

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OATH CEREMONY ON OCTOBER 12, 2018

HON. PETER J. VISCOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. VISCOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty-one individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on October 12, 2018. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On October 12, 2018, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Wafa M. Shahin, Maher S. Isleem, Noor M. Isleem, Daniela Ivette Ponce, David Seo, Marianne Bushra Abdelmalak, Joana Maritza Grose, Monica Ying Williams, Atanacio Serrano, Charity Gross, Beatriz Cervantes, Esther Maria Arellano, Cedrick Dizala Mukinay, Wassim Shwaiki, Maria Flores De Leon, Evelin Yamilet Sanchez, Liza Safwat Assad, Miguel Angel Lima, Carmen Marquez, Thelma Alvarez Portney, Vic Dey, Audrey Harriette Gilbertsen, Manar Haddad, Alberto Lopez, Shirley Oduro-Nkansah, Hadja Fatimah Ouattara, Susana Rodriguez Perez, Kim Hoang Pham, Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez, Ramon Sandoval Jr., and Adriana Figueroa Trejo.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “ . . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on October 12, 2018. They, too, are American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

IN HONOR OF NATHAN PRATT JENNINGS'S HEROIC ACTIONS

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Nathan Pratt Jennings, a Corporal in the Illinois Army National Guard and my constituent from Machesney Park, for his heroic actions in saving the life of his fellow citizen.

On August 3, 2018, Mr. Jennings was driving home from work along Interstate 90 when out of the corner of his eye, he saw a big splash in a retention pond by the side of the road. Being an avid duck hunter, he knew that something was wrong. He pulled his car over and ran to the pond where he saw an upended vehicle, rapidly sinking into the water.

Mr. Jennings' military training kicked in and he acted decisively, taking off his suit and jumping into the muddy water. After his first attempt to find the driver failed, he asked another individual to hold his feet while he dove into the submerged vehicle. After what felt like an eternity, he managed to find the driver and pulled her limp body from the car.

As Mr. Jennings brought her to shore, he was certain she had drowned. Luckily, a group of Good Samaritans were waiting and ready to administer CPR until the paramedics arrived. While the others worked to save the life of the female driver, Mr. Jennings went back into the water to ensure that no one was left behind.

Mr. Speaker, had it not been for Mr. Jennings' quick actions, August 3rd could have ended tragically. I am glad to say that the driver of that car is alive and well thanks to Mr. Jennings and the other Good Samaritans who helped in her rescue. On behalf of Illinois' 16th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Nathan Pratt Jennings for his heroic actions in saving the life of his fellow Illinoisan.

CONGRATULATING BOLTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Bolton Volunteer Fire Company on its 100th Anniversary.

Since its incorporation in 1918, the Bolton Volunteer Fire Company has upheld its mission to provide fire protection and rescue services to the residents of Bolton, New York. Over the last 100 years, the fire company has made many improvements to its alerting methods, truck models, and training systems to respond to the community's evolving safety needs. Today, the company proactively en-

gages the community through a variety of services, including a program to educate elementary school students on fire safety and smoke detector advocacy campaigns.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate the Bolton Volunteer Fire Company on its 100 years of exceptional volunteer service and thank the firefighters for their dedicated commitment to keeping the Bolton community safe.

HONORING GRANT HITCHCOCK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Hitchcock. Grant is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1042, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Grant has become a member of the tribe Mic-O-Say. Grant has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Grant refurbished a large, multi-level deck and stairs at the Hope House in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Hitchcock for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN MEMORY OF ALEX SPANOS

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Alexander Gus Spanos, who passed away at the age of 95 this week.

A native Californian, Alex was well known for his skillful business acumen and his generous philanthropy. He is perhaps best known for founding one of the largest apartment developers in the United States, A.G. Spanos Companies, as well as serving as the owner of the Chargers NFL Franchise.

Born the son of Greek immigrants in Stockton, California in 1923, Alex's tireless work ethic and boldness was instilled in him at a very young age, when he began working in his father's bakery at the age of eight. A tough upbringing coupled with the unshakeable belief that he could accomplish anything he set his mind to continuously drove Alex to succeed and overcome countless obstacles.

● 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.

Alex was a proud American who truly lived the American Dream and loved the country that enabled him to live it. When World War II broke out, Alex left college to join the U.S. Army Air Corps, where he served as a B-29 tail gunner. After the war, Alex returned to school and earned varsity letters in both swimming and diving at the College of the Pacific in Stockton.

In 1951, Alex started a small business selling sandwiches to migrant workers in the San Joaquin Valley. Four years after starting this business, Alex made his first million dollars and began investing his earnings in real estate and started to build apartments. In 1960, he founded A.G. Spanos Companies that, within the following two decades, became the largest apartment builder in the United States.

Always an enthusiast for sports and athletic activity, Alex fulfilled one of his lifelong goals in 1984, when he purchased the San Diego Chargers. One his most memorable moments as the owner of the Chargers was watching them defeat the Pittsburgh Steelers to play in Super Bowl XXIX in 1995.

Being equally passionate about the Chargers franchise's impact off the field, Alex created and funded community outreach programs like the Chargers Community Foundation, that continues to exist, supporting numerous critical causes, individuals in need, and organizations that benefit the Southern California community.

Alex was a creative entrepreneur, who also knew how to conduct business the right way, firmly establishing an honest and forthright reputation in both his personal and professional relationships. For many years, I had the honor and privilege of knowing Alex and his beloved wife Faye, who also passed away earlier this year. He was always the consummate gentleman, who consistently worked to give back to the country that had given him so much and I was always grateful for his counsel and friendship.

Alex Spanos was a beloved pillar of our California community and will be greatly missed, but his legacy will undoubtedly live on for many generations to come. With his passing, Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the legacy of this exemplary citizen and proud patriot, who lived a life that should serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JAMES FARRINGTON

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege today to honor the life of a dedicated community leader and loving husband, James Farrington, who passed away at the age of 51 after decades of service to Northern Michigan. Through his extreme courage and selflessness, James became an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

A native of Lansing, James dedicated his life to fellow Michiganders. After beginning his career with the Lansing Board of Water and Light, James spent 10 years as a journeyman lineworker at Traverse City Light and Power prior to joining Consumers Energy. He was well-known for his expertise, willingness to

mentor others, and love for his work. It takes years of study and experience to be a journeyman lineworker, and the tremendous physical stamina and knowledge necessary to do this vital work demands respect and appreciation from our community. James braved hazardous conditions and unforgiving weather to ensure that members of his community had access to reliable electricity—a matter of life and death for many in Northern Michigan. As we look for solace after this tragedy, I want to express my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. James' tireless devotion to the public good has touched the lives of countless Michiganders, and the impact of his work cannot be overstated.

Mr. Speaker, James Farrington's family and community can take pride in knowing that Northern Michigan is a better place thanks to his life's work. On behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District, I ask you to join me in honoring the life of an outstanding community leader whose contributions will continue to bless Michiganders for many years to come.

GREATER FORT WORTH ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Fort Worth Association of Realtors (GFWAR) on their 100 years of service to the Fort Worth community. With more than 3,200 realtor and affiliate members, GFWAR is a strong advocate for real estate professionals and Texas property owners.

The members of GFWAR are devoted to protecting private property rights and supporting homeownership, and their members have been among Fort Worth's most prominent citizens.

Among the leading members of GFWAR include the late Charles McMillan, former president of GFWAR, the Texas Association of Realtors (TAR) and the National Association of Realtors. Several other GFWAR members have also served as president of TAR; these include Walter Curlee, James D'Arcy, Raymond Estes, A.L. Purvis, Lester Weatherby, and William C. Jennings.

Additional prominent members of GFWAR include my friend State Representative Charlie Geren, who serves Texas House District 99, former State Representative Rob Orr, who served Texas House District 58, and Billie Heffner who was the first woman to chair the Texas Real Estate Commission. Prominent past members of GFWAR also include the Mayor of Fort Worth, Betsy Price.

Members of the Greater Fort Worth Association of Realtors have provided valuable professional services to Fort Worth residents for a century. On their 100th anniversary, I would like to commend all those affiliated with this notable organization and extend best wishes for continued success.

Please join me in thanking the Greater Fort Worth Association of Realtors for their proud history and centenary of service to Fort Worth, Texas.

HONORING ISAIAH FREESTONE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Isaiah Freestone. Isaiah is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Isaiah has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Isaiah has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Isaiah has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Isaiah planted trees at Lyons Park in Kearney, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Isaiah Freestone for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF KENNETH ANTONIO "TONY" COXEY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a man that dedicated himself to this country and the people of Mississippi. Kenneth Antonio "Tony" Coxey, a native of Monroe County Mississippi, passed away on Monday, September 24, 2018.

Tony graduated from Smithville High School in 1994. In April of 1996, at the age of 20, he decided to join the Mississippi Army National Guard. He proudly served this country for over 20 years. In 1999, Tony joined the Amory Police Department and began his career in law enforcement. He was a devoted patrolman for the city of Amory, as well as a part-time patrolman with the Smithville Police Department.

Tony's law enforcement career was interrupted in 2004 when he received his orders to serve our nation in Operation Iraqi Freedom. After serving for 18 months in Fallujah, Iraq, with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, Tony returned home to serve as a road deputy with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office. He later transferred to the Narcotics Division and became a Lieutenant.

Tony returned to Iraq from 2009–2010 as Personal Security Detachment for Colonel William "Bill" Glasgow. In 2011, he deployed to NATO (Bosnia) as Personal Security Detachment for General Gary E. Huffman. Shortly after, Tony retired from the Mississippi Army National Guard as an SFC E–7.

After his final deployment, Tony returned home and began working for the Alabama and Gulf Coast Railway. While working, Tony was involved in a serious train accident that left him fighting for his life. With the help of God and against all odds, Tony made a remarkable recovery. He used this accident to tell his story about how God pulled him through to anyone that would listen.

Tony was truly a man of God and was always ready to share his faith. His incredible love for God, his family, his country, and his community was shown through his works. Tony was a man who was wise beyond his years; he was a man who had a contagious smile and could bring laughter on dreary days. He made an impact on his community that will not be forgotten.

Tony is survived by his mother, Darlene Kelton (Jerry); sister, Charlene Holt; brothers, Craig Coxey (Tonia), Michael Coxey (Ashley); grandmother, Louise Oliver; and several nieces and nephews.

HONORING THE 25TH SEASON OF THE SYRACUSE CRUNCH

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Syracuse Crunch's 25th season playing in Syracuse. The Crunch compete in the American Hockey League, which is the top developmental league for the National Hockey League, and play their home games at the historic Oncenter War Memorial Arena on South State Street. Since relocating to Syracuse in 1994, the Crunch have served as the primary affiliate for five different National Hockey League franchises.

The Syracuse Crunch traces its franchise roots back to 1992, when they were originally the Hamilton Canucks based in Hamilton, Ontario. After two seasons in Hamilton, the Canucks were relocated to Syracuse and renamed the Crunch by a public vote. The Crunch were immediately popular in their new city and led the league in sellouts during two of their first four seasons in Syracuse. In addition, the team was successful upon relocation to Syracuse and reached the playoffs three consecutive years after failing to qualify in their inaugural season.

