away" as Article V naysayers assert. The nature of delegate appointment process and the rules, in addition to numerous other safeguards, simply won't allow for it.

As a result of the Arizona convention, including the establishment of the Phoenix Correspondence Commission, the states as a group are positioned to assist Congress in counting the number of live Article V BBA applications in place, in assisting with identifying a time and location for a future BBA convention to be held, in addressing any legal issues which may arise concerning the calling of such a convention, in preparing language for an appropriate resolution to be passed by Congress fulfilling its mandatory obligation to call the convention when the threshold number of states have applied and to otherwise assist Congress in performing its duties pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution.

At present, twenty-eight (28) states have passed (and not rescinded) Article V applications calling for a convention to propose a balanced budget amendment. As we approach the two-thirds threshold triggering the call of a convention, we stand ready to work cooperatively with Congress in moving forward with this historic endeavor.

I authored the resolution calling for a Balanced Budget Amendment Planning Convention in Phoenix because I love this country. I believe it to be the greatest nation that has ever existed, but I am greatly concerned that our country is not on a sustainable fiscal path. Contrary to what some would like us to believe, the responsibility to get our fiscal house in order does not just rest with Congress, nor is Congress the end-all-be-all for governing this country.

In fact, a critical responsibility of the states in this great Union is in helping to keep our federal government in check. That value of Federalism was a bedrock principle that our Founding Fathers captured in the design of government put forth in the Constitution of the United States, over two centuries ago. I believe it is time for the states to start flexing our constitutional muscles, just as our Founding Fathers envisioned. And one vital tool for facilitating that, was instilled by our Founders in Article V of the Constitution. That is, the power of the states to propose amendments, especially as a means of constraining the power of the federal government. In 1798, then Vice President Thomas Jefferson, in correspondence with a state legislator, wrote, "I wish it were possible to obtain a single amendment to our Constitution. I would be willing to depend on that alone for the reduction of the administration of our government; I mean an additional article taking from the Federal Government the power of borrowing." While it might be more than two centuries late, I hope that soon we will be able to give President Jefferson his wish—for our own sake.

All fifty state legislatures were invited to attend the Arizona BBA Planning Convention. The Arizona planning committee actively sought a delegation from each state and was fully inclusive in their efforts to host a bi-partisan event. HCR2022 specifically required that the delegations be chosen by resolution of the legislature or by formal joint appointment by the leadership in both houses of their respective state legislatures. This was to ensure that the delegation was

authorized to speak and vote on behalf of their state Legislature. Delegates who were not listed on their State's approved delegation list were not seated. The meeting consisted of officially approved delegates from 19 state legislatures, with delegates from three additional states observing. Committees established to fulfill the requirements of HCR2022 were as follows: The Rules Drafting Committee; The Planning Committee, which was divided into two sub-committees: A Sub-committee on Ethics which was formed to address the impact and management of outside influence on the convention process and A Subcommittee on Delegates and Correspondence to assist in planning for a future BBA convention. A synopsis of the product of the Rules Committee is as follows: Produced a model set of rules for an Article V convention to propose a BBA. Some components of the set of model rules were as follows: The Article V convention shall be limited in scope to the balanced budget amendment. Governing rules provide for appropriate order and conduct during a BBA Article V convention which include, but are not limited to, the following: Duties of the officers. A quorum is a majority of the states in attendance. Each state shall be given only one vote, as has been the precedent in all preceding state conventions. Order of business and names of committees. The cost of the convention to be divided equally among the states in attendance.

