

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OFFICER LARRY HARRIS RETIRES
FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-
WAY PATROL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding law enforcement career of California Highway Patrol Officer Larry Harris, who retired on June 28, 2019 after 23 years of service.

After completing CHP Academy in 1996, Officer Harris was assigned as a new officer to the Newhall area. Following his first assignment, he spent four years working in the West and South Los Angeles Area. Officer Harris then went on to serve the Barstow and Lake Arrowhead areas from 2001 to 2006, after which he transferred to the Victorville station where he has spent the remainder of his career.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations to Officer Larry Harris for his 23 years of service as a member of the California Highway Patrol and wish him an enjoyable and relaxing retirement. Over the course of his career he has personified the California Highway Patrol motto "Safety, Service, and Security" with hard work, dedication, and professionalism.

HONORING JARON BROWN AS RUT-
GERS—CAMDEN MALE STUDENT
VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jaron Brown of Mount Laurel New Jersey, who was named as the Rutgers University—Camden male Student Veteran of the Year.

Jaron served in the U.S. Air Force from 2005 to 2017, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. During his service, Jaron deployed five times with his unit to Qatar, Kuwait, Turkey and Kyrgyzstan in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn. After his overseas deployment, he transferred to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey, where he spent three years as a contingency response team chief, and from which he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

After ending his active duty service in 2017, Jaron chose to pursue his bachelor's degree at Rutgers University—Camden, enrolling in the fall of 2018. Upon his arrival to campus, he began to work in the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs at the University, and became active in the student veterans' group on campus, where he now serves as president. Jaron remains a leader supporting the military and

veteran community on campus, assisting other veterans in their transition from military life to college life.

Jaron Brown serves as an example of tremendous sacrifice, determination and dedication to his fellow servicemembers. I commend him for his desire to not only pursue his degree, but also to engage with the campus community and assist other veterans in their transition.

I'd like to thank Jaron for his service to our country, and for continuing to engage the student veteran community in South Jersey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 18, 2019 during roll call No. 625, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3702, Reforming Disaster Recovery Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 626, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 4634, Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 627, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 4344, Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE LIFE OF DONALD
NATHAN CARR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate and honor the life of Donald (Don) Nathan Carr. Sadly, Don passed away unexpectedly on Monday, November 18, 2019.

Don was born in Texas on June 27, 1951. Upon graduation from high school in 1969, Don joined the U.S. Army and served in the Vietnam Conflict. He became an Army Public Affairs officer, serving in Thailand, Germany, Texas, Alaska, and for five years at the Pentagon. He retired as a Master Sergeant in 1990 following 21 years of honorable service to our nation.

After his retirement from active duty, he began his civil service career at Fort Belvoir, located in Fairfax County, Virginia. His first position at Fort Belvoir was Editor of the Belvoir Eagle and he quickly advanced to Command Information Chief and finally to the position of Director of Public Affairs. Don believed that it was crucial for Fort Belvoir to fully engage the non-military community in order to create a

true partnership in the sweeping changes that faced the region and the Garrison.

Of course, one of the most significant challenges during Don's tenure was Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) which greatly expanded the mission and footprint of Fort Belvoir and transferred countless DoD agencies and departments, as well as tens of thousands of employees and soldiers to Fort Belvoir.

As then-Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I worked with Fort Belvoir to ensure this process would be as smooth as possible. A major concern of the community was the impact on the region's already congested roads. Upon my election to Congress in 2008, these concerns and others persisted, largely because the BRAC plan provided no funding for transportation. Finally, through a genuine collaboration between DoD, local and state partners, and federal funding of \$61 million through the Recovery Act, the Fairfax County Parkway was completed. The communication and transparency of Fort Belvoir leadership, including Don, were instrumental in achieving this goal.

Don was also of great assistance to my office with resolving any issues brought to my attention from those stationed or working at Fort Belvoir. He would consistently take prompt action to resolve any problems that arose. He retired from civil service in 2012, having served our nation—in uniform and out—for a combined total of 43 years. Even after his retirement, he was always available to discuss issues and provide guidance to my office.

Madam Speaker, Don was a kind and generous man and will be greatly missed. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to Don's wife, Noy, his children and his grandchildren. He was devoted to his family and I know how much joy they gave him. I hope that the outpouring of sympathy and support from Don's colleagues, friends, and our community will be a source of strength and comfort to his family during this time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, on November 21st, I missed Roll Call vote Nos. 638, 639, 640, 641, and 642. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA, on Roll Call 638, 639, and 640 on amendments to H.R. 1309. I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 641 related to upholding the chair's ruling. I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 642, final passage of H.R. 1309, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act.

● 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.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
SHARON ENOCH-HESTER

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sharon Enoch-Hester, of Harrisburg, PA, who passed away on November 10, 2019 at the age of 63.

Sharon is the daughter of Ernestine Enoch and Vincent Wilson and was employed as a teacher in the Harrisburg School District in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She was a member of Zeta Phi Beta and a graduate of Shippensburg University. Sharon obtained her Master's Degree from the University of Scranton and participated in the Doctorate Program at the University of Pennsylvania.

Sharon is survived by her husband, the beloved Samuel Hester, by her mother Ernestine, her children Aaron and Michael Hester, a brother Warren Enoch, and her aunt Mary Louise Graves. Also, she is survived by a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

I am very blessed to have gotten to know Sharon's husband, Sam, who works in the Member's Gym. I am so sorry for this painful loss, and I hope he feels the support and love that we are sending him during this time. Sharon will certainly be missed by all whose lives she touched.