During the 2010s, the Crunch established themselves as an iconic American Hockey League franchise. The team won two conference championships during the 2012–2013 and 2016–2017 campaigns and reached the Calder Cup Finals. The Crunch fell short in both appearances, losing to the Grand Rapids Griffins on both occasions. Additionally, they participated in the league's first ever outdoor game at the Grandstand at the New York State Fairgrounds in 2010. The Crunch won the contest over the Binghamton Senators by a score of 2–1 and set a league record for single-game attendance with 21,508 spectators. Four years later, the Crunch rewrote the history books again when they played the Utica Comets at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse. The attendance of 30,715 fans for their 2–1 win over Utica was the largest crowd for an indoor hockey game in the United States.

The Crunch have been the top affiliate of the Tampa Bay Lightning since 2012. They have developed several star players for the Lightning, including Andrei Vasilevskiy, Nikita Kucherov and Yanni Gourde. They also have developed geographic rivalries with several other upstate New York teams located in Rochester, Binghamton and Utica, which has contributed to the popularity of hockey in the region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House join me in celebrating the Syracuse Crunch's rich history in Central New York. The Crunch have long contributed to the identity of Syracuse and culture of hockey in the area. As a co-chair of the Congressional Hockey Caucus, I am grateful for their presence in Syracuse.

CELEBRATING HABERSHAM COUNTY'S BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th Anniversary of Habersham County, Georgia.

Habersham County rests in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, in the northeast corner of Georgia, and was established on December 15, 1818. The county is named for Colonel Joseph Habersham, who was an officer of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, President George Washington's Postmaster General, and a mayor of Savannah.

Habersham County's beauty extends from scenic Tallulah Gorge in the north, where The Flying Wallendas crossed on high wire, to serene Lake Russell in the south. People venture from far and wide to Habersham to enjoy the National Forest and the world class fly fishing on the Soque and Chattahoochee Rivers. It is a truly special place that I am blessed to represent.

The only thing that outshines Habersham County's beauty is its community. You can always feel the warmth and welcome of the people, whether it's having breakfast at the Crossroads Café, celebrating our Appalachian heritage at the Chattahoochee Mountain Fair, or watching the Raiders football win on a Friday night.

I celebrate Habersham County's two centuries of rich history and wish the citizens of Habersham County a joyful year ahead.

A HAPPY DOUBLE TEN DAY TO THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday, October 10th is Taiwan's National Day—also known as Double Ten Day. I would like to take this opportunity now to offer my best wishes to the people of Taiwan.

As my colleagues are aware, Taiwan is a close friend, as well as security and trade partner of the United States. This year, I was happy to cosponsor and vote for H.R. 535, the Taiwan Travel Act. And I was even happier to see the bill pass the House, the Senate and be signed into law by President Trump on March 16, 2018. This important law expresses the sense of Congress that the United States Government should encourage visits between officials from the United States and Taiwan at all levels. Furthermore, it states it should be

U.S. policy to allow U.S. officials to travel to Taiwan to meet their Taiwanese counterparts; permit high-level Taiwanese officials to enter the U.S. to meet with U.S. officials; and encourages the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) to conduct business in the United States. Mr. Speaker, I could not agree more with this policy.

In my home state of Iowa, we are enthusiastic to build on our already strong trade ties. Just this past September, Taiwan renewed its pledge to purchase a total of up to 3.9 million metric tons of soybeans valued at up to \$1.56 billion in 2018 and 2019. Under the revised deal, the U.S. share of soybeans purchased by Taiwan will increase to between 80% and 90% of total Taiwanese purchases. It was also announced that the new agreement with Taiwan will result in 75% of Taiwan's total soybean purchases coming from Iowa.

As President Trump's Administration scans the globe looking for bilateral trade partners, Taiwan holds as much promise as ever for the U.S. Iowa and every state in the nation would benefit from the signing of a free trade agreement between Taiwan and the U.S., which would eliminate tariffs on most products and increase Taiwanese demand and Iowa exports. Though a small country with a population of 23.5 million, Taiwan has the potential to become a strong export market for Iowa and the U.S. Taiwan is a major importer of our nation's agriculture missions to the U.S. Other sectors such as Iowa's strong wind energy sector have potential for bilateral cooperation as well.

Mr. Speaker, again, I wish the people of Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day. And I take this opportunity to once again echo the words of Barry Goldwater when he said, "I have great affection for the Chinese people, their culture, their skills, and their potential."

CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES P. ALLISON ON HIS 2018 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. James P. Allison and his pioneering cancer research. Dr. Allison was awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for developing a new effective alternative cancer treatment, which targets the immune system instead of individual tumors.

A native of Alice, in Texas' 34th Congressional District, Dr. Allison is a graduate of Alice High School. He earned both his B.S. (1969) and Ph.D. (1973) from the University of Texas at Austin. He completed his postdoctoral fellowship at the California-based Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation (1974–1977). Dr. Allison served as a faculty member at renowned institutions, including the University of Texas System Cancer Center (1977–1984), the University of California, Berkeley (1985–2004), and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York (2004–2012).

As a professor at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center since 2012, Dr. Allison is a leading expert both inside and outside of the classroom. His students look up to

him as a role model and mentor. He is also a respected leader outside the classroom as his innovative research has proven. I am very proud of Dr. Allison's promising discovery in immunotherapy; it represents a significant advancement in cancer research and an opportunity to save countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor Dr. James P. Allison of South Texas for his contributions to cancer research. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Allison for his life-changing work and congratulating him in advance of the Nobel ceremonies in December.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MICHAEL E. LUFSEY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the service of Mr. Michael E. Lufsey and his long and honorable government contract career. Mr. Lufsey has honored his country with over 40 years of service in graphic support and design, demonstrating not only skill at his craft, but devotion to our nation.

Before his career in government contracting, "Mike" graduated from Douglas Freeman High School in 1968 in Henrico, Virginia. Two years later, he served with the United States Coast Guard for a brief, two-month stint before receiving a medical discharge.

In June 1977, Mr. Lufsey provided government contractor services with Magnavox Government and Industrial Corporation as a technical illustrator. With Magnavox, he assisted with computer graphic support to Department of Defense clients, developing military technical training manuals. In November 1992, Mike transitioned to TAD Technical Services, working as a Graphic Artist and providing graphic support for technology companies like IBM and JAYCOR. By August of 1993, Mr. Lufsey was the Senior Graphic Artist and Illustrator at Coleman Research Corporation where he provided graphic support for the Department of Energy on training presentations, briefings, and Department plans.

In September 1997, Mr. Lufsey became a Principle Designer with Anteon Corporation (later General Dynamics). In this capacity, he performed briefing support services and magazine development for three Navy Flag Officers. He also produced large scale posters which were placed onboard the USS *Ramage* for tours conducted at the Army/Navy game in December 2008.

For the past 21 years, Mr. Lufsey has served a contract with ECS (formerly Paradigm) and has continued to support the mission of the Missile Defense Agency and Aegis Missile Defense as a graphic designer. Throughout his prestigious career, Mr. Lufsey has received acclamations from satisfied clients and grateful organizations including letters of appreciation from four Rear Admirals, commendations from the Scientific Advisory Board, and the Theater Surface Combatants Unit Award for Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Mr. Michael Lufsey's lifetime of accomplishment and dedication. An admirable illus-

tration of leadership and service, and an outstanding member of our community, may God bless Mr. Lufsey and his family as he continues to be an example of service and commitment. On behalf of America's First District, we say thank you.

CONSTITUENT COMMENTS ON SOBER LIVING HOME PROBLEMS

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise again regarding the hearing held by the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice on September 28, 2018 on the issue of sober living homes. At that hearing, I had the privilege of testifying at that hearing in support of my bill, H.R. 5724, to restore local oversight over sober living homes. As part of my testimony, I submitted to the Subcommittee letters from many of my constituents about problems with sober living homes caused by current federal law preventing appropriate local oversight. For the benefit of my colleagues and the American people, I include in the RECORD the third group of these constituent letters:

As an ER nurse and a mom, I taught my children the dangers of drugs and thought I would never have issues. At 17, my high functioning autistic child was addicted to marijuana. I sent him to wilderness camp, rehab centers and nothing worked. At 18, I made a decision to put him into a sober living home thinking he would learn life skills and to be clean. Instead, he learned that if he would fail sober living and go to a rehab center he was eligible for a grant of \$3000 and he could keep \$1000 but the guy who was setting it up would keep the rest. His job is to recruit people to fail at sober living to obtain grants. Luckily for us, my child had the fear of never being able to live at home. I have seen at least 100 patients from SLH test positive for substances even hiding small shampoo bottles inside body cavities with other people's urine to use for testing. Recruit to CA for more money in benefits is what they are told. Then they are stuck here. I see patients that are here from Maryland, Texas, Nebraska, and Florida. They were brought here for rehab, went into sober living home and now are homeless, addicts, with no money to get home.

MONTE KAY YOHR,
Huntington Beach, California.

My wife and I have lived in our home for 29 years and raised our kids here. It was a quiet residential neighborhood up until approximately a couple of months ago when a sober living home moved in four doors down from us. Since then I have witnessed numerous occasions when armed police officers and parole officials have had to come to the sober living home to talk with the residents. This August at approximately 1:30 a.m. there were three individuals captured on numerous neighborhood surveillance cameras cooking up heroine, jumping over fences and trying to enter the homes of my neighbors as police officers tried to apprehend them. Needless to say, as these drug people were just outside my home, my wife and I were very upset! On another occasion one of the sober living home residents had one of their pit bull dogs loose and on the street barking and terrorizing the neighbors. Thankfully the dog

catcher was able to apprehend them before someone got hurt or bit! Treatment centers are needed, BUT not in a family residential neighborhood! Please help us regain our neighborhood!

ALAN OSTERHOUT,
Huntington Beach, California.

Ever since the detox/sober living home opened IN our neighborhood, our lives have never been the same. Loud and obnoxious music, nonstop barking dogs, day and night. Cars and people in and out of the house at all hours. There's been incidents of them trying to break in to people's homes, running through our yards at night, doing heroin in the street corner and one exposing himself to a child. All this in a neighborhood full of hardworking and law-abiding families and less than fifty feet from a middle school. There is something terribly wrong when the government fails us at all levels. The fact that we pay taxes should count for something, especially when it comes to protecting our families. If something isn't done soon, I'm afraid there won't be any turning back. You need to implement rules, regulations and laws that will prohibit these unscrupulous places from invading our neighborhoods. These are for-profit places, money is their goal. The characters running these places are shady, we know for a fact that several of them are in probation and all the activity described above is substantiated by video footage. I'm pleading with you to please save our families and our neighborhoods.

MANUELA ALMEIDA,
Huntington Beach, California.

The purpose of this letter is to be among the several with growing concerns over the establishment of a Sober Living Home in our community. My wife and I live on [ADDRESS], next to [REDACTED] Elementary in Huntington Beach. A Sober Living Home was recently established at the end of our block. Since that time our neighborhood has undergone a sweeping change in way in which we conduct our day-to-day activities.