A synopsis of the Planning Committee is as follows: Recommendations for protecting the integrity of an Article V Convention. Non-delegates should not be permitted on the Chamber Floor, Members' Lounge, etc., and should only be permitted in public areas. Any interaction of Convention leadership and staff with non-delegate individuals or organizations that pertains to Convention business or process should be strictly prohibited, with the exception of the press. Convention communications should only include official activities. States should consider extending their ethics restrictions (i.e. lobbying, food, gifts, etc.) to delegates serving within a convention, in addition to any ethics standards imposed by Convention rules. Sub-Committee on Delegates and Correspondence reported the following: In anticipation of the call for a convention for proposing amendments, states are strongly encouraged to enact delegate selection legislation at the earliest opportunity. The Phoenix Correspondence Commission (PCC) was created. The PCC will consist of commissioners appointed by the states to carry out the following functions to organize a convention for proposing amendments: Creating a single point of contact to act as a liaison with Congress. Track all applications for a convention for proposing amendments. Create a process to suggest to Congress a time and place for a convention for proposing amendments. Provide a process for legal representation, if necessary. Perform tasks as needed to organize the convention. Each state is strongly encouraged to appoint a commissioner to the PCC to communicate on all matters associated with a convention for proposing amendments with any or all of the following: State Legislators, United States Citizens, Convention Organizers, State Congressional Delegations, and Congress. The members of the PCC will be initially comprised of one member appointed from each delegation present at this Arizona Balanced Budget Amendment Planning Convention, until such time as each commissioner's state formally appoints a commissioner to the PCC or declines to do the same.

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER
GENERAL CHRISTOPHER
FINERTY UPON HIS PROMOTION
TO BRIGADIER GENERAL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Brigadier General Christopher E. Finerty for his outstanding service to our country and congratulate him on his promotion to Brigadier General in the United States Air Force. General Finerty has worked closely with me, the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee and across Capitol Hill to inform and advise the Congress so that we may ensure a strong and ready National Guard. He has also helped the Pentagon work more productively with Congress, promoting a strong and efficient national defense.

General Finerty has done this work selflessly. He quietly, but tenaciously advocates for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau's priorities to make the National Guard a ready, capable force for operations in the homeland and overseas.

General Finerty's promotion grows from a career of accomplishments and experience. Prior to becoming the head of the National Guard Bureau's Office of Legislative Liaison, where he works directly for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, General Finerty was Vice Commander of the Air National Guard Readiness Center and simultaneously the Commander of the 201st Mission Support Squadron, which together oversee personnel and policy across the country. He has previous tours in the National Guard Bureau's legislative liaison office, the Air Force congressional budget liaison office, and on the Air National Guard staff. He logged over 3,300 hours piloting HH-60 rescue helicopters and flew 45 combat missions. General Finerty is a 1992 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy.

General Finerty dedicates all of his time and energy to his work, with two exceptions—his children, Ryan and Kate. General Finerty's first priority are his children, and no father could be more devoted. Kate and Ryan inspire and strengthen him.

Please join me in congratulating General Finerty on his well-earned promotion and in expressing our gratitude for his selfless service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Tuesday January 9, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4581, H.R. 4564 and H. Res. 676.

MORE MONEY, LESS PROBLEMS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was grateful to learn that Tide-water Boats, led by Jimmy Metts, is investing \$8.3 million to expand their manufacturing facility in Lexington, South Carolina. This investment will create 100 new jobs.

This news is on top of AFLAC announcing that they will be expanding their 700 employees in Columbia, South Carolina, managed by Daniel Lebish, and doubling their employee 401K matching funds.

On the same day Republicans passed historic tax cuts, AT&T led by Pam Lackey announced they are providing 200,000 employees a \$1,000 bonus. Comcast, whose leader in South Carolina is Douglas Guthrie, will be providing \$1,000 bonuses to 100,000 employees. BB&T, a valued corporate citizen led by Mike Brennan, will be raising their employee wages to \$15 an hour and providing a \$1,200 bonus for 27,000 employees.

Boeing of Charleston, led by Joan Robinson-Berry, announced they will be donating \$100 million to charity that focuses on education, local communities, veterans and military personnel.

But the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is not only for businesses. I appreciate that next month, American families will see more of their own money in their paychecks.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

Best wishes to Chairman DARRELL ISSA and Kathy Issa for their dedicated service as they announce their retirement. We look forward to their continued service for the American people.

IN RECOGNITION OF A SUCCESSFUL IDAHO CONSERVATION PROGRAM

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important conservation program taking place in central Idaho that was created as part of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Jerry Peak Wilderness Additions Act. I also want to acknowledge the outstanding cooperation between Idaho conservationists and ranchers that have made this program a success.