HONORING GARY MERVIS, CHAIRMAN OF THE ROCHESTER PROJECT EXILE ADVISORY BOARD

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Chairman of the Rochester Project Exile Advisory Board and Camp Good Days founder, Gary Mervis.

Gary has been the Chairman of the Rochester Project Exile Advisory Board since its inception in 1998. It is the longest running Project Exile in the country. There is a reason this program has withstood the sands of time—its success is abundantly clear and the statistics are staggering. I was fascinated by the facts and figures of this program's success—five hundred seventy-seven defendants indicted and fifteen thousand six hundred illegal guns removed from our streets. That last statistic is incredible, since Rochester had a homicide rating of seventy in the late nineties when this program began. The homicide rate qualified Rochester as having the highest per capita homicide rate of any city in New York State.

In developing this program, community leaders, officials and other community members stood up and said "No more!" Gary and his colleagues began meeting once a month to help battle the scourge of illegal guns and drugs in this community, doing what they could do to make things better. As it has been said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." Gary and his fellow citizens of Rochester could have remained motionless and let guns

and drugs take over the neighborhoods—but they did not. Instead, they gathered together and created a really remarkable program that works—and it shows. Those statistics from the nineties have never recurred. I applaud Gary's leadership and the efforts of those involved with Project Exile and encourage these efforts to continue on into the future. This program has been a shining beacon for others throughout the country—and its success has allowed other programs to flourish as well.

Gary has clearly given much of himself for his community in service. I thank Gary for all that he has done and will do in the future.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to honor Chairman of the Rochester Project Exile Advisory Board and Camp Good Days founder, Gary Mervis.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF CHARLOTTE WINELAND

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Charlotte Wineland on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Charlotte was born Lilian Charlotte Oheim on August 10, 1919, in Baltimore, Maryland to Christopher and Lilian Oheim. In 1923 her family relocated to Washington, D.C. where she was raised with her brother, Bill. As a child, Charlotte enjoyed playing Jacks and learned to play the piano. Her brother Bill earned money delivering the Evening Star newspaper. Like most people in the 1920s, the Oheims did not have a car. Young Charlotte walked all over the city, running errands and buying groceries for her mother, who would often send Charlotte back to demand the highest quality items. Charlotte became known as the "bring back girl" to the local grocers. Charlotte graduated from Eliot Junior High School and Eastern High School. She then attended business school before working for a local company and later she accepted a position in the Office of Congressman Fred Crawford on Capitol Hill.

Charlotte met her future husband, Lloyd Wineland Jr. while attending the circus in 1937. Charlotte and Lloyd married in 1939 and had four children, Linda, Christine, Nancy and Lloyd III. She was a devoted and doting mother and decided to be a stay-at-home mom until their youngest began school. They lived and raised their children on several acres in Southeast Washington, D.C. Lloyd became president of his family's movie theater business, Wineland Theaters, growing the chain to 20 theaters by the 1960's. They moved to Virginia in 1962.

Charlotte has always been an involved community member and was active in the Methodist church and her children's activities. She was a Girl Scout and Job's Daughters leader; and in the 1960s Charlotte led the Anacostia Lion Cell group in producing a cook book to raise funds for construction of Cafritz Hospital in S.E., D.C. In her spare time, she often delivered meals on wheels.

In 1978, Charlotte and Lloyd moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland and began the next chapter of their lives. Lloyd expanded the family business and became an antiques ap-

praiser. They gave several gifts of fine paintings and antiques to the State Department for the reception rooms. Their collection of Native American and Western Explorative Literature is now a part of the Smithsonian Libraries collection. After Lloyd's death in 1985, Charlotte moved to Oakton, Virginia where she has remained active with organizations including the Oakton United Methodist Church, the Oakton Women's Club and the Friends of Oakton Library. An avid traveler, she has visited many countries both with her husband and following his death, with other family members and friends. Well into her eighties she continued traveling with Elder Hostel.

Throughout her life, Charlotte has enjoyed entertaining friends and family. She has always been known for her lavish meals, amazing cooking, and warm hospitality. Charlotte has had many other hobbies which she mastered—knitting both by hand and machine, crocheting, tatting, embroidering and china painting. Over the years she has hand painted over 7 sets of china for her grandchildren and countless exceptional pieces for family and friends.

It is remarkable to note that Charlotte has seen 100 years of Washington, D.C. politics. She was born in the year in which women finally got the right to vote and has witnessed tremendous demographic changes including the first African American President and record-setting numbers of women from all walks of life running for and being elected into office. In 2012 she participated in organizing "Experience Speaking" which encouraged senior citizens to give testimony as to what one should consider when voting in an election.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Charlotte Wineland a very happy 100th birthday and in thanking her for her many decades of service to her community. May she enjoy this very special occasion surrounded by the warmth and love of her family and friends including her children, seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE JOSEPH R. PETERSON JUSTICE BUILDING

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph R. Peterson and celebrate the dedication of the Joseph R. Peterson Justice Building. Joseph Peterson is an influential leader in Wyandotte and his contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

Joseph Peterson is a cornerstone of Wyandotte. For nearly four decades, Peterson has been an active member of the community, striving to make the city a better place for all. Before beginning his career in public service, Peterson spent 27 years serving the city as a police officer in the Wyandotte Police Department. Upon his retirement, Peterson became active in public service and was elected to the Wyandotte City Council in 2005. By 2009, Peterson was elected mayor—a position he has held ever since.