We have noticed a marked increase in the number of people who are not members of our neighborhood, simply walking the street. At first, this does not sound too ominous. Then we add in the number of cars, not from the local area that are driving very slowly up and down our street. Please remember that we are located within 300 feet of an active Middle School. These are not the cars of parents picking up their children as school starts on September 5 for them. These are not people who are lost or looking for an address. These are people who seem to stop and start in front of the Sober Living House. There are people at all hours of the night that seem to open the trunk of a car and put something in; or, take something out of the car and then carry on down the street. This is all documented and supported with footage from local household security cameras.

My curiosity rose to the highest level of concern when on Friday morning, August 24 at 1:30 AM, I was startled by unusual noises outside the front of my house, where my bedroom window is located. I looked outside the shutters only to find two strangers at my window. Please take notice that my bedroom window is 30 feet or a full driveway length off the street. These two were prowling in front of my bedroom where my wife and I were sleeping. I ran to the front door, which is always locked and chained, turned on the porch light to startle and scare them off. My wife shouted we were calling the police and indicated we had a gun. I also have the RING security doorbell/camera. I activated it immediately so that I could observe their response. The video shows two male figures approaching my front door and then turning

and leaving. We called the Huntington Beach police department who immediately dispatched a patrol car. The car was seen driving up and around our neighborhood. My wife notified other members of our neighborhood watch group and communication between neighbors began quickly. We learned that other people had similar occurrences, including one neighbor who had his house invaded by them. They apparently entered a house, saw the occupant, turned and fled.

My wife and I eventually spoke with a police officer at 2:30 AM after placing a second call to the department. During our "interview" the officer informed us that they were looking for two adults, one male and one female. We reported two males. Therefore, it turns out there were three people involved in this event. The officer informed us that the Sober Living Home was NOT involved. Strangely enough, after several members of our neighborhood became involved and checked their security cameras, the group of two and three were seen crossing the backyards of several homes in the neighborhood, entering and exiting the Sober Living House where, it was documented, they may have lived, or visited frequently. We were then able to piece together a complete story that involved these three being involved in drug transportation and use (witnessed by residents), the police and police helicopter called in to apprehend, the suspects crossing through several backyards and, as previously stated, entering a neighborhood home while the resident was there. Remember, the police said members of the Sober Living House were not involved, yet quite clearly, they were.

While I understand the local police would like to control the situation, I find it appalling that they believe that dis-information and mis-information is the best way to proceed. A neighborhood meeting was called over this event. A local member of our community volunteered their house for the meeting. I attended it and sat quietly. I learned of parents that are afraid to let their child walk the quiet neighborhood block to school, I heard of the large number of households that have invested in security cameras for their homes. My wife and I are among them. I now have enhanced security lights and cameras in both my front and back yards. Neighbors that are now keeping firearms more readily accessible to assist in the unfortunate case of a perfect stranger simply entering a home where they do not belong. On an incredibly personal level, there are times when I am called out of town. This past weekend was one such time. For the first time in my twenty-eight-year marriage and my wife's 58 years on this planet, she felt the need to sleep with a loaded gun next to our bed. This must be unacceptable and yet it is becoming essential to our well-being.

My distress rose to the point of anger to find that the people using the noble cause of establishing a Sober Living Environment had criminal records, were under investigation for conning older people out of money for bogus investment opportunities and, while all this is documented, nobody can do anything about it. We are told that if the Sober Living Homes are small enough, they can exist virtually unregulated, yet incredibly well-funded by insurance companies. Local governments are frustrated while State governments contribute to the problem by ignoring the possibility of corruption and challenges they permit by not regulating the environment they created. When "clean" urine is dropped off to make sure residents can pass random drug tests, not much confidence can develop in the system.

Mr. Peterson [Mayor Pro Tempore, Huntington Beach] I have been informed that

you will be speaking before a U.S. House committee about establishing some federal guidelines over these communities. Please believe that while I want every individual to have a legitimate second chance, and I understand that might mean some might have to exist in my neighborhood, I do not believe that an entire community should be told by a Limited Liability Corporation with an invisible manager that the entire community must sacrifice their safety, their security, their way of life simply because a corporation does not have to follow any rules, because no real rules exist.

While we might look at local legislation on a city level, there is great difficulty to do this because the State of California does not support the efforts of its citizenry and the local communities they are supposed to be in service of. As one of the members of our city council and as someone that has been asked to speak before the House Subcommittee, I would like to add our names to the many that are in search of help from our elected officials. We helped put you in your position conditioned on the promise you would look out for us. You will be speaking with other people put into that same position but on a larger stage. Please make sure our voices are heard and that some positive outcome from this is to be reasonably expected. The wheels of government move slowing on a national level when only a neighborhood is involved; however, since there are neighborhoods across California and some other States with similar issues, I am hoping this develops into an issue of prominence. I/we are counting on you to make that happen.

Please feel free to reach out to myself or any of the many members of our community and others for additional information or perspective. We, the citizens of your community are looking forward to your report. We hope you will make the substance of your experience available to us all.

JOHN SIMS,
Huntington Beach, California.

Since owning a home in 2008, I have yet to NOT live next to a sober living home. In Costa Mesa, I lived next to two. One next door and one across the street. In Huntington Beach, I live next to one which is located directly across the street.

I am married and have three small boys ages seven, five and three. They rarely go outside in the front yard due to the sober living homes. Crime is ever present, drug needles found on the street, relapses, a near constant stream of cars coming and going and my son almost getting hit by these people speeding.

They are a business and need to be treated as such. There should be regulations on how many per community, how close to one another as well as how close to a school.

I'm all for recovery but my issue is the owners who don't care about many of these people trying to recover. Why not set up in a business park? The owners use our communities as profit to their business, could care less about investing in the community and make a lot of money with the aid of insurance. I don't understand how insurance continues to pay these homes.

These are businesses and need to be treated as such and not be in a residential community affecting kids, families and its residents.

SEAN CROSON,
Huntington Beach, California.

I have lived in many and managed one sober living house in my lifetime. I have also worked at two licensed facilities specializing in addiction treatment. The fact is a sober house is a landlord renting rooms to individuals. Attempting to regulate housing based

on how it is marketed or to whom it is marketed is not a direction I would be comfortable seeing my community take. If it succeeded, it would increase the number of homeless addicts on the street. Yes, many people with money or insurance do come to rehab in licensed facilities. I find it difficult to believe that people coming from other areas for a determined number of days who have insurance or the many thousands per month that rehab costs are contributing significantly to the number of homeless addicts on the street. People may not like addicts living near them. Who would? But people might not like a commune of musicians or a group of loud teenagers moving in next to them either. They must be handled in the same manner: the way one would handle an annoying neighbor. What is being proposed sounds preposterous to me and trust me when I say the community will regret it if all those people must suddenly find somewhere else to live. What will we do next? Ask the police to become more aggressive until more people get killed for no reason?

TONY KAZ,
Huntington Beach, California.

There were two sober living/recovery homes on my elderly mother's street. I say "were" because they turned out to be a total nightmare and thankfully a councilman was instrumental in helping to get them removed. The street is [REDACTED], and not until a young man died, did much change from the needles in neighbors' yards to unruly situations, etc. Needless to say, it was very unsettling and a shame that someone had to die in order for major change to happen. We now have a few in our neighborhood and one is 2 blocks away. It is on [ADDRESS]. There have been a few incidents already involving that house. Hopefully we can do something to have some accountability for these businesses. Common sense needs to prevail! Thank you for what you can do.

SHERRIE WOLFE,
Huntington Beach, California.

I strongly request that provisions be enacted to regulate the growth of large and small sober living and detox facilities establishing locations in residential communities.

Located on my street, less than 100 yards from a middle school is an SLH/detox facility that recently opened its doors. In the past 30 days, curbside drug consumption, attempted and successful B & E, unleashed dog complaints and drug sales have been documented less than 100 yards from the middle school. Evidence was video-taped and filed with the local police, city council members and the city attorney. Absolutely nothing can be done by these "protective" officials by their own admissions as documented in their emails to residents of our neighborhood. The message is that there are no enforceable guidelines for them to follow. There is a ground swell of very concerned and scared residents and families banding together to create a self-protecting group which I feel is a poor workaround to the protection that we should be provided from our police and local government.

I implore you to expeditiously enact legislation that will provide a process to evaluate and approve Sober Living and Detox facilities in residential areas. These are health care facilities that need to adhere to a fair and reasonable standard work process. The process must provide our police and government officials a path to systematically evaluate complaints and apply corrective action rapidly if needed.

I have researched and learned that the State of Florida and the City of Costa Mesa, California have implemented legislation that has been successful at sorting out good operators from those that are not utilizing a fair

and balanced method of initial approval and operational evaluation.

Please work to make this a bi-partisan effort as political preference has absolutely nothing to do with what is needed. Respectfully submitted.

LESLIE WANNALL,
Huntington Beach, California.

As a result of the recent opening of a detox sober living home in my neighborhood, my family has experienced many negative consequences. Last week, my teenage son heard noises outside his bedroom window and discovered two members of the sober living home were cooking heroin on the back of his car, shooting up and attempting to sell heroin. The amount of traffic on our street from people cruising by the home all night long keeps our family up at night. Many nights there are helicopters overhead for several hours, which also affects our sleep. In addition, this home has two pit bulls that have been outside off leash, barking angrily at all who walk by. These dogs are left outside in the backyard and bark all night. We have seen camera footage of members of this home breaking into my neighbors' homes. This particular home, [REDACTED], is run by an ex-convict as a 10-bed facility when the law states 6 beds is the maximum allowed in a residential area. Down the street is a middle school. It is unacceptable and unsafe to have this type of home in our neighborhood. Several neighbors are choosing to move but we shouldn't have to move to maintain our safety and quality of life. I implore you to please take this matter seriously. In addition, if people are truly seeking to detox from drugs and alcohol, this is not a suitable environment to support sobriety.

Thank you for your consideration,
SHELLEY BUKER,
Huntington Beach, California.

HONORING JEREMIAH DAVID THORNTON, JR.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremiah Thornton, Jr. Jeremiah is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 333, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeremiah has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeremiah has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jeremiah has become a Fire Builder in the tribe Mic-o-Say. Jeremiah has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jeremiah refurbished a house in Parkville that is used during the Christmas season for Santa to meet with children.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremiah for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF VIRGIL RYALS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Virgil Ryals. Mr. Ryals is a Korean War veteran who served the United States of America honorably.

Virgil was born in Winters, California, and his family later relocated to Chowchilla.

After graduating from Chowchilla High, he joined the U.S. Army in January 1951. Completing his basic training at Fort Ord, Virgil was assigned to a unit with the 6th Army. In the summer of 1951, he sojourned with his Army companions to Pusan, South Korea where he joined the 1st Cavalry Division. Shortly afterward he was assigned to Company C of the 7th Cavalry, the infamous "Garry Owen" regiment once led by George Armstrong Custer.

Virgil was assigned to a radio section of Headquarters Company where he received and transmitted vitally important intelligence to embattled Army units. Virgil's hard work and quick learning was quickly noticed by his superiors, and Virgil was soon promoted to head the section. In October 1951, Virgil's communicators kept all units in contact when a Chinese counterattack threatened to overrun the regiment.

Virgil served on occupation duty in Japan until December 1952, when he returned home on leave to visit his family. At the end of his leave, Virgil and his family were involved in a tragic car accident which claimed the life of both his parents. Virgil, suffering from two broken legs, a broken elbow and numerous other injuries, was not expected to live. But, for the next eleven months, Virgil underwent several procedures at Letterman's Hospital where he fought to recover.