The signing of the law in 2015 created three new wilderness areas totaling over 429 square miles. This jewel in the heart of Idaho was protected for future generations to enjoy. It also returned significant amounts of wilderness study areas back to multiple use allowing individuals and families to engage in outdoor and recreational activities for years to come.

When I began working on the Boulder-White Clouds bill nearly 20 years ago, ranchers on the East Fork of the Salmon River were facing significant headwinds to their traditional way of life. Lawsuits, federal regulations, and other

obstacles were making it difficult to graze on their federal allotments. In many instances, their allotted animal unit months (AUMs) had been significantly reduced and in some cases completely eliminated. The trend going forward was not positive.

It became clear to me that providing opportunities for the ranching families to continue their livelihoods would be critical to a final outcome. A final bill would need to provide area ranchers with options that could help them reset their grazing operations and provide greater certainty for them in the future.

To meet this need, we developed a program in which area ranchers could voluntarily retire individual allotments that might not be economically viable to their ongoing ranching operations in exchange for compensation from a private third party.

This program specified that agreements were to be voluntary, that ranchers would be paid for all of the AUMs on their allotment and that funding would come from third party private entities and not the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to say that last month marked the completion of the initial phase of voluntary retirements.

In the past year, four families have retired five allotments and received over \$1.35 million in private compensation. Some of these allotments were proving difficult to use and were marginally viable in their traditional operations. Through our program, the ranchers were paid for every AUM on each allotment.

On the conservation side, over 126,000 acres of pristine and ecologically important areas that include winter and summer range for elk and deer, important sage grouse habitat, and some of the highest elevation spawning habitat for ocean-going salmon and steelhead found anywhere will no longer be grazed. These were high conflict areas that have experienced past litigation and would probably see future litigation or regulation.

I am very pleased to say that the voluntary retirement program has been a success and a win for both the ranchers and for conservation. While the initial third party funding for the voluntary retirement program has expired, the mechanism still exists for ranchers to retire allotments in the future, should they so choose. In doing so, they will be free to enter into new agreements with new terms. These future agreements will be of their own accord between the ranchers and conservation interests.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following organizations and individuals for their contributions to the voluntary retirement program.

The Idaho Conservation League were the backbone behind the voluntary grazing retirement program. The legislation provided the mechanism for the voluntary retirements and they provided the muscle, resources, and expertise to carry out this initial batch of retirements.

I want to give special thanks to Rick Johnson, the Executive Director of the Idaho Conservation League. Rick worked very closely with my staff and me as we developed the program. He made sure the grant funding was in place prior to passage of the legislation so that promises made to the ranchers would be kept after the bill became law. Rick has been a true friend and partner from start to finish in this process.

A very big thanks and well done go to John Robison, Public Lands Director of the Idaho

Conservation League. John facilitated each retirement from start to finish. He worked with multiple people and agencies and exhibited great professional skill and patience in getting each retirement completed. His outstanding work with various parties under short deadlines was critical to the success of this program.

I also want to thank the ranching families on the East Fork of the Salmon River. They are great people, who with their past generations, have made significant contributions to the region and to our country. When we first met together 17 years ago they told me their concerns and we came up with an idea of how we might go forward. They put their trust in me and I believe we came up with a plan to give them an opportunity to help put them in a better place. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with each family and I can proudly say that I believe the promises we made have been kept.

I would also like to recognize the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for their assistance in processing the retirements. In particular, I want to thank Kit Mullen, Sawtooth National Forest Supervisor; Kirk Flannigan, Sawtooth National Recreation Area Ranger; Andrea Cox, Supervisor Rangeland Management Specialist, Sawtooth National Forest; Ed Cannady, Recreation Manager, Sawtooth National Forest; Chuck Mark, Salmon-Challis National Forest Supervisor; Kurt Pindel, Challis-Yankee Fork District Ranger; Faith Ryan, Range and Weeds Program Lead, Salmon-Challis National Forest; Tim Murphy, BLM State Director (retired); and Todd Kuck, Field Manager, BLM Challis Field Office. They each did great work and we could not have completed the retirements without them.