The naming of the Joseph R. Peterson Justice Building underscores Joseph Peterson's meaningful impact on the City of Wyandotte and serves as tribute to his leadership as a police officer, councilman, and mayor. Throughout all his work, Peterson has displayed an overwhelming commitment to the people of Wyandotte and endeavors to effect real change. Peterson is recognized by many as a dedicated, compassionate, and effective leader who humbly strives for excellence without seeking praise or recognition for any of his significant accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the dedication of the Joseph R. Peterson Justice Building. Joseph Peterson has become a pillar of our community, and the naming of the new Joseph R. Peterson Justice Building serves as a testament to his important work. We are all grateful for Peterson's leadership and wish him continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF AMARJIT SINGH BUTTAR

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe and mourn the passing of an extraordinary American, Mr. Amarjit Singh Buttar of Vernon, Connecticut. Amarjit passed away surrounded by his loving family in Connecticut on Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

His life was a quintessential American story. Born in 1938 in the Punjab region of India, he was raised as a disciple of the Sikh religion. In 1965, he emigrated to the United States with his wife, Rajinder Kaur Thind, and immediately embarked on an epic, relentless effort to contribute and succeed in his new homeland. He was accepted to University of Michigan Law School in 1966 and after graduation used his degree to pursue a lifetime of work helping fellow citizens in need. He moved to Connecticut with Rajinder, his two sons, Gursimrit Singh Buttar and Angad Singh Buttar, and began a career applying his legal acumen at the State of Connecticut Workers Compensation Commission. This agency adjudicates all the work-related injury claims in the state, affecting thousands and thousands of on-the-job accidents and illnesses that can result in tremendous stress and hardship if not handled correctly. Amarjit assisted the quasi-judicial state Commissioners in the handling of claims, demonstrating total command of the law and its processes. His innate compassion for people was a huge help to workers and their families who often found the system frustrating and daunting. As a young lawyer who represented workers compensation clients years ago, I personally saw him in action, deftly resolving complex cases and issues before the Commissioners even needed to rule. His diligence and competence were respected and admired by all who came into contact with him.

Amarjit's other best known public service was his passionate dedication to our country's democracy. He valued the right to vote, to participate in elections, and to run for office. In Vernon, where we both lived, Amarjit and I met a long time ago as members of the local

Democratic Town Committee, and in every election, whether at the local level or for the U.S. Presidency, he was a stalwart volunteer showing up at every meeting, phone bank, "literature drop", or election night gathering to support the candidates. Sometimes I benefitted from his help, when I ran for State Representative from 1986 to 1992, and later for U.S. Congress 2006 to the present. But also Amarjit himself benefitted when he successfully ran for the Vernon School Board, where he served two terms, including a stint as Chair.

When he was first elected in 2001, it was an exciting moment, since he was the first Sikh-American in Connecticut to achieve the milestone of elective office and one of the first nationwide. It's important to note that as strong a Democrat as Amarjit was, in office he demonstrated total respect and comity for his Republican colleagues and was always focused on advancing the best interests of the school children of the town, not a partisan agenda. His other notable electoral highlight was when he was selected as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 2004 in Boston, Massachusetts. There, he witnessed in person Barack Obama's famous keynote address, a 20-minute speech that introduced him to the country, and that began his journey to the White House in 2008.

As busy as Amarjit was with his public service, he always found time for his family. They are a close-knit group, sharing time and activities (including volunteering at Democratic Headquarters). In August of this year his family celebrated 50 years of marriage to Rajinder. Amarjit was also intensely devoted to his two sons. His son Angad shared a story of his dad's devotion: "Though not a sports fan himself, he raised two sons who are avid fans. When he would take his oldest son to Hartford Whalers games when he was a child, he would playfully cheer for the opposing teams such as the rival Boston Bruins or the Montreal Canadiens, while his son would vigorously cheer for the hometown team." Madam Speaker, showing your playful love of your children in the middle of hostile hockey fans I believe is the ultimate proof of familial devotion! Both boys today are now grown and graduates of the University of Connecticut, pursuing successful careers—Gursimrit in New York and Angad in Virginia where he lives with his wife, Simmi Bhuller. Amarjit also found time for his fellow Sikh community in Connecticut and across the country. My casework staff in Connecticut can amply attest to his high volume of calls, asking for assistance for his many many friends—which we always welcomed.

Madam Speaker, I believe Amarjit's life can be summed up with a simple phrase: "He made a difference." For his family, his Sikh community, his Vernon community and his American community, Amarjit created a transformational legacy that touched thousands of lives, for the better. That is a proud legacy, and I ask that the entire House join me in expressing our deepest condolences to his family and saluting his groundbreaking life.

RECOGNIZING JANYCE "JAN"
HEDETNIEMI

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to announce the passing of a titan in Fairfax County, Janyce "Jan" Hedetniemi. I had the great privilege of knowing and working with Jan for many years and I was proud to call her a friend.

Jan was born and grew up in Sewickley, Pennsylvania and received her bachelor's degree in psychology and English literature from the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University) followed by her master's degree in psychology and counseling and guidance from Indiana University in 1963. She moved to the Washington, D.C. area where she served in the early part of her career as assistant dean of women at the University of Maryland and director of development at Mount Vernon College.

Jan embarked on a long and illustrious career of Federal public service, first as a social science analyst with the President's Biomedical Research Panel and thereafter in a series of progressively responsible positions at the National Institutes of Health in program planning and development initiatives, including the NIH Research Agenda on Women's Health and the National Action Plan on Breast Cancer. She was appointed in 1994 as the first director of the NIH's newly established Office of Community Liaison, serving in that position until her retirement from the NIH in 2002. Jan's service there was recognized with two NIH Director's Awards.