In November 1953, Corporal Virgil Ryals was honorably discharged from the United States Army. For his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Japan), the Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Virgil worked as a dairyman and farmer until 1959 when he accepted a position at the Chowchilla Post Office, where he worked for thirty-one years. Mention the name of Virgil Ryals to virtually anyone in Chowchilla and they will know the congenial, chatty, helpful postal worker who helped generations of Chowchillans.

His wife, Eva, passed away in 1999. They raised two beautiful children and have one grandchild. Virgil is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, American Legion Post 148, and a member of St. Columba Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Virgil Ryals for his dedication to his family and his country.

HONORING 2018 BARROW COUNTY REACH RECIPIENTS

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dylan Ceraso, Jeanna Presley, Alejandro Tovar-Villagomez, and Morgan Watkins for being selected as 2018 REACH Scholars for Barrow County, Georgia.

Standing for "Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen," this needs-based mentorship and college scholarship program provides opportunity for academically-promising students from their eighth grade year through high school. In addition to remaining in high academic standing, students are required to meet with a mentor and maintain good attendance. Upon graduation from high school and successful completion of the program, the student is awarded a \$10,000 scholarship toward the cost of any HOPE-eligible institution in Georgia.

These REACH Georgia scholars are our future. Georgia has made a commitment to awarding those in need who demonstrate a high level of merit—an investment that will increase our workforce and grow our economy. I'm proud that we take these steps to ensure a brighter future for our children, our state, and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I expect great things from each of these special young scholars, and on behalf of Georgia's 10th Congressional District, I offer them my congratulations and wish them continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Syracuse University Press. Located at the edge of Syracuse University's campus, the Syracuse University Press has been imperative to the strength and academic rigor of Syracuse University.

Founded by William P. Tolley and Thomas J. Watson in 1943, the Syracuse University Press is committed to promoting diverse cultural and intellectual expression, as well as preserving the history, literature, and culture of our region. Syracuse University Press emphasizes publications on the history, culture, and people of New York State, as well as works on Irish Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Peace Studies, Television and Popular Culture, Literature in Translation. As a recipient of the NEH/Mellon Open Book Program grant, Syracuse University Press has the unique ability to make out-of-print humanities books available again by re-creating them as free, open access e-books.

Syracuse University Press has published over 2,200 titles and sold over 3.5 million books. The pieces sold and published by Syracuse University Press are culturally diverse,

written by authors from 20 countries and translated into 25 languages. For their work, the Syracuse University Press has received numerous awards, such as the 2017 Association for Middle East Women's Studies Book Award Honorable Mention, 2017 Robert Penn Warren for Fiction, 2016 J. I. Segal Award for Translation, and the PROSE Award in the Language and Linguistics category and honorable mention for Excellence in the Humanities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Syracuse University Press. Under the steady leadership of Director Alice Pfeiffer, it is my hope that the Syracuse University Press continues to provide this great service to our community and to the world for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARLA GUERRA'S RETIREMENT

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Marla M. Guerra, a dedicated educator who is retiring after 17 years of service as the superintendent of South Texas Independent School District (ISD).

Dr. Guerra's professional accomplishments are numerous and impressive. She has passionately guided South Texas ISD, continuously improving the quality of education, and earning state and national recognitions along the way. Under her leadership, South Texas ISD was recognized first in Texas, and sixth in the nation in the Niche 2018 category for "Best K-12 School Districts." Dr. Guerra was also named the 2018 Texas Association of School Boards' Regional Superintendent of the Year.

Dr. Guerra is an influential educator with a strong focus on educational growth for student development. Her work for the district has supported the expansion of both academic offerings and life-changing opportunities for students and teachers to extend learning beyond the classroom.

Prior to her role as superintendent of South Texas ISD, Dr. Guerra served as a teacher, principal, and college professor. She was also a social worker and worked alongside Child Protective Services. Dr. Guerra is a true champion for our youth, and her success has unequivocally empowered them to improve themselves and their communities.

As a leader and advocate for our children, Dr. Guerra has molded South Texas ISD into the district it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Marla M. Guerra for her more than 40 years of public service for our children and schools.

HONORING RUTHIE'S RUN ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Ruthie's Run on its 50th Anniversary.

A visit to Lake Placid, New York, is not complete without a stop at Ruthie's Run, the iconic sportswear and skiwear shop. Ruthie's Run has offered a wide variety of skiing goods since Ruth Prime purchased Thaire's Ski Shop in 1968 and renamed it after a slope on Aspen Mountain in Colorado.

In 1984, Cathy and Wayne Johnston left their jobs in the corporate world and bought Ruthie's Run to make their own mark in the community, and they have maintained quality service ever since. Ruthie's Run offers a selection for customers looking for a wide variety of price range and style. With Cathy's expertise to solve any wardrobe issue, customers never leave Ruthie's unsatisfied.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate Ruthie's Run on its 50th anniversary. Ruthie's is a staple in the Lake Placid community, and I look forward to watching the Johnstons continue its legacy in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE PUERTO RICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the Puerto Rican Bar Association, as it celebrates its 40th Year Anniversary Scholarship Fund Gala on October 12, 2018.

The Puerto Rican Bar Association (PRBA) was founded in 1957. It is the largest Latino bar association in New York State and offers personal and professional support to Puerto Rican and Latino attorneys. The PRBA Scholarship Fund raises money to award scholarships to deserving law students. Founded in 1978 by Justice Donald Grajales, himself a past president of the PRBA, it has provided over \$500,000,000 to law students based on scholastic achievement, community involvement and financial need.

The lawyers who make up PRBA have a strong dedication to public service and to preserving the civil and political rights of Puerto Ricans and Latinos. This has been an extraordinary year in which the PRBA has been present! I am proud of all the members who volunteered and dedicated time and resources to help the victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, the detained children and hardworking families in New York City.

One thing is for certain, the members of PRBA have an unwavering commitment to the legal profession, to each other and to the people they serve. I want to especially thank Carmen Pacheco, Esq., for her dedication and leadership during her term as President and congratulate Honorable Wilma Guzman, the first judge ever elected President of the Puerto Rican Bar Association. I am confident that her experience, vision and leadership will propel the association to new heights.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Puerto Rican Bar Association and the Puerto Rican Bar Scholarship Fund on this special 40th year anniversary. I wish the Puerto Rican Bar Association continued success in many more years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH HALL ROTARY CLUB

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the South Hall Rotary Club for raising over \$8,000 for charities in Northeast Georgia.

Rotary International is a service organization whose purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders to provide humanitarian services, advance goodwill, and promote peace around the world.

During their recent Awesome 80s 5K run, the South Hall Rotary Club raised more than \$8,000 to support the Relay for Life Hall County, the University of North Georgia Food Pantry, and their annual Foster Kids of Hall County Christmas Party. More than one hundred runners participated in the charitable event. Many of the participants celebrated by wearing costumes, neon shorts and leggings, wild colorful hairstyles, big glasses, and headbands on race day. Uniformly, however, the participants reflected the generous spirit of Northeast Georgia, and a strong commitment to serving their community.

In past races, the South Hall Rotary Club has helped raise funds to support new dental equipment for Good News Clinic, Boys & Girls Club, and for a new computer lab at the Compass Center.

I visited with President Renee Carden and the South Hall Rotary Club this August and was inspired by their dedication and giving spirit. I thank the South Hall Rotary Club for their philanthropic efforts and their work to unite the community for good.

HONORING MICHAEL GUERRA-YORK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Guerra-York. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Guerra-York for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TEXAN: ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS KRISTIAN MENCHACA—MEMBER OF THE BAND OF BROTHERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the 101st Airborne of the United States Army is otherwise known as the Band of Brothers. They were called the Screaming Eagles of World War II. They held off the Germans in the battle of the Bulge. Their legacy was continued, as the 101st remained on duty in the blistering heat of Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Once again fighting the forces of tyranny and terrorism.

Twenty-three year old Kristian Menchaca was born May 29, 1983, in my hometown of Houston, Texas. He moved to Brownsville with his mother, Maria Guadalupe Vasquez, when he was a young boy. He attended Gary Job Corps center in San Marcos, TX, where he completed the correctional officers training program in six months and earned a certificate. Kristian Menchaca told his family Christmas Day, 2004 that he planned to enlist. They tried to talk him out of it, but Kristian Menchaca insisted, and his family came around.

He had the goal of using his military experience to become a Border Patrol agent. He scored so high on his entrance test that he was given the option to bypass the infantry. He chose not to do that. Instead, he signed up in March 2005 and wound up in the 101st Airborne. He married his wife, Christina, three weeks before he was deployed with the United States Army. The Army turned Kristian Menchaca's life around. It gave him a greater purpose, a higher calling.

In June of 2006, at an outpost near Baghdad, American volunteers of the 101st found themselves surrounded and attacked by the enemy. One soldier, Specialist David Babineau, was killed in the skirmish. Private First Class Kristian Menchaca and Private First Class Thomas Tucker were kidnapped, captured, and later, murdered.

He left behind a wife, a family, and a lot of grateful Americans.

This enemy we fought in the desert sands of Iraq and Afghanistan were evil villains who oppose our righteous and just cause to proclaim freedom throughout the world. These terrorists took no prisoners. They had no POW camps. News reports claimed the attackers of the outpost all wore masks to cover their faces.

Mr. Speaker, outlaws and bandits of the Old West wore masks to disguise who they were because they, like these terrorists, covered up their wicked intentions of destruction of everything that is good and right. But just like those outlaws, these criminals were hunted, tracked, and brought to a speedy end, because the 101st brought justice to the hot hills of Iraq.

Shakespeare said of the brothers in Henry V how they will be regarded. He said, "From this day to the ending of the world, but we in it shall be remembered; we few, we happy few, we band of brothers; for he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

Private First Class Kristian Menchaca was later awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and a Prisoner of War Medal.

We continue to honor Private First Class Kristian Menchaca and the Band of Brothers—the unyielding warriors that proved strongest against terror.

And that's just the way it is.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. ROBERT JENKINS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the service of Mr. Robert Jenkins who passed away Monday, September 24, 2018. Robert Jenkins honored his country with a long career of service, first as a United States Marine, and then for over 30 years as an electronic technician for the federal government. His life was an example of commitment, love and service from which all of us would be wise to learn.

Robert was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island on May 10, 1930. One of six children, Robert enlisted with the Marine Corps when he was 17 years old in 1947, requiring his parents' approval. He served with the 1st Marine Corps Division, 1st Weapon Battalion as 81mm Mortar Platoon Squad Leader. Stationed at numerous locations from Guam to Quantico, Virginia, Robert served in the Marine Corps for four years before being honorably discharged in 1951.

In 1953, he married Miriam Freedman, who preceded him in death in February 2012, and they raised four daughters together: Karen, Carol, Beverly, and Andrea. He went on to have eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather, Robert was a model for all of us not only in his work, but in his personal life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Mr. Jenkins and in thanking the Jenkins family their incredible sacrifices, devotion, and service to our nation; words cannot express our gratitude. On behalf of America's First District, we say thank you.