Finally, I would like to note that without this voluntary grazing retirement program, the Boulder-White Clouds and Jerry Peak wilderness bills would never have become law. The program was a lynchpin to the compromise that allowed us to protect one of the most pristine areas of Idaho. It seems apparent that the cost of the program was small in comparison to the benefits that future generations will receive when they enjoy the remarkable beauty and serenity of the Boulder-White Clouds and Jerry Peak. We all owe a great deal of thanks to those who provided the resources for the program and to the ranchers who put their trust in allowing it to go forward.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE
DAVID JONES, II

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of George David Jones, II. David was a resident of the First District of Virginia and my hometown, Montross. David was a self-employed farmer who served the community as a member of the Westmoreland County Volunteer Fire Department. Additionally, David was a member of the Westmoreland Hunt Club, Virginia Dog Hunting Alliance, Pantico Run Hunt Club, and Eastern Virginia Young Farmers Association.

I had the pleasure of knowing David for many years and was a witness to his dedica-

tion to his family and community. David is survived by his partner, Alexandra Jones; sons, George David Jones, III and Jeffrey Flynn Jones. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you extend your thoughts and prayers to David's family and friends as they mourn the loss of their loved one. I pray that God is with David's family and friends during this difficult time.

SUPPORTING THE RIGHTS OF THE
PEOPLE OF IRAN TO FREE EX-
PRESSION

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my continued support for the people of Iran and continued support for freedom of speech as it is encapsulated in H. Res. 676, a resolution supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression and condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests.

On Sunday, January 7, 2018, I stood in protest with Iranian-Americans on the streets of Houston to take a stand for human rights in Iran.

At that event, I stated "It is time for freedom to take over" and I stand by that statement here in Congress and add that separation of church and state is essential for a free and democratic Iran.

On December 28, 2017, popular protests against the Iranian regime began in the city of Mashad and rapidly spread throughout the country, in the most significant antigovernment protests in Iran since June 2009.

The protesters have expressed numerous economic grievances, including the regime's widespread corruption and the Revolutionary Guard Corps' control of the country's economy.

Protesters have decried the regime's costly, destabilizing activities abroad, including its support for terrorist groups such as Hezbollah and the murderous Assad regime in Syria.

Reports indicate that more than 1,000 Iranians have been arrested and almost two dozen killed in connection with the protests.

The Iranian regime has shut down mobile internet access and has blocked and pressured companies to cut off social media applications used by activists to organize and publicize the protests.

Congress has provided authority to license the provision of communications technology to Iran to improve the ability of the Iranian people to speak freely.

I encourage the Administration to expedite the license of communications technology to Iran to improve the ability of the Iranian people to speak freely and I call on companies to reject requests by the regime to cut off the Iranian people from social media and other communications platforms.

On January 1, 2018, regime officials threatened to crack down, with Brigadier General Esmail Kowsari of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps stating, "If this situation continues, the officials will definitely make some decisions and at that point this business will be finished."

Congress has provided authority to designate and sanction elements of the Iranian re-

gime involved in significant corruption and serious human rights abuses.

I urge the Administration to use targeted sanctions and work to convene emergency sessions of the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations Human Rights Council to condemn the ongoing human rights violations perpetrated by the Iranian regime and establish a mechanism by which the Security Council can monitor such violations.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps and its Basij militia have been sanctioned by the United States for planning and carrying out serious human rights abuses against the Iranian people, including for the cruel and prolonged torture of political dissidents, behavior that is absolutely intolerable.

The regime has routinely violated the human rights of Iranian citizens, including ongoing, systematic, and serious restrictions of freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including the continuing closures of media outlets, arrests of journalists, and the censorship of expression in online forums such as blogs and websites.

The Department of State's 2016 Human Rights Report on Iran noted:

severe restrictions on civil liberties, including the freedoms of assembly, association, speech, religion, and press.

Other human rights problems included abuse of due process combined with use of capital punishment for crimes that do not meet the requirements of due process, as well as cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; and disregard for the physical integrity of persons, whom authorities arbitrarily and unlawfully detained, tortured, or killed.

For a country that once enjoyed great pride in its freedom of thought, the information in this Report comes with sadness.