Jan had an unquenchable passion for community service and civic leadership. She served as president of her homeowner's association for many years and as co-chair of the Braddock District Democratic Committee from 2009 to 2013. She served as a member of the Boards of the Fairfax County Park Authority and Park Foundation and was appointed to the Planning Commission where she served from 2013 to 2017. Jan also chaired the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Committee and four separate Bond Referendum Committees. In recognition of her countless contributions and dedication to our community, Jan was named the Board of Supervisors' Lady Fairfax for the Braddock District in 2004, Braddock District Member of the Year for 2013, and the 2014 Citizen of the Year by the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations.

Jan was also an avid outdoors sports-woman, both as a tennis player and as an equestrian. She served as captain of two United Tennis Association Adult Women's Teams. As a horse owner, she participated for many years in dressage training and competition and served as a member of the Fairfax County Equestrian Services Task Force.

Jan was loved by many and respected by all. I was proud to name her to serve as Presidential Elector of the 2012 Electoral College from the 11th Congressional District of Virginia for the re-election of President Barack Obama. Her service to her community and country is expansive and commendable and her presence will be deeply missed.

HONORING THE NEW ZION
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, located at 1901 Charlestine Street in Texarkana, Texas on their 100th year anniversary. The church was organized under the leadership of Rev. Warner Brown. A group of believers met in the home of Bro. L. and Sis. Hattie Frazier. Through the years several ministers have served, and the church is still moving forward. Destroyed by fire in 1954, another building was purchased at the present location. We recognize this honorable achievement marking the 100th Diamond Jubilee church anniversary, November 24, 2019. We recognize Pastor Melvin and Nina Glover; the Chairman of Deacons, Deacon George Edwards; the Church Secretary, Sis. Melva Flowers; along with the New Zion Church Family. Give God all the glory for what he has done and what he will continue to do and provide.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 20, 2019 during roll call No. 632, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 713, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1309, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act; providing for proceedings during the period from November 22, 2019 through December 2, 2019; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 633, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 713, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1309, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act; providing for proceedings during the period from November 22, 2019 through December 2, 2019; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 634, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 737, Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 635, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, S. 1838, Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 636, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, S. 2710, To prohibit the commercial export of covered munitions items to the Hong Kong Police Force. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOS INTERNATIONAL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize SOS International LLC (SOSi) on the occasion of its 30th anniversary. Founded in 1989 to provide specialized analytical services to the U.S. law enforcement community, SOSi has evolved into an international solutions provider with experience in 30 countries worldwide. SOSi provides intelligence, technology and project-management solutions to large, government and private-sector organizations and is known for its innovation, flexibility and agility. SOSi is among the fastest growing companies in the Aerospace and Defense Services industry. The company has been recognized by Washington Technology magazine as one of the Top 100 Government Technology Contractors for 2019; and it was nominated by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce for this year's Large Business Contractor and Executive of the Year Awards.

What has struck me most about SOSi is not only its impressive growth and development as a company, but its continued commitment to our Northern Virginia community. SOSi is an ardent supporter of our Nation's active duty military and veteran population. Veterans make up 25 percent of SOSi's global workforce. SOSi is a Virginia Values Veterans (V3) certified company. It is an active supporter of the local USO chapter, as well as a number of organizations like Bunker Labs, Capitol Post, and Dog Tag Inc. that empower veterans, military spouses, and caregivers to pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations.

SOSi is equally committed to improving the lives of underprivileged and underserved people in our local community. They've been huge supporters of Cornerstones, a non-profit in Northern Virginia which provides critical support to those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services.

Earlier this year, SOSi President and CEO Julian Setian served as chairman for Cornerstones' Best of Reston Gala, which I attend almost every year. That gala raised over \$500,000 for individuals and families who are in need in our community. Every year, SOSi holds drives for coats, books and school supplies, benefiting the families in Cornerstones' shelters. SOSi employees cook Thanksgiving meals, build bookshelves, pack care packages, and sponsor a "night out at the movies" for children living in their shelters. SOSi employees participate in South Lakes High School's annual Ethics Day event, mentoring young people in Northern Virginia about the value of ethical conduct in their daily lives.

SOSi is also a strong advocate for immigrants who are victims of human trafficking and domestic violence through its support for a Washington D.C. based organization called Ayuda. SOSi provides free translation services and life coaching to this often overlooked segment of our community. Lastly, the company has become active in causes, such as Chance For Life, which raises money for pediatric cancer research, and the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, to which Julian and SOSi have become active contributors.

Through their involvement in Wolf Trap, they provide critical support to early youth education in music and art.

Madam Speaker, companies like SOSi and the employees who work there are proof of the commitment to public service that exists throughout Northern Virginia. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking all of the employees and leadership of SOSi for their efforts to better our community and protect our country. I especially want to commend Julian for his leadership and vision. Under his guidance, SOSi has continued to grow and has become the standard bearer for progress and innovation in the government contracting industry. I thank them for their service and wish the SOSi Team continued success.

OFFICER LEO LOPEZ RETIRES
FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding law enforcement career of California Highway Patrol Officer Leo Lopez, who will retire after 30 years of service.