HONORING THE YMCA'S 135TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a feat to reach a 100th anniversary, it is a greater feat to reach a 125th anniversary, but, Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize an organization within my district that has reached its 135th anniversary, the Yonkers Family YMCA.

The Yonkers Family YMCA began in 1882 by accident. Story has it that the founders were traveling to New York City, but became lost in Yonkers. They decided to open a local chapter of the YMCA in Yonkers, and 135 years later, the Yonkers Family YMCA remains a cornerstone of the community.

"To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all." That's the YMCA's mission statement, which strives to provide a safe environment where those in the commu-

nity can better their lifestyle through health and fitness. As such, the Yonkers Family YMCA offers a variety of programs year-round for Yonkers residents and the surrounding area, that include boxing, aquatics, youth, and summer camps, as well as youth employment training programs.

It would not be possible for the Yonkers Family YMCA to offer the wellness programs and services to the community without help from the community itself. Yonkers has always stood by the YMCA, and continues to support its vital mission.

I would be remiss to not mention the YMCA's leadership, which ensures the continued success of the YMCA on a day-to-day basis: Shawyn Patterson-Howard, Marisol Mancebo, Vincent Talia Ferro, John Thompson, Donald Golding, Mercedes Bangari, Donald Somerville, Carolyn Mosha, Franklin Peat, and Keith Guinyard. Additionally, I want to also thank the Board of Directors for their continual support of the YMCA: Maria George, Steven Tvert, Arnaldo Torres, John Pagliarola, Christopher Jonson, Jade Sharpe and Maurine Koranteng.

Mr. Speaker, the Yonkers Family YMCA has been a central part of the lives of people all throughout the region for well over a century. It's a remarkable feat that deserves this recognition. Congratulations to the entire Yonkers Family YMCA family for 135 years of service, and may they have many more years of great success.

INSIDER THREATS TO AVIATION SECURITY: AIRLINE AND AIRPORT PERSPECTIVES

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, thank you, Chairman KATKO and Ranking Member WATSON COLEMAN, for calling this important hearing to take a closer look at the new challenges that pose security threats to airports and carriers nationwide.

As Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Aviation Subcommittee, I am committed to ensuring the United States continues to have the safest aerospace system in the history of flight. In light of recent events, it is clear there is more Congress can do to make the system safer.

Less than two months ago, on August 10, 2018, an airline employee stole an aircraft at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) in my home state of Washington and engaged in unauthorized flight.

If not for the rapid response teams, particularly Sea-Tac air traffic controllers and the Air National Guard, who remained calm throughout a very intense situation and worked diligently to contain the incident, this tragedy could have devastated communities in Northwest Washington.

Sea-Tac is a major hub in the national airport network and has long been a leader in airport security. The airport conducts extensive security clearance measures and thorough employee background checks, and uses advanced technologies to ensure the safety of its passengers and employees.

However, this incident demonstrates the need for the federal government and industry

alike to consider new ways to ensure the safety and security of passengers and employees.

For years, I worked with my colleagues on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to develop a long-term Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization bill to address, among other things, safety issues present in our airspace system, and I am pleased Congress has recently enacted a comprehensive measure that will raise the bar on aviation safety for years to come.

This legislation will help lessen the likelihood of incidents similar to the August 10 event at Sea-Tac in the future by requiring the FAA and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to work with industry to evaluate security gaps in our aviation system and provide recommendations on industry improvements.

Among its provisions, the legislation authorizes the FAA to carry out a pilot program to support non-federal acquisition and installation of surveillance systems for the non-movement areas of airports, such as airport cargo and maintenance areas.

It also calls on the FAA to collaborate with stakeholders to advance a global standard for access to air carrier flight decks, and it directs the TSA to consult with the FAA to complete a detailed threat assessment to identify any safety or security risks associated with unauthorized access to flight decks on commercial aircraft.

While this long-term reauthorization makes considerable progress in aviation safety and security, our work is not done. In addition, industry must work proactively to address these pressing issues. I commend Sea-Tac and aviation stakeholders for their collaboration following the August 10 incident on a new series of industry best practices to advance airport security.

I look forward to working with this Subcommittee, industry, and other stakeholders to address these new threats and to ensure the United States continues to maintain the safest aviation system in the world.

With that, I thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for their bipartisan leadership on this important issue.

HONORING RYNE LAMMERS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryne Lammers. Ryne is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 714, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryne has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ryne has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Ryne has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Ryne installed a concrete pad and a bench for a church in his community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryne Lammers for his accom-

plishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF MICHELLE MOYER

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Michelle Moyer, Associate Professor and Viticulture Extension Specialist at Washington State University, for her contributions to the robust Washington wine industry.

Dr. Moyer was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Specialty Crop Research Initiative. This grant will assist Dr. Moyer in understanding and combating fungicide resistance, which currently threatens the \$5 billion wine, table grape, and raisin crop.

Dr. Moyer's research will be essential in protecting vulnerable farmers and their crops, ensuring that Washington State continues to grow the best wine grapes and produce high quality wine. As I congratulate her efforts, I also recognize the important contributions of women to agriculture—and especially to the wine industry, in which women tend to be underrepresented.

I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Dr. Moyer's successful career, and I wish her the best in her research. Go Cougs.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DONALD E. SCHNOOR

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Donald E. Schnoor. Mr. Schnoor is a Korean War veteran who served the United States of America honorably.

Donald E. Schnoor was born in Chowchilla on December 19, 1934. Twenty years later, he would be part of the famed First Cavalry Division fighting in Korea.

Don attended local schools. In June 1952, shortly after graduating from Chowchilla High, he enlisted for three years in the U.S. Army. After basic training at Fort Ord, he was selected to train as a musician with the Army Band Training Unit. Upon completion of band training, he was assigned to play the trombone with the 6th Army band at Fort Mason in San Francisco. The band played for troops leaving and arriving by ship to and from the Far East, primarily Korea. Numerous Hollywood and local professional celebrities performed with the band. Wanting to see a bit of the world, Don subsequently volunteered for duty with Army occupation troops in Japan.

Upon arrival in Japan, Don was informed that although he had been trained as a musician the Army considered him an infantryman first and a trombone player second. Upon reaching Inchon, Korea, Don joined the 5th Regiment of the legendary First Cavalry Division along the frontlines southeast of Seoul

near Yong Dong Po. He was assigned duty as part of a fire team for a 75 MM recoilless rifle mounted on a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton 4x4 utility truck.

Don served in Korea until the truce was signed in 1954 and then joined the rest of the First Cavalry Division in Hokkaido, Japan.

Later that year, the 5th Regiment moved south to Sendai, Japan, where Don joined the First Cavalry Band and Orchestra. Shortly after joining the band, Don was recommended to audition for the U.S.O. Orchestra, and after tough competition, was accepted. He spent the remainder of his overseas service traveling in Japan playing for U.S.O. shows for American servicemen. Don was one of three trombonists and enjoyed the duty.

Don returned to the U.S. in the late spring of 1955 and was discharged as a sergeant at Fort Ord. For his service, he was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

After military service to his country, Don returned to Chowchilla and began a career in farming that has continued for fifty-six years. He and his wife, Peggy, have three daughters, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Don is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, the American Legion Post of Madera, the Madera Elks, and the First United Methodist Church of Madera.

Don said, "I am truly proud to have had the opportunity to serve my country."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Donald E. Schnoor for his dedication to his family and his country.

RECOGNIZING RED ARNDT FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE AND COMMITMENT

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Red Arndt for his many years of service to the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, as well as his lifetime commitment to bringing safe and reliable water to the rural corners of this country.

Born Lennis Arndt on May 1, 1948, he earned the nickname, Red, while in grade school from his full head of red hair. The name stuck and most people only know him today as Red Arndt.

Red grew up in Springfield, Minnesota, about 90 minutes from his current hometown, Luverne where he first started working in 1989 as their public utilities director. Shortly after beginning his new position, Red heard about a proposal to bring water from the Missouri River in South Dakota to the surrounding states. A major undertaking with more people doubting the idea than supporting, Red saw the opportunity and potential, recommending to the mayor and city council that Luverne join and become one of the first members of the corporation that would later become the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System.

Seeing Lewis & Clark develop from conception to construction was a labor of love for Red, and a mission he fought hard to achieve.

Red, one of only two original directors from 1990 still on the board, held a shovel when the ground was first broke in 2003. He has probably made over 60 trips to Washington, DC and many more to the state capitals and attended countless county, city and community meetings.

Fighting to get Lewis & Clark off the ground was just a starting point for Red. He has worked tirelessly on behalf of the project, serving as the vice-chairman of the board beginning in 1994 until becoming the board chairman in 2006, a position he still holds. Lewis & Clark has experienced ups and downs during those years, yet under Red's leadership over 200 miles of pipeline have been laid in the ground currently delivering much needed water to 14 member communities and rural water projects, reaching over 300,000 people across South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. He has seen over \$470M in funding to Lewis & Clark, including \$57M in advance funding from the three states.

Red's indisputable dedication was demonstrated when he participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the water treatment plant in August 2012, a mere two weeks after having open heart surgery. His fellow directors surprised him at the ceremony by presenting him with the Lewis & Clark Trailblazer Award, which is the organization's highest honor.

In May 2016, Luverne was finally able to celebrate their connection to Lewis & Clark, with Red reveling in taking the first swig of water. It was at this ceremony that the meter building in Luverne was dedicated in Red's honor. Red will be the first to acknowledge that this endeavor, benefiting generations to come in the tristate area, has been a true team effort. But, there is no question Red's vision for the future, dogged dedication and strong leadership have been a driving force through the years.

When he is not dedicating his time to Lewis & Clark, Red is a proud father of three boys (all sharing his red hair) and grandfather of three red-headed little girls. His family is his pride-and-joy. You will often find Red wearing a pin honoring his son who served in the United States Air Force.

As a dessert first type of guy, Red lives life to the fullest, enjoying travel, fishing and numerous other outdoor activities in his free time, as well as hanging out in his "man cave". I am grateful for his commitment to public service, his hard work on behalf of Lewis & Clark, and, more importantly, I am proud to call him a friend.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Red Arndt for his many great contributions and wish him the best as he continues to make the most out of the life God has given.

RAISING AWARENESS OF
CHILDHOOD CANCER

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and bring awareness to childhood cancer and the devastating effects it has on these young lives and their families.

Cancer is a tough disease regardless of whom it affects.

Recently, Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS), a rare, highly malignant form of cancer, took the life of Mr. Kye Graceson Davis, a young resident of my Congressional district, at the tender age of six.

On behalf of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I extend my deepest sympathies to Kye's loving parents, Christopher and Kaysha Davis; his surviving siblings, Christopher Jr., Jade, Madison, and Kadence Davis; and all of Kye's loving family and friends.

As a founder of the Congressional Children's Caucus, member of the Childhood Cancer Caucus, loving mother, and grandmother, children are near and dear to my heart.

I cannot fathom the sorrow that the Davis family is experiencing, but I am grateful that to honor his memory, the City of Houston declared, October 21st, as "Kye Graceson Davis Day."

Kye was an adventurous child who loved the outdoors, sports and learning, most notably spending time at the barn riding horses, or playing baseball with his Little League team.

His favorite time of year in Houston was during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and he always had hopes of participating in the rodeo when he was old enough.

Unfortunately, Kye's dreams were placed on hold when he was diagnosed with cancer in November of 2016.