On December 29, 2017, the Department of State strongly condemned the arrest of peaceful protesters and noted that "Iran's leaders have turned a wealthy country with a rich history and culture into an economically depleted rogue state whose chief exports are violence, bloodshed, and chaos."

On January 1, 2018, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom, Boris Johnson, stated that:

The UK is watching events in Iran closely.

We believe that there should be meaningful debate about the legitimate and important issues the protesters are raising and we look to the Iranian authorities to permit this.

On January 2, 2018, the French Foreign Ministry stated that:

French authorities are closely monitoring the situation in Iran.

Demonstrating freely is a fundamental right.

The same is true for the free movement of information.

France expresses its concern over the large number of victims and arrests.

On January 1, 2018, a spokesman for the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that:

We call on the Iranian authorities to uphold and respect democratic and human rights and "We are encouraged by the Iranian people who are bravely exercising their basic right to protest peacefully."

Canada will continue to support the fundamental rights of the Iranians, including freedom of expression.

As hypocrisy has it, Iran is a member of the United Nations, voted for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is a signatory to

the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, among other international human rights treaties.

In violation of these and other international obligations, Iranian regime officials continue to violate the fundamental human rights of the Iranian people.

Today, I rise with my colleagues in Congress to stand with the people of Iran that are engaged in legitimate and peaceful protests against an oppressive, corrupt regime.

I rise in support of H. Res. 676 which condemns the Iranian regime's serious human rights abuses against the Iranian people, significant corruption, and destabilizing activities abroad.

I call on all democratic governments and institutions to clearly support the Iranian people's right to live in a free society.

I rise to urge the Iranian regime to abide by its international obligations with respect to human rights and civil liberties, including freedoms of assembly, speech, and press.

The Iranian regime must do the right thing and respect the proud history and rich culture of the Iranian nation.

The people of Iran want nothing more than to promote the establishment of basic freedoms that build the foundation for the emergence of a freely elected, open, and democratic political system.

I whole-heartedly support H. Res. 676 and continue fighting for a free Iran.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 2, YEA on Roll Call No. 3, and YEA on Roll Call No. 4.

TO RECOGNIZE JAMES B. HOWARD ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE KING GEORGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James B. Howard, a citizen of King George County and Virginia's First District, on his retirement from the King George County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Howard served his community well as a member of the Board of Supervisors for the James Monroe District from 1976 to 1978. Additionally, Mr. Brown served as a member of the King George County School Board from 1988 to 1991, and the County Supervisor for the James Monroe District from 2000 to 2009 and 2014 to 2017.

During his tenure, Mr. Howard furthered the education of our youth through leading the development of Sealston Elementary School, construction of the new King George High School, the expansion of the King George Middle School, and renovation of the Potomac Elementary School, in addition to other leader-

ship successes. Mr. Howard served as the Chairman of the King George County Board of Supervisors for multiple terms and dedicated 21 years to serving the county in local government.

I would like to thank Mr. Howard for his many contributions throughout his 21-year career. I wish him and his wife, Sheila, the best of luck in their future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF CLIFF EVERTS

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memorial to a dedicated husband, proud father, pioneer of aviation and entrepreneurship, and importantly, a great Alaskan. On December 7, 2017, Alaska lost one of its hardest working and most dedicated fathers, Mr. Cliff Everts.

Cliff Everts is a keepsake original forged from rare earth. He matriculated from New York but had the spirit of an Alaskan Wolf, the business acumen of a Rockefeller, and the fortitude of a Sourdough. His smile could light up a room and his sense of humor warmed any room he happened to grace. In thinking of that astounding smile and infectious laugh, I am reminded of one of his famous quotes and something he said the last time I saw him "Dude, that was sick!" It's how he lived his life.

In reflecting upon Cliff's many accomplishments and his life, one could go on for days about all he did. I can speak to his service to his customers and how he always found a way to deliver cargo ranging from reindeer to homebuilding materials (beat that Home Depot), or start a business to sell ice cream to Alaskans! He did so at the best price with the best service to those customers. I can speak to all of his service to the community. How much he cared for Alaskans and loved Alaska.