Officer Lopez's promise to serve by the California Highway Patrol motto of "Safety, Service, and Security" began prior to his graduation from the academy. The Loma Prieta earthquake that struck the Bay Area caused officer Lopez to dive right into duties, driving patrol units from Sacramento to the San Francisco CHIP office on only his second day of the academy. Officer Lopez went on to receive badge #12972 on March 8, 1990, with his first station assignment in Barstow. He has since served in numerous capacities with the Inland Division Commercial Unit and the Inland Divisions Special Response Team. One of many of his deployments was to assist with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations to Officer Leo Lopez for his 30 years of service as a member of the California Highway Patrol and wish him an enjoyable and relaxing retirement. A native to the High Desert and the second of three generations to serve the California Highway Patrol, I thank you for your service and your commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our community.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. XOCHITL TORRES SMALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, this November, I am proud to join my colleague, Congresswoman DEB HAALAND in recognizing Native American Heritage Month. This House Resolution draws attention to our country's complex history and celebrates the many contributions Native Americans have made to our nation. Importantly, it affirms the need to strengthen our

government-to-government relationship with nations, tribes and pueblos and highlights challenges Congress must address. With this responsibility, I recognize that Congress must respect and value the sovereign governments that have long called New Mexico home before I was privileged to represent it.

Indian Country plays a critical role in our country's history, and too often these stories are not told. By designating November as Native American Heritage Month, we can collectively reflect on our nation's past and pay tribute. We owe it to those who came before us—and those to come—to tell the full truth about our nation's history and uplift voices that have been systematically suppressed: Most recently, I joined members of the Acoma Pueblo in celebrating a long overdue return of a sacred, ceremonial shield. After nearly four years of public appeals, a sacred piece that disappeared in the 1970s was rightfully returned to the Acoma Pueblo. Sadly, this is not an isolated event. The illegal acquisition and sale of sensitive Native American items is widespread, and I am committed to working with tribes to end the export of unlawfully removed items and return them home.

In addition to fighting to preserve the culture and traditions of the pueblos and tribes in southern New Mexico, we must recognize our responsibility to ensure Native communities are provided with the proper support to build a better future. It's why this year I supported advanced appropriations for the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to grant stability to Tribal programs and ensuring that Tribal Governments are not negatively affected by impasses in the federal appropriations process. I was also proud to support the passage of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and the additional protections added this year for Native women. Lastly, I worked with my Republican colleague Rep. DUSTY JOHNSON to fight for full funding for the New Beginnings for Tribal Students Program, which provides competitive grant funding for Land Grant institutions that are actively seeking to increase recruitment, retention, and graduation rates for Native American students.

As a Representative for southern New Mexico, I have the privilege of representing many tribes and pueblo communities. I know firsthand that our state's past, present, and future is tied to the vibrancy of its Native American communities. Native American Heritage Month is an important step towards fulfilling the trust and responsibility owed to our Native American sovereign governments. I am proud to join my colleagues, Reps. DEB HAALAND (NM-01), TOM COLE (OK-4), SHARICE DAVIDS (KS-3), RUBEN GALLEGOS (AZ-7), RAÚL M. GRIJALVA (AZ-3), BETTY MCCOLLUM (MN-4), and MARKWAYNE MULLIN (OK-2) in recognizing November as Native American Heritage Month.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
KENAN-FLAGLER BUSINESS
SCHOOL, UNC-CHAPEL HILL

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th

Anniversary of the University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler Business School. Over the course of the last century, Kenan-Flagler has set a high standard for business education, becoming one of the top ranked business schools in the country.

Originally founded as the School of Commerce, its doors were opened in 1919 with a class of only 12 students. The school continued to grow: the first Ph.D. was awarded in 1928 and the MBA and executive programs were introduced in 1952. Now, 100 years later, Kenan-Flagler graduates more than 3,000 students every year, ranging from undergraduate to Ph.D.s.

Kenan-Flagler is constantly evolving and improving the way it teaches the next generation of business leaders. For example, the school has shifted its teaching model to focus on understanding the contours of international business. By offering immersive study abroad and international internship opportunities, the school reaffirms its commitment to global education. Additionally, through the UNC-IDB Strategic Studies Fellows Program, Kenan-Flagler partners with the Institute for Defense and Business to educate Defense Department and national security professionals about the foundations of national security through a strategic thinking and innovative lens.

While not every student studies abroad, Kenan-Flagler finds alternative ways to bring the global experience into the classroom. Last year, with the use of virtual reality goggles, students were transported to a boardroom in the central African country of Cameroon. Kenan-Flagler pushes the envelope on traditional teaching methods, serving as an example for professional schools across the world.

Kenan-Flagler's commitment to global education and diversity go hand in hand. With over 37,000 living alumni spanning 86 countries, the impact of the Kenan-Flagler Business School is evident all over the globe. In 1973, the school became the first southern institution and sixth nationwide to join the Consortium for Graduate Study in Management, a network of universities committed to providing minority populations the education and tools needed to succeed in business and industry. This dual commitment is symbolized by the multitude of flags greeting you upon entrance into the McColl Building, which houses the business school on campus. These flags represent the many different nationalities of Kenan-Flagler students and the affinity groups represented by the community.

Madam Speaker, as an alumnus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I am immensely proud of the Kenan-Flagler Business School's commitment to the future generations of business leaders. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dean Douglas Shackelford, the entire leadership, and the student body of Kenan-Flagler on this momentous anniversary.

RECOGNIZING RECRUIT CLASS
2019-01 OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM
COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE
AND RESCUE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the recent graduates of the

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, the "Hellfighters." These men and women will soon join the ranks of those who have served and continue to serve Prince William County as first responders who place themselves in harm's way to protect and preserve the lives and property of county residents.