On January 11, 2018, after waging a valiant fight, Kye lost his fight with RMS.

RMS is a type of sarcoma made up of cells that normally develop into skeletal (voluntary) muscles.

RMS is also the most common type of soft tissue sarcoma in children.

About two-thirds of RMS cases are diagnosed in children younger than age 10.

There are three main types of RMS:

Embryonal RMS occurs most often in the head and neck area or in the genital or urinary organs, but can occur anywhere in the body and is the most common type of this disease,

Alveolar RMS occurs most often in the arms or legs, chest, abdomen, genital organs, or anal area, and

Anaplastic RMS which is the least common type of rhabdomyosarcoma in children.

RMS is more common in children, although it does sometimes occur in adults.

According to the American Cancer Society: "About 3 percent of all childhood cancers are RMS and there are an estimated 400 to 500 new cases of RMS reported each year in the United States with more than half of them in children younger than 10 years old."

Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS) can start nearly anywhere in the body, so the symptoms of RMS can be different in each person.

Signs and symptoms of rhabdomyosarcoma depend on where the cancer is located.

For example, if the cancer is in the head or neck area, signs and symptoms may include, among others, headache, bulging or swelling of the eyes, bleeding in the nose, throat or ears.

If the cancer is in the urinary or reproductive system, signs and symptoms may include, among others, trouble urinating and blood in the urine, difficulty with bowel movements, a mass or bleeding in the vagina or rectum.

If the cancer is in the arms or legs, signs and symptoms may include, among others, swelling or a lump in the arm or leg, pain in the affected area, though sometimes there is no pain.

In 2017, it was estimated that among children ages 0 to 14 years, 10,270 will be diagnosed with cancer and 1,190 will die of the disease in 2017.

RMS's 5-year survival rate for children is generally around 20 percent to 40 percent because the kids in this group often have the metastatic form of this disease at the time they are diagnosed.

Metastatic cancers are cancers that have spread to multiple parts of the body.

RMS is almost always treated with both local therapy (surgery and/or radiation therapy) as well as chemotherapy.

However, the details of treatment can vary based on a number of factors, including the location and extent of the tumor and which risk group the patient falls into.

All children and adults with RMS will be treated with surgery to remove the tumor if it can be done without causing major damage or disfigurement.

If this is not possible, chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy may be used first to try to shrink the tumor; if it shrinks enough, surgery can be done at this point.

The goal of surgery is to remove the tumor completely, but this is not always possible.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has a number of programs that address childhood cancers specifically, and many of the institute's other research programs are applicable to children with cancer even if they are not focused specifically on pediatric cancers.

Because children's bodies are very sensitive to radiation, doctors are looking for ways to limit the doses as much as possible.

Even if the tumor appears to have been removed completely, all patients with RMS need chemotherapy.

Without it, it is very likely that the cancer will come back in distant parts in the body because small amounts of cancer have almost always reached other parts of the body when the cancer is first found (even though they can't be seen on imaging tests).

If cancer is left behind after surgery or if the cancer has some less favorable traits and it has not spread to distant sites (as is the case most of the time), radiation therapy will also be given.

For example, in stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT), a special machine aims very thin beams of radiation at the tumor from many different angles, concentrating it on the tumor very precisely for short periods.

Newer radiation therapy techniques allow doctors to aim the radiation more precisely, limiting the amount that reaches normal body tissues.

The overall outlook for children with cancer has improved greatly over the last half-century.

In 1975, just over 50 percent of children diagnosed with cancer before age 20 years survived at least 5 years.

In 2007–2013, 83 percent of children diagnosed with cancer before age 20 years survived at least 5 years.

As of January 1, 2014, approximately 419,000 survivors of childhood and adolescent cancer (diagnosed at ages 0 to 19 years) were alive in the United States.

For soft tissue sarcomas, 5-year survival rates in 2007 to 2013 among children and adolescents ages 0 to 19 years ranged from 65 percent (rhabdomyosarcoma) to 95 percent (chondrosarcoma), but children with sarcomas

who present with metastatic disease have much lower 5-year survival rates.

We must continue to support institutions that treat and care for the littlest patients because they are our nation's next generation of engineers, lawyers, doctors, painters, writers, and leaders.

We must continue to be vigilant in protecting the future of this country, which belongs to the youth.

Although his life was short, Kye Graceson Davis will live in our memories forever.

I urge my colleagues to continue supporting research measures that will protect the children of America and lead us to the elimination of childhood cancer.

HONORING THOMAS STUMP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Stump. Thomas is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Thomas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Thomas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Thomas has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Thomas Stump for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING HALL COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY RECEIVING INNOVATION AWARD

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hall County Resource Recovery and its partners, for receiving the first-of-its-kind award for innovative recycling methods.

In the fall of 2017, Hall County Resource Recovery, Kubota, Southern Waste and Recycling, and Wilheit Packaging partnered with the goal of diverting recyclable waste from the Hall County landfill.

Through this partnership, employees from Kubota gather and place recyclables into cages provided by Wilheit Packaging. Wilheit Packaging then transports these cages to the Hall County Recycling Center, where the recyclables are unloaded, sorted by category, weighed, processed, and baled. Southern Waste and Recycling built the alliance among these companies and monitors and evaluates their sustainability practices so that they can make the most of their resources and produce the least amount of waste.

To date, 1,500 tons of fiber and 160 tons of plastics have been kept out of the landfill, helping keep Hall County clean and beautiful.

Because of this, last month the Georgia Recycling Coalition Conference awarded Hall County Resource Recovery and its partners for their innovative methods. Never before in the history of the Georgia Recycling Coalition Conference has a partnership project like this won the Innovation Award.

I celebrate Hall County Resource Recovery, Kubota, Southern Waste and Recycling, and Wilheit Packaging for the example of innovation, community building, and environmental stewardship they've set in Northeast Georgia.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TONY MACHADO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Tony Machado. Mr. Machado is a Korean War veteran who served the United States of America honorably.

Tony Machado was born in Turlock, California in 1933. After graduating from Hilmar High, he worked in agriculture for a few years until he was drafted into the United States Armed Forces.

After completing basic training at Fort Ord, Tony was trained as a military policeman at the Basic Military Training School. There he received training in tactical and garrison law enforcement duties, including reports, forms, basic law enforcement tasks, security, unarmed self-defense, responding to incidents, and support activities such as convoys, checkpoints and enemy prisoner of war operations.

Once deployed to Korea, he was assigned to the legendary 15th Infantry Regiment. Arriving during the final months of the war, Tony was a member of Company A of the 15th Regiment. Despite the 1953 armistice, tensions ran high as the North Koreans constantly moved forces closer to the DMZ. Tony's MP unit provided invaluable security for convoys, directing traffic at key road junctions as well as many other duties.

Tony served seventeen months in Korea, later returning to the U.S. to assume duties at Fort Ord until his discharge as a Private First Class. For his service, he was awarded the Korea Service Medal, the United Nations Medal, the National Defense Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

After his service, Tony returned to agriculture, working as a dairyman, eventually operating his own dairy on Chowchilla's Road 14. He is a life member of the Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, a member of the Farm Bureau, the Cabrillo Club, Lions Club, and served as a director of the Madera District Fair. He was inducted into the Chowchilla Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame and was chosen as 2007's Chowchilla Unique Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce.

Tony continues to make his home in Chowchilla. He has six children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Tony Machado for his dedication to his family and his country.

RECOGNIZING MYRA PINTO

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Myra Pinto for being named Woman of the Year for Wynmoor Hadassah, a chapter in Hadassah's Florida Broward region. Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, has maintained a steadfast commitment to Jewish values, women's health, and Israel since its establishment over a century ago. Serving a global community, Hadassah's volunteer work in the U.S. and in Israel sustains education and advocacy efforts for women's health and safety, for civil and human rights, and for women's economic equity. It fuels policy work in support of Israel and the American Jewish community, and it provides support for the Hadassah Medical Organization, a Nobel Peace Prize-nominated organization that treats one million patients a year and performs leading, world-renowned medical research and clinical trials.

Ms. Pinto's honor from this remarkable organization is well deserved. At 92 years old, Ms. Pinto continues to make indelible contributions to her Jewish community and Hadassah where she has served as her chapter treasurer for 5 years and counting. Her volunteer work at Wynmoor Hadassah follows a 25-year career in service of our nation's education system, during which time Ms. Pinto worked as a school secretary in a Brooklyn junior high school. In addition to her tireless work and many achievements as a professional and as a volunteer, Ms. Pinto is also a mother to a son and a daughter.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask this body to recognize Ms. Pinto for her work at the Wynmoor Hadassah Chapter and for her resolute dedication to her community.

MR. BARRY COHEN

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of a true champion for justice, Barry Cohen. His remarkable work fighting passionately for all the people of the Tampa Bay community is worthy of recognition.

Mr. Cohen graduated from Tampa's own Plant High School, earned his bachelor's from Florida State University, served in the U.S. Coast Guard and earned his law degree from one of America's oldest and distinguished institutions, the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University.

Mr. Cohen served his entire legal career on behalf of communities and individuals he felt were not treated fairly. His desire to help balance the scales and serve those that some would describe as in the lowliest stations stemmed from a childhood experience where he witnessed his father being mistreated by a cook at work. He successfully waged countless civil and criminal battles on behalf of those he felt needed help confronting the powerful. He never hesitated to go up against anyone if he believed a larger principle was at

stake. He fought passionately for what he believed in, regularly taking a large number of cases pro bono, and sometimes putting his own money into cases he was defending, simply because he believed that an injustice had been done. Mr. Cohen was one of the pioneers in fighting his clients' cases outside the courtroom, especially when odds seemed stacked against them. For example, when Steven and Marlene Aisenberg were the only suspects in the disappearance of their 5-month-old baby, Mr. Cohen's defense included an appearance on *Larry King Live*. Charges were later dropped, and Mr. Cohen won the couple \$3 million in legal fees.

Mr. Cohen dedicated his expertise and resources to make a difference in the lives of so many in our community and by doing so enlightened our community and challenged us all to do better. It is no wonder so many put themselves in his hands to defend their life, liberty or protect the financial future of their family. He was a man who would work tirelessly—weekends, nights and holidays—whatever it took, to provide a voice to the voiceless. He believed that no one, regardless of position or wealth, was more entitled to justice than anyone else. His selfless service earned him a special place in our community and he will be greatly missed. Mr. Cohen is survived by his wife, Barbara, and their son, Barry Alexander Cohen, children, Geena Zaslavsky, Steven Cohen, Kevin Cohen; and his sister, Cynthia Cohen Wright, his brothers by marriage, Stanley Wright and Les Barnett. He was recently predeceased by his sister, Hope Barnett.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, we thank Barry Cohen for his lifelong respect and dignity leveling the playing field. He will always be remembered as a true champion for justice and the working people of Tampa Bay.

WILL KELLER,
HEALTHCARE
CHAMPION

MOLINA
COMMUNITY
CENTER

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Will Keller of Omak for receiving Molina Healthcare's Community Champion Award.

Every year, Molina Healthcare recognizes community members who go above and beyond in their service and volunteerism. Will Keller is an exemplary Community Champion.