However, what gives me the most pleasure and puts a massive smile on my face, is Cliff's dedication and his love for his wife and six children. Whenever anyone asked what made Cliff happy or what made Cliff such a success, it was always his family. He always shined when he talked about them and you could see how he would glow whenever he thought about them or saw them in person. You just do not find that in most people but you always knew it with Cliff.

Suffice to say that Cliff will live in infamy in our hearts and souls. I hope that Cliff's family and especially his wife Betty can take comfort in the bond they have with him; always. I hope the precious memories the family has of their precious Cliff will one day bring them comfort, and that they will come to find, in the lovely words of Hugh Orr:

"They are not dead who live in lives they leave behind. In those whom they have blessed, they live a life again, and shall live through the years eternal life, and shall grow each day more beautiful, as time declares their good, forgets the rest, and proves their immortality."

Please join me in expressing our heartfelt appreciation for Cliff and our sympathies for his wife, Betty; son, Robert Everts and his wife Paula; his daughters, Melanie Moyer; Debbie

Baggen; Karen Wing; Vicki Parrish and her husband Albert; and Susan Hoshaw and her husband Don; 16 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and so many close, cherished family and friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent Tuesday afternoon, January 9, on very urgent family medical business. Had I been present for three votes which occurred,

I would have voted "Aye" on H. Res. 676, Roll call vote No. 2;

I would have voted "Aye" on H.R. 4564, Roll call vote No. 3; and

I would have voted "Aye" on H.R. 4581, Roll call vote No. 4.

TRIBUTE TO NORMA AND ROY BULLOCK

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Norma and Roy Bullock of Creston, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on November 3, 2017.

Norma and Roy's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND ROGER CANDEE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Roger Candee of Carlisle, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated on November 9, 2017.

Donna and Roger's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE DOWLING
CATHOLIC FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Dowling Catholic High School football team for their fifth straight state title at this year's 4A Iowa High School Football Championships.

Members of the team include: Jayson Murray, Michael Keough, Zach Wafers, Lucas Paskach, Marcus Miller, Connor Jackman, Sam Ingoli, Quentin Wellmaker, Ashton Brown, Jack Keough, Spencer Smith, Zach Prey, Blake Clark, Jonas Thompson, Austin Knobloch, Brandon Waechter, Max Bocken, Owen Shiltz, Matt Moore, John Schmidt, Connor Ibach, Drew Peterson, Ryan Adam, Chase Hauschilt, Colton Sanders, Teagan Johnson, Xavier Chiodo, Malik McGregor, Joe Scavo, Josh Paskach, Andrew Feltz, Drake Rupperecht, Grant Jameson, Michael Rodriguez, Nick Bordenaro, Deng Kodak, Jack Bertram, Mitchell Riggs, Drew Snedegar, Max Beh, Daniel Critelli, Levi Hummel, Christian Ousley, Christian Firestine, Adam Topping, Nate Collins, Nolan Sinnott, Nate Rea, Alex Kirton, Anthony Scavo, Mitch Goff, Matt English, Riley Fitzpatrick, Sean Pallardy, Zach Calvert, Ben Means, Greg Hagen, Tom Nolan, Michael Ortega, Tom Derry, Adam Kroll, Wyatt Grubb, Sean Pattschull, Zach Ross, Tyler Holmes, Charlie Nank, Nick Leon, Jesse Alger, Charlie Johnson, Jack Lyman, Anthony Coppola, Matt Stillwell, Zach Roering, Collin Cook, Mason Heckman, Jack Rude, Connor Kriegshauser, Rex Kromkowski, Zach Stacy, John Waggoner, Jake Calvert, Jack Scholz, Reilly Smidt.

Coaches: Tom Wilson, Jim Williams, Grant Bousum, Jay Campbell, Craig McClain, Adam Jack, Andy Pollock, Jeff Motz, Fred Tieman, Ryan Van Veen, Aundra Meeks.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent these remarkable players, coaches and school in the United States House of Representatives. Their months of hard work culminated in this remarkable achievement. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating them for winning this year's 4A Iowa High School Football Championship and in wishing them all nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO KATE CUTLER AND
BOYD LITRELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kate Cutler and Boyd Littrell of Council Bluffs, Iowa for

receiving the Jason Award, given by Children's Square U.S.A. The award is presented to individuals, couples, organizations, and businesses that exemplify and demonstrate an extraordinary degree of caring, contribution, and commitment to children, families, and their communities.