Each member of the recruit class has successfully completed a rigorous application process, followed by more than 1,200 hours of exhaustive academic and physical training over the course of 26 weeks. Upon successful completion of this program, each recruit is eligible to graduate and become a Fire and Rescue Technician with the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue.

The training and certification required to achieve the status of a Fire and Rescue Technician cannot be accomplished without significant dedication and hard work. Today's graduates have completed more than 600 hours of the required coursework for certification in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Infection Control, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM), Emergency Medical Training (EMT-Basic), Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course 1, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course 2, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course 3, Flashover Simulation, Rapid Intervention Training (RIT), Mayday, Hazmat Awareness/Operations, Swift Water Rescue Awareness, Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) with Simulation, Rural Water Supply, Basic Life Support (BLS) Protocols, Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle Rescue Awareness, and Child Passenger Safety Seat Installation.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue recruit class graduates:

Richard M. Blank, Dominic N. Carlino, James E. Close, Casey M. Coulter, Renae L. Dillon, Ryan R. Gibson, Benjamin J. Herd, Kelly A. Krebs, Grace E. Lehman, Ivanovich P. Lesefka, Tyler A. Marnell, Stephen G. Mickle, Christopher W. Paul, Alexander R. Pion, Charles R. Pistole, Theodore A. Scheatzle, Taylor A. Smith, Joseph H. Tate, Gary W. Woods II

As the newest members of the Department of Fire and Rescue, the graduates join the department as integral parts of the emergency response and community safety team.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. I am confident that recruit class 2019-01 will serve the residents of Prince William County with honor and distinction. In the tradition of their new firefighting family, I say: "Stay safe."

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF MARK BLISS

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of journalist Mark Bliss, who is retiring after a 40-year, distinguished career in journalism, which included over 30 years spent reporting for our local

paper the Southeast Missourian. For my whole life—literally—Mark has been a stoic reporter of news both local and national, and our community has been made better off by his work.

I was fortunate to work with Mark as he reported on politics in Missouri and Washington, DC. He accompanied me to many farm visits and trips to local businesses, and I knew to expect his call when issues affecting our country arose. At every meeting, his sharp thinking and dogged determination to find the best story for his readers was apparent, and he challenged me to work harder, ask more questions, and match his incredible tenacity and enthusiasm for the people around us.

Before he ever shook my hand or typed my name in one of his columns, however, I, and many in our community, knew him intimately. He tempered his no-nonsense reporting of the news with a tender, emotional, humorous weekly column titled “Mark My Word,” which touched on topics including politics, business, family, and food—in one word: life. He introduced himself to readers at the same time as he informed them about the goings-on of their town, state, and world.

Mark’s reporting is a perfect example of why a healthy, local press is essential to the flourishing of any community. Because of Mark’s natural inquisitiveness and wealth of historical knowledge, his columns put events in context and made them matter to his community. He not only reported on current events but understood them, and he was able to report the news in a way that helped his readers understand them as well. At a time when it felt as if a different local paper was closing every other month, Mark reminded us of what local news could and should be—and why it is so important to support these vital organizations. For this reason and many others, I am sad to see him retire, but I am thankful for the long record of service he leaves behind.

HONORING THE PARNAGIAN
FAMILY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Parnagian family as they are honored at the 2019 Fresno State Ag One Foundation Community Salute for their contributions to the Central Valley and California agriculture. The Parnagians are champions in our Valley and have played an integral role in transforming California agriculture for the 21st century.

The legacy of the Parnagian family began in 1943, when Gladys Girazian, a lieutenant in the United States Navy Nursing Corps, met a young Marine, Sam Parnagian, at the San Diego Naval Hospital. Sam, a World War II veteran, had just returned from Pearl Harbor. Just two weeks later, the couple knew they were meant for each other and were married on December 2, 1943. The couple were blessed with four sons, Dennis, Kenneth, Randy, and Philip.

In 1950, Sam established Fowler Packing Company in Fowler, California. With Sam at the helm, the help of his four sons, younger brother Pete and nephew Jim, Fowler Packing quickly found success. Today, the family fruit

farms and state-of-the-art packing facilities have grown into one of the largest packers and shippers of tree fruit, citrus and table grapes in the industry. Sam was involved in the day-to-day operations of the business until his passing in 1980. Thereafter, Sam’s four sons held executive roles in the company and managed day-to-day operations. After 40 years of success, the Parnagian brothers passed along leadership responsibilities to Justin and Leland Parnagian in 2017, making the way for the third-generation.

The family places an emphasis on social responsibility and creating a welcoming work environment. They have an on-site cafeteria, with free meals provided daily to their employees. Additionally, they have added a health clinic at their headquarters and offer free healthcare and medications for employees and their families. They have also established the Fowler Packing Scholars Program to help bring the dream of a college education for their employees’ children closer to reality. The Parnagians stay true to their commitment to excellence as they put the best interests of customers, growers and employees first.

The Parnagian family holds core values of family, honor and strong work ethic. They have always been generous with the community. In 2015, the Parnagian family made a \$1.5 million-dollar gift to Valley Children’s Healthcare, establishing the Sam and Gladys Parnagian Child Life Endowment. Additionally, Fowler Packing has been a longtime supporter of the Community Food Banks.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Parnagian family for their contributions and exemplified leadership in the Central Valley. I wish the Parnagian family continued health, happiness and prosperity.

NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I am proud to join the American Diabetes Association and millions of doctors, nurses, health professionals, and concerned Americans to recognize American Diabetes Month.