His friends and neighbors will tell you that he is always willing to lend a helping hand. He was instrumental in building and opening a homeless shelter in Okanogan County that will be able to provide year-round services to those who need them.

Will recently lost his wife, which is absolutely devastating for anyone to experience. However, he used her passing as inspiration to give back even more to his community. He hosted a yard sale to raise funds for the homeless shelter, and he built a prayer room for local church meetings.

His coworker, Cathy, states it best: Will doesn't go out to volunteer; he is the essence of volunteerism. He is extremely deserving of Molina's Community Champion Award.

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service to Central Washington.

HONORING WILLIAM HUMMER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Hummer. William is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 60, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Will has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Will has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Will has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Will developed a plan for placement of eight fitness stations along a community walking trail in Duncan Park in Savannah, Missouri. He organized fundraising along with the donations of several local businesses and raised the funds necessary for the installation of the all access fitness stations.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding William Hummer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SALUTING BROOKLYN CHINESE-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION'S EIGHTH AVENUE SENIOR CENTER

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Brooklyn Chinese-American Association's Eighth Avenue Senior Center on the milestone of twenty-five years of service to Brooklyn's senior community.

For seniors living in the Sunset Park, Borough Park and Bay Ridge communities of Brooklyn, the Center provides life-changing services such as daily meals, medical check-ups and screenings as well as educational workshops. On an average day, the Center offers services to over 250 seniors and has memberships of over 5,000 seniors.

As a part of this cherished celebration, the Center will host their Annual Millennial Roundtables, which places 12 seniors, aged 84 or older, at each table, making up a combined age of over 1,000 years.

I would like to express my profound appreciation to all the staff and community at BCA's Eighth Avenue Senior Center. We are all proud of the work this community hub has accomplished over the last twenty-five years. My best wishes for a successful event.

RECOGNIZING TRISTAN RE SHAR BREAUX

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in recognizing Tristan Re Shar Breaux, who has served as my District Director for the last four years. During this time, Tristan has proven himself to be a committed and valuable member of my staff. He was dedicated to the work that our office provides to our more than 700,000 residents. On September 30th, Tristan departed my office to serve as the new Director of Policy for the National Housing Conference. Tristan's passion for economic development, affordable housing, and fair investment in our low-income communities will be an asset to the organization and the country. His work ethic, humor, intelligence and compassion will surely be missed by his colleagues, the residents of the District of Columbia and especially my office.

Tristan, a native of Queens, New York, adopted D.C. upon his arrival. After serving the House Budget Committee; the United States Senate; various local, state and federal elected officials in Virginia, Tristan first joined my office as my Events Coordinator and led the development of my Black Men & Boys Commission & Caucus. His persistence to get the job done and his gracious demeanor made Tristan a pleasure to be around and work with.

Tristan's presence in my office and in the city will surely be missed and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tristan R. Breaux for his outstanding service to the House of Representatives, my office and to the District of Columbia.

AMERICAN SOLDIER, SPECIALIST DONALD E. VALENTINE III

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, "The soldier is the Army," and "wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men." While we mourn those men who die, "We should thank God such men ever lived." These are the words of General George Patton in World War II.

One of those soldiers was Specialist Donald E. Valentine III of the United States Army. He was born in Houston, Texas, on March 5, 1986. Donald Valentine joined the United States Army because of the 9/11 attack on this country.

His mother Anna said, "My husband and I were behind Donald 100 percent. I was so proud of him no matter what he ever did. He made me very proud to be his mother." Those are the words from another of America's Gold Star Mothers.

I met Anna Valentine and many members of the Valentine family at the Veterans National Cemetery in Houston, where mothers like Anna, who had children killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, were being honored. We call those noble women Gold Star Mothers. Anna Valentine's son is buried on that hallowed ground of the fallen in Houston, Texas.

Specialist Valentine was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division of the Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Fort Lewis, Washington. Specialist Valentine was killed along with two other soldiers on September 18, 2007, in Muqaddiyah, Iraq, when an IED, an improvised explosive device, detonated near him.

Mr. Speaker, you understand the use of an IED by America's enemy is a coward's way of fighting the war. These enemies rant and rave and preach hate in the name of religion, but they cover their faces with masks and hide in caves and dark, dusty ditches. They are afraid to come out in the open and face the American soldier. So our enemy detonates remote-controlled bombs.

Specialist Donald Valentine III's military roots run deep. His father, Donald II, is a Navy veteran. His brother Daniel, who was 19 at the time, wanted to enlist to be with his brother Donald in Iraq. America owes much to families like the Valentines. Being from a military family, he moved around a lot as a child. He lived in Florida most of his life and also in Idaho, but wanted to be buried in "Big H," as he called Houston, Texas, because of many reasons. One of those reasons was because he spent so much time growing up with his grandparents who live in Houston.

Donald was married for one year to Lucia, who said "Donald had all the qualities any girl would want." She had talked to Donald on their first anniversary, 3 days before his death in Iraq. Specialist Valentine told his family that, "if he did not survive the war, they should stay strong." He was the 91st fallen service member with ties to the Houston area to have been killed in Iraq or Afghanistan.

A statement has been credited to one of Rome's centurions when he told his troops, "How you yet live will echo throughout eternity." Specialist Valentine lived a short but faithful life to the things that were important to him: family and country. He was 21 when he was killed.

Mr. Speaker, General George Patton was right about such warriors. We should thank God that such men as Specialist Donald Valentine III ever lived.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE SALINAS CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salinas City Elementary School District on their 150th anniversary. SCESD has demonstrated great dedication to our community and invaluable service to children and families of the central coast of California.

Founded in 1868, the SCESD began with nine students and quickly expanded to accommodate the growing Salinas Valley. The district has provided a well-rounded education and a safe learning environment for generations of Central Coast families. Today, it provides free, high quality education to nearly nine thousand students at fourteen public schools.

The district's belief in public education as the foundation of democracy shapes their am-

bition to serve children of all backgrounds regardless of race, economic status, religion or ability. Further, it strives to engage parents and families to create a strong collaborative community to support the educational experiences of their children.

As a district, the SCESD has also made great strides in engaging students with twenty-first century technology. Students in grades third through sixth are assigned their own laptop to complete homework and class assignments, while kindergarten through second grade students use shared iPads to complement their learning experiences. Teachers are also empowered to use digital programs to accompany in-class instruction that has resulted in immense progress for their students.

Through steadfast effort and wise use of resources, the SCESD has facilitated upgrades to numerous school facilities. Seven school sites have recently expanded outdoor playgrounds, sustainability features, equipment and security systems to enhance the educational experiences of students. The SCESD has assuredly continued its tradition of pursuing projects that increase opportunity for the children of the Salinas Valley.

As the Salinas City Elementary School District celebrates its 150 years as a fundamental component of our community, I am proud to commend them on their continued service to the young scholars of the Central Coast. The schools and teachers within this district have undoubtedly created substantial impacts on the lives of our future leaders. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Salinas City Elementary School District on 150 years of excellence.

HONORING TATE RIGBY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tate Rigby. Tate is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 404, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tate has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tate has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tate has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Tate partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation for a trail project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tate for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MELVIN "CORKY" GILLIAM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Melvin Gilliam. Mr. Gilliam is a Korean War veteran who served the United States of America honorably.

In 1952, Melvin "Corky" Gilliam said goodbye to his classmates at Chowchilla High and traveled to Fort Ord for induction into the U.S. Army.

Gilliam was designated as a rifleman, and within a short time, he landed at Pusan, Korea. The young private was assigned to the 40th Infantry Division, participating in the Korean War's major battles at Heartbreak Ridge, the Punchbowl, and Sand Bag Castle.

In the following months, the 40th was sent into action along the Main Line of Resistance (MLR) above the 38th Parallel at a place called Sand Bag Castle. The division engaged in heavy fighting, and Private Melvin Gilliam was wounded by shell fragments. While recovering at an aid station, it was discovered that he was only seventeen years old. He was sent to Japan to Camp Drake where he remained until his eighteenth birthday on 4 December 1952. After his return to Korea, Gilliam served as rifleman, carrying the Browning Automatic Rifle and worked as a radio operator with line units.

In July 1953 Gilliam boarded the merchant ship General Miggs for return to the U.S. For the remainder of his three-year enlistment, Gilliam served with the 2nd Division at Fort Lewis, Washington. While at Fort Lewis, his regiment was selected to star in the film "To Hell and Back," the true story of Audie Murphy, the most decorated soldier of World War II. Gilliam was able to meet the soldier-actor, and was honored to be part of the film, acting as a German rifleman. Before leaving active duty, Gilliam would also serve with the 7th Armored and the 44th Infantry Divisions.

Melvin Gilliam was discharged as a corporal and served five more years in the Army Reserve. For his service he was awarded the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Korean Service Medal with 3 bronze stars, United Nations Service Medal, ROK Presidential Unit Citation, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. To this day he is very proud to have served his country.

After release from active duty he returned to Chowchilla and worked as a dairyman and in trucking until his retirement. He and his late wife Loretta made their home in Chowchilla. He has four children, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He has been active in the community for more than a half-century as a member of the First Baptist Church, Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, Life Member of American Legion Post 148, a member of the Military Order of the Cooties of the U.S., Lions Club International, Free and Accepted Masons of Chowchilla, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry—32nd Degree, Tehran Shriners, the Noble Nobles Club of Tehran Temple, and E Clampus Vitus.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Melvin

Gilliam for his dedication to family and country.

JOHN E. BALES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Golden Fire Chief John E. Bales for his many years of service to the City of Golden and surrounding communities.

For almost two decades, Chief Bales has been active within the Golden community and fire department. Chief Bales became Golden Fire Chief in 2001, but his personal passion and a commitment to his community started long before then. For more than 50 years, Chief Bales contributed to several Colorado communities and other communities across the country with positions at the Rocky Flats Fire Department, Genesee Fire Protection District, Cunningham Fire Protection District, City of Thornton Fire Department, and the Wichita Fire Department. His hard work and dedication has helped make our community—and so many others—a great place to live and work.

I extend my deepest thanks to Chief Bales for his service to our community. Thank you for your continuous dedication to serving the people of Colorado.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT JACK J. PENDLETON

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Staff Sergeant Jack Pendleton of Yakima, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his service during World War II.

In Germany in 1944, Sergeant Pendleton lost his life while drawing enemy gunfire away from his squad, and he was awarded the Medal of Honor one year later. He is the sole Medal of Honor recipient from Yakima.

I would like to thank U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major Ramon Dang. Two years ago, Sergeant Major Dang was touring our state to care for the graves of Medal of Honor recipients when he discovered that Sergeant Pendleton's grave did not include an appropriate memorial. A memorial statue, a 6-foot granite sculpture, was subsequently dedicated at Tahoma Cemetery on September 26th of this year.

Sergeant Pendleton's Medal of Honor citation reads, "[His] sacrifice enabled the entire company to continue the advance and complete their mission at a critical phase of the action." He made the ultimate sacrifice for his brothers-in-arms and our nation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Staff Sergeant Jack Pendleton.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize October 11th as the International Day of the Girl, a day to promote girls' empowerment and examine the challenges and barriers girls face around the world. According to the UN High Commission on Refugees, there are approximately 65 million forcibly displaced people worldwide and half are under the age of 18. Prolonged periods away from home result in low school enrollment rates for displaced children, which leaves girls vulnerable to early marriage, human trafficking, and child labor. The Protecting Girl's Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, which myself and Congressman CHABOT introduced, aims to ensure educational needs of displaced girls are considered in the design, implementation, and evaluation of U.S. foreign assistance. Girls perform better in school when they have access to quality education and a safe space to learn. International Day of the Girl, is a day to reflect on the importance of ensuring all children, especially girls, have access to safe, quality education.