Kate and Boyd have been committed to strengthening families and their community through their personal activities. Kate's willingness to give her time and talents to a variety of organizations has been of great benefit to the Council Bluffs community, and Boyd's commitment to helping those that cannot help themselves has not gone unnoticed. These two Iowans are excellent examples as to what makes our great state such an extraordinary place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Kate and Boyd for receiving the Jason Award for their contributions and commitment to the Council Bluffs community. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Kate and Boyd and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO SHERYL AND LEROY
LESTER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sheryl and LeRoy Lester of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They married on November 8, 1957 at United Methodist Church in Council Bluffs.

Sheryl and LeRoy's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS HOCHSTETTLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Chris Hochstetler of Council Bluffs, Iowa for receiving the Jason Award, given by Children's Square U.S.A. The award is presented to individuals, couples, organizations and businesses that exemplify and demonstrate an extraordinary degree of caring, contribution, and commitment to children, families, and their communities.

Chris received this honor for his vision, courage, and will in his personal and profes-

sional life. Chris grew up in Nebraska and graduated from Grand Island High School. He holds a Bachelor's of Science degree from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree from Walden University. After high school Chris joined the U.S. Army and had a distinguished military career, receiving the Legion of Merit, our nation's sixth highest military honor. Chris is also active in several community and nonprofit organizations including serving as the Executive Director of KANEKO, an arts and culture nonprofit that provides world class exhibitions, programs, and workshops.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Chris for receiving this outstanding award and I am proud to recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND RON
MARTIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Ron Martin of Greenfield, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on October 28, 2017.

Donna and Ron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DONNABELLE AND
MARVIN REYNOLDS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donnabelle and Marvin Reynolds of Redfield, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on November 10, 2017.

Donnabelle and Marvin's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous

occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO BARB AND LARRY
WYNN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Barb and Larry Wynn of Creston, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Barb and Larry's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO AMY HOFFMANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Amy Hoffmann of Avoca, Iowa for her selection as the 2017 Parent Educator of the Year by the Parents as Teachers National Center. The award was presented at the Teachers International Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Amy is a Parent Educator for FAMILY, Inc.

The Parent Educator of the Year award is given to those who exemplify the practices and mission of Parents as Teachers. FAMILY, Inc., and Parents as Teachers work together to provide public health and family support services for women, children, and families in Pottawattamie and Mills County. Amy has been involved with this program for 18 years and through her service she has provided 4,586 family visits, assisted 165 families and touched the lives of 298 children. Amy said she finds ways to get families involved in the community by offering social and group connections, which help build relationships. "This award is an honor to our community and no one is more deserving of this award than Amy" stated Jean Bohnker, Director of Early

Childhood and Family Support Services at FAMILY, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Amy for receiving this outstanding award. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Amy for receiving this award and in wishing her nothing but continued success in all her future endeavors.

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, January 11, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 16

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the domestic and global energy outlook from the perspective of the International Energy Agency.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security.

SH-216

JANUARY 17

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Randal Quarles, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine combating money laun-

dering and other forms of illicit finance, focusing on Administration perspectives on reforming and strengthening Bank Secrecy Act enforcement.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine terrorism and social media.

SR-253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Water and Power

To hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Reclamation's title transfer process and potential benefits to Federal and non-Federal stakeholders.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine America's water infrastructure needs and challenges, focusing on Federal panel perspectives.

SD-406

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dennis Shea, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, and C. J. Mahoney, of Kansas, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China, and the Western Hemisphere), with the rank of Ambassador.

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine facing 21st century public health threats, focusing on our nation's preparedness and response capabilities.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Medicaid and the opioid epidemic, focusing on unintended consequences.

SD-342

2 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the state of the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on a progress report on implementing 2017 Department of Veterans Affairs reform legislation.

SR-418

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine breaking new ground in agribusiness opportunities in Indian Country.

SD-628

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism

To hold hearings to examine the long-term care needs of first responders injured in the line of duty.

SD-226