Diabetes remains the seventh leading cause of death in the United States. It affects more than 30 million Americans—seven million of whom are undiagnosed. By the end of this year, more than 40,000 people will be diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes—which is identified as the body’s inability to produce insulin. Type 2 diabetes—which indicates a deficiency in the way the body uses insulin—remains the most common form of diabetes, and makes up more than 90 percent of all diabetes cases. In addition, 10 percent of all women develop gestational diabetes during pregnancy, which blocks a mother’s ability to use insulin and can complicate the health of both the mother and the baby. Without proper treatment, diabetes can lead to serious and sometimes deadly complications, including heart disease, nerve damage, blindness, lower limb amputations, kidney failure, high blood pressure, and even stroke.

In my home state of California, more than 4 million people—approximately 13 percent of

the adult population in our state—have diabetes. What’s worse, more than 1 million Californians have diabetes, but have not been tested and are unaware that they are living with the disease. An astounding 10 million Californians have prediabetes, which is a health condition where blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but are not high enough to be diagnosed as Type 2 diabetes. By the end of this year, 263,000 residents of our state will be newly diagnosed with diabetes.

The troubling increase in the number of Americans living with diagnosed diabetes has also increased the overall economic costs of treating the disease. According to a 2018 American Diabetes Association report, in 2017 the cost for treating diabetes was an astounding \$327 billion. Americans diagnosed with diabetes had medical expenses that were 2.3 times higher than Americans without diabetes, and spent, on average, \$9,600 on healthcare expenditures. That same report found that in the state of California, the overall cost of medical expenses and treatment of diabetes was \$27 billion.

For minority communities around the country, the risk of developing diabetes or suffering from complications of the disease is devastatingly heightened. Diabetes affects 15 percent of American Indians and Alaska natives, 13 percent of African Americans, 12 percent of Hispanics, and 8 percent of Asian Americans. Though they are most impacted and at risk of developing diabetes, it’s no secret that minorities often lack access to quality health care, are more likely to have prediabetes, are more likely to suffer from complications of diabetes, and in some cases, are nearly twice as likely to die from diabetes.

To this end, for many years, I have proudly authored and fought for support of H.R. 4550, the Minority Diabetes Initiative Act, which is supported by the American Diabetes Association and 60 of my House colleagues and fellow members of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus. My bill will provide grants to physicians and community-based organizations for diabetes prevention, care, and treatment programs in minority communities. It will also provide grants for a variety of diabetes-related health services, including public education on diabetes prevention and control, routine health care for diabetic patients, eye care, foot care, and treatment for kidney disease and other complications of diabetes.

I am also a strong supporter of increased federal funding for diabetes programs at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and have supported many legislative measures that ensure that Americans living with diabetes have the quality and affordable healthcare they deserve.

During American Diabetes Month, and every month, we must continue to raise awareness of this disease and show our strong support for research, innovations, and healthcare services that improve the lives of the millions of Americans who are living with or at-risk of being diagnosed with this disease. Diabetes will continue to ravage our communities and lead to the premature death of Americans if we fail to act. While both genetic and environmental factors can contribute to the development of diabetes, it is imperative that every American regardless of their age, race, or geographic location get tested for diabetes, and speak with their doctors about actions they

can take to prevent or postpone the progression of the disease.

I thank the millions of doctors, nurses, health professionals, and concerned Americans who are engaged in the fight against diabetes, and I am proud to continue to join with my colleagues in the Congressional Diabetes Caucus to do all that we can to develop and pass legislation that will aid in the treatment and prevention of this disease. Americans must get tested, get informed, and spread the word about the dangers of diabetes. The sooner we know, the sooner we can act to prevent or postpone the impact of this disease.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIDDEN OAKS NATURE CENTER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax County Park Authority and the staff and volunteers of Hidden Oaks Nature Center on the occasion of the Center's 50th anniversary.

Founded in 1969, Hidden Oaks Nature Center has become an invaluable part of the Annapondale Community Park and serves as an example of Fairfax County's ongoing commitment to the preservation of our natural environment. The Center offers a variety of programs and activities designed to promote the engagement of the public with their surrounding environment including live animal displays and a trail network featuring ponds, creeks, woodland and a rain garden. Hidden Oaks Nature Center also offers programs throughout the year to teach children and families about nature, including summer camps, tea parties, campfires, and animal feedings.

This rich bounty of natural resources has led to Hidden Oaks Nature Center becoming a staging location for community groups looking to assist with connecting the community with the natural world. One of the key partners has been the Boy Scouts, who use the Center for hundreds of hours of merit badge classes each year, as well as for support for Eagle Scout projects. Fairfax County's Environmental Quality Advisory Council, the citizen volunteer group charged with advising the Board of Supervisors on environmental matters, holds their monthly meetings at Hidden Oaks. These meetings are open to the public, providing another avenue for Hidden Oaks to continue its important mission.

The efforts of the staff and volunteers at Hidden Oaks have produced significant results. Chief among these is the designation of the greater Mason District as the fourth-largest certified Community Wildlife Habitat in the United States by the National Wildlife Federation. As Fairfax County continues to grow, with a population now exceeding 1 million, the continued preservation of our natural capital will only become more important. Even in the midst of the concrete jungles of New York City, the architects of that metropolis knew that it was critical for the wellbeing of the city's residents to have access to green space. The same is true for Fairfax County and the work done by the staff and volunteers at Hidden

Oaks Nature Center helps to ensure that the environment remains a priority for our community. This prioritization of nature and of access to green space is one of the many reasons why Fairfax County residents continues to enjoy such a high quality of life.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in once again congratulating the Fairfax County Park Authority and the staff and volunteers of Hidden Oaks Nature Center for their continued stewardship of our natural environment. The fact that this stewardship has continued unabated for half a century is a testament to the impact that Hidden Oaks Nature Center has had on our local community and how deeply it is valued as a resource. I thank them for their service to our community and wish them continued success in all their future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF CAPTAIN JOSEPH C. MCCONNELL, JR.

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of United States Air Force Captain Joseph C. McConnell, Jr. Before his tragic death in a flight-testing accident, Captain McConnell served his country in both World War II and the Korean War, where he was a triple jet ace and still holds the American record for most jet kills.

Captain McConnell entered the U.S. Army Air Forces in 1943 during World War II; flying 60 combat missions in Europe as a B-24 Liberator navigator. Following the war, he went on to earn his pilot wings in 1948 and subsequently fought in the Korean War. Captain McConnell served as a pilot with the 39th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 51st Fighter-Interceptor Wing, Fifth Air Force and was stationed at George Air Force Base in Victorville before being assigned to K13 in the Republic of Korea. Within four months, Capt. McConnell had shot down 16 enemy fighter jets, becoming the leading jet ace of the Korean War and the first triple jet ace in American history. "For his extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations", President Eisenhower presented Capt. McConnell with the Distinguished Service Cross, the Nation's second highest decoration for valor. On August 25, 1954, Capt. McConnell was killed while service testing the newer, more powerful F-86H Sabre at George Air Force Base.

Captain McConnell's skill and daring over foreign battlefields in defense of our nation was unmatched during the Korean War. Although he was tragically taken from this earth far too early, his spirit lives on in the dedication and professionalism of the men and women of the United States Air Force that continue to follow in his footsteps today.

HONORING MRS. LILLIAN AUDREY SEAYS

HON. VAL BUTLER DEMINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of someone I consid-

ered my sister and friend, Mrs. Lillian Audrey Seays, who passed away on November 20, 2019, three days before seeing her 82nd birthday.

Always a champion for reading and education, Lillian served for 22 years as the librarian at Memorial Middle School. The Orlando community could not have been prouder when in 2016, the Media Center was renamed in her honor.

Lillian Seays had a mission in life, and it extended well beyond her commitment to the youth of Central Florida. Lillian understood the importance of educating other cultures about the accomplishments and challenges of African Americans throughout Florida. In 1997, she and her husband, Lester Seays, co-founded ONYX Magazine, through their own publishing company, LBS Publications. Rooted in strong tradition, style and grace, ONYX Magazine continues to be a premier magazine that empowers, entertains and inspires persons of diverse backgrounds from around the world. The LBS Foundation has awarded thousands of dollars in scholarship to deserving youth.

Lillian Seays was actively involved in her community where she served as a charter member of the Orange County Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., President and Treasurer of the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Under her leadership, Orlando experienced several "firsts," including the first sickle cell screening clinic, health fair, Minerva Awards, and the very first and unforgettable Ebony Fashion Fair Show. Please note that the Ebony Fashion Fair Show raised thousands of dollars for scholarships. In addition, Lillian led the initiative to develop the Delteens of Orlando, now known as the Delta Gems, a mentoring group for young women.

Moreover, Lillian Seays was a member of the Links, Inc., publisher and co-author of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and an active member of New Covenant Baptist Church.

Lillian Seays was a true public servant who never forgot that service to humankind was a direct reflection of her service to God. We truly believe Central Florida is better, stronger and kinder because of her unselfish love for her community.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Lillian Seays will be missed by all who knew her, but we are forever grateful for her service, and join her family and the Orlando community in celebrating a life well lived.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 MVLE ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize MVLE and its 2019 Award Recipients.

For 48 years, MVLE has provided employment opportunities and support services to individuals with disabilities and thereby created an environment which has allowed its clients to live in dignity and as independently as possible. MVLE has achieved this success by partnering with local businesses as well as with government agencies and other not-for-profit organizations. MVLE, its staff, and dedicated volunteers and supporters can be proud

that they are making a positive difference in someone's life every day.

Each year, MVLE honors individual participants, as well as business and community partners, who support MVLE's mission. I am pleased to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2019 award recipients:

The President's Award is being presented to individuals who have shown outstanding progress toward gaining independence and self-sufficiency through participation in employment and community services. The 2019 President's Award recipients are Yoon Chung, Katherine Parfitt, Henry Gonzalez and Darlene Rivenbark.

The Chairman's Award is being presented to an outstanding business partner who has demonstrated excellence in hiring practices, creating supportive work environments, and supporting the mission of MVLE. The 2019 Chairman's Award recipient is Lend-a-Box.

MVLE also presents four Community Awards for Government, Employment Partner, Advocacy and Social Responsibility.

The Government Champion Award is being presented to the Defense Acquisition University at Fort Belvoir. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who is committed to creating meaningful employment opportunities by building partnerships across government and business sectors.

The Employment Partner Award is being presented to ANVIL Systems Group. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who is committed to creating meaningful community employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and military veterans.

The Advocacy Champion Award is being presented to Sean McGinnis of the Hartwood Foundation. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who advocates for community integration by fostering partnerships across sectors to create futures one person at a time.

The Social Responsibility Award is being presented to the Mount Vernon Knights of Columbus. MVLE presents this award to an outstanding partner who supports MVLE through contributions and volunteer work.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending MVLE for its success in helping individuals with