HONORING SAMUEL THOMAS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Samuel Thomas. Samuel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 404, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Samuel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Samuel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Samuel has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Samuel completed a natural area for the Missouri Department of Conservation outdoor classroom.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Samuel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This month is devoted to raising awareness and educating folks about breast cancer and

honoring the thousands of women across our nation who have been diagnosed, fighting, or have survived breast cancer.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States. It is the second deadliest cancer among American women. 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer over the course of her lifetime, and it is estimated that this year more than 252,000 cases of invasive breast cancer is expected to be reported. In Texas, 17,566 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2018.

In the Second District of Texas, I am proud of our local hospitals, school districts, and non-profits who promote breast cancer awareness and prevention during this month. Many are showing their support by replacing their outdoor light bulb with a pink bulb. I have noticed many front porch lights shining pink around our town. These pink bulbs help support a local nonprofit called Project Mammogram. Project Mammogram offers mammograms and other services free to patients in the Lake Houston area. Remember, not every woman can afford a mammogram. By providing free mammograms this organization has saved thousands of women.

Almost everyone we know has been touched by this disease. Unfortunately, this disease has hit close to home for one of our very own community leaders, Leslie Raffa. Leslie and her husband, Tony, own two restaurants in the Lake Houston area. They are well-loved and respected in the community. Leslie battled breast cancer for over two and a half years, her final treatment was in February 2017. During the course of her treatments, she underwent a bilateral mastectomy, breast reconstruction and chemotherapy. During her battle, Leslie lost her sister to breast cancer in the summer of 2016. Leslie continued to fight while mourning the death of her sister.

Leslie rang the monumental bell at MD Anderson in April of 2016. The bell signifies the end to treatment. Ringing the bell is a celebration. But Leslie soon realized that the end of treatment is not necessarily the end. She thought if she would just get to the end and cross the finish line it would all be over. But she soon discovered an emotional fall out occurs. Cancer is hard mentally. It takes months, years, to recover. She shares this piece of advice for those going through what she went through, "it's ok to have a pity party, but don't unpack and stay there." Leslie exudes positive energy and happiness, even during the lowest moments. She beat the odds that come along with this disease and tries her best to educate those around her to get annual breast exams.

Now this is where I usually say: "And that's just the way it is." But Leslie's story is not over. The same year she completed her last treatment, Hurricane Harvey devastated our area. Raffa's Waterfront Grill was destroyed. Friends and family gathered quickly around them to help rebuild the restaurant that took on 5 feet of water. Leslie didn't flounder in pity and give up; she put on her water boots and gloves (I am sure they are pink) and began the cleanup process. Raffa's will open this year, and our community cannot be any happier for Tony and Leslie. This month Leslie will speak in front of hundreds of folks at the annual In the Pink Luncheon to share her survival story. Stories like Leslie's are an inspiration and a reminder that we must keep up the fight until there is a cure.

And that's just the way it is.

**RECOGNIZING CARR & DUFF,
INC.'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my friend Mr. Norcross to honor Carr & Duff, Inc., a family-owned electrical construction company in my district that will be celebrating its 60th anniversary this month. Mr. Norcross worked as a journeyman, foreman, and lead splicer for Carr & Duff, one of his first jobs as an electrician. In fact, he was hired by the company's founders we honor today.

In 1958, Edward Duff and Harold (Hap) Carr were just two linemen who set out to fulfill the electrical construction needs of Philadelphia's burgeoning suburbs. More than half a century later, what started as a single line truck operation has evolved into one of the most prominent electrical contractors in the Greater Philadelphia and Tri-State Area, now employing roughly 200 people.

Though much has changed for Carr & Duff over the past sixty years, much has stayed the same. It's still a family-owned business, now in its second generation, and it's common to see parent and child working alongside one another. The Carr & Duff team is just as committed to giving back to the community as they were some six decades ago, having donated tens of thousands of hours and equipment. They continue to be a vital arm of natural disaster response along the Eastern seaboard, true pillars of the communities they serve. People have always looked to them personally and professionally during times of need. When power is knocked out, Carr and Duff are immediately on the scene. In fact, they carry such a wide array of transformers that even the utility companies turn to them during crunch time.

As leaders of the Blue Collar Caucus, we know that men and women like those employed by Carr & Duff are the backbone of American communities. We celebrate their achievements; their hard work and constant contributions to our districts. We rise today to thank Carr & Duff, Inc. for upholding its commitment to reliable and accessible service while keeping its employees safe—and for all it contributes to Huntingdon Valley, Greater Philadelphia, and New Jersey. We need more companies like Carr & Duff.

IN RECOGNITION OF
BRECKSVILLE-BROADVIEW
HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL AS A
2018 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL

HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School for being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2018. Since

1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has recognized public and private schools for academic excellence. Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School is an exceptional center for learning and preparing students for all stages of life. I'd like to congratulate the teachers and staff of Brecksville-Broadview Heights for creating an environment where students can excel. As a father of three children, I believe there is no greater cause than educating the minds of the future. Most of all, I'd like to congratulate the hard-working students for a job well done. I am proud to have such an example of academic excellence in Northeast Ohio and I congratulate Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School on this well-deserved recognition.

2018 ANGELS IN ADOPTION

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two extraordinary individuals from my district—James and Angie Sessions—who opened their hearts to foster care and adoption.

I was proud to nominate James and Angie as "Angels in Adoption," an award by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. It recognizes individuals, couples, and organizations who improve the lives of children in need of families.

The Sessions family is more than deserving of this recognition. After learning about foster care at a local church camp for children in state custody, James and Angie were inspired to become foster parents. While they were providing foster care for four siblings—three young brothers and their baby sister—James and Angie were determined to keep the siblings together.

In August of 2017, the Sessions family grew from 2 to 6 when Ajay, Nathan, Kyler, and Layla found their forever home with James and Angie in Pasco, Washington.

Thank you, James and Angie, for your love and dedication to children in Central Washington.

HONORING JUSTIN McHENRY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Justin McHenry. Justin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 404, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Justin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Justin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Justin has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Justin painted hand rails around the First United Methodist Church in Kirksville, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Justin for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
RONALD E. LAWSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Ronald E. Lawson. Mr. Lawson honorably served in the United States Army for twenty years, touring in Korea, Germany, and Vietnam.

Ronald "Ron" E. Lawson was born in Los Angeles and, in 1959, at age seventeen, he enlisted in the Army, completing his basic training at Fort Ord. He was then sent to Korea as a member of the 1st Cavalry with duties in the DMZ. Upon completion of his tour, he was posted to Germany, serving five years with the First ARB 46th Infantry and the 24th Infantry Division.

After returning to the US as a weapons instructor, Ron was called up for his second tour in Korea, this time serving a year with the famed 7th Cavalry with the 2nd Infantry Division at the DMZ.

Ron was later selected to attend the Drill Sergeant Academy at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, earning the distinction of Honor Graduate. After graduation, Ron was deployed to Vietnam as part of Military Assistance Command. He worked with South Vietnamese Regional Forces in the Central Highlands of II Corps, providing instruction and tactical advice to regional soldiers, accompanying them on jungle operations.

After twelve months in Vietnam, Ron assumed duties as a drill sergeant for new recruits at Fort Ord, later returning to Germany as operations sergeant with the 1st Armored Division. He deployed in 1961 and 1964 for the Berlin Crisis and to Greece and Cyprus in 1962. He once more returned to Fort Ord to serve with the 7th Light Infantry Division.

After twenty years of service, Ron retired with the rank of First Sergeant. For his service, Ron Lawson was awarded the Bronze Star, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, Army of Occupation Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Korean Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge. Additionally, Ron received six letters of commendation and was selected Drill Sergeant of the Year.

After retirement from the Army, Ron and his family settled in Chowchilla, California. Working as a maintenance supervisor, Ron served on the City of Chowchilla Planning Commission for twenty-one years. He is a Life Member and past commander of VFW Post 9896 and American Legion Post 148. Ron attends St. Columba Catholic Church and is a member of the Young Men's Institute. Ron and his wife, Mathilde, have two children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Ronald E.

Lawson for his dedication to his family and his country.

COME AND TAKE IT: GONZALES,
TEXAS, 1835

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the phrase "Come and Take It" is known and cherished by all Texans. You'll see it emblazoned on t-shirts, bumper stickers, and glassware, and some businesses and organizations have adapted it to fit into their mottos and slogans.

But these four words were not the creation of an advertising firm or a campaign communications shop. No, this phrase comes from a critical chapter in the history of Texas.

The year was 1835. Independence from Mexico was on the mind of Texans, and discussions had already begun to create a new nation free from the tyrannical government of Santa Anna in Mexico City. Santa Anna's government had begun to trample on the rights of Texans, who then became resolved to stand up to him.

An opportunity presented itself in October 1835 when a band of Mexican soldiers under

the command of Fernando Castaneda were dispatched to Gonzales. The Mexican government had been informed that the settlers there were refusing to give up a cannon given to the town to defend the settlers from Indian attacks. The settlers responded to requests to return the cannon to the Mexican army with strong words that only a Texian would utter: "come and take it." So Domingo de Ugartechea, military commander of Texas, believing the settlers words were bluster, ordered Castaneda and his men to retrieve it.

Well, Santa Anna never did learn the lessons of history. If he had, he might have remembered that things did not go well for King George when he tried to disarm the colonists in Massachusetts and he maybe would have thought twice about marching his henchman up to Texas.

When Castaneda arrived at Gonzales, he found his path blocked by a ford and eighteen determined militiamen. Attempting to trick his way past the guards, he declared that he had a message for Andrew Ponton, the local alcalde. The militiamen informed him that Ponton was not in Gonzales and would have to wait on the other side of the river until he returned. As the Mexican troops set up camp, the Texans scrambled to alert the surrounding area and bring more volunteers into the town to defend it from an impending Mexican attack.

The militiamen, who came to be known as the Old Eighteen, bought valuable time for the town and for Texas. Indeed, the presence of incoming volunteers forced Castaneda to abandon his campsite at the river and move seven miles to the west. Bolstered with reinforcements and a growing confidence, the Texans under the command of John Moore found the Mexican camp and attacked. Stunned and outgunned, Castaneda ordered a withdrawal to Bexar, thus marking the first victory won against Mexico in the fight for independence.

It was during this battle that the phrase "Come and Take It" took on its significance. During the battle, the Texans marched under a new flag that featured the Lone Star, a cannon representing the one under guard in Gonzales, and the words "Come and Take It." Today, Texans take pride in this enduring symbol of the Texan spirit, and if you happen to walk past my office window in Washington, you will see this flag proudly displayed next to the Lone Star flag.

Mr. Speaker, in Texas, we have a long tradition of fighting against oppression and tyranny. So when our enemies come knocking on our doors again threatening our freedom, let them remember these words: Come and Take It.

And that is just the way it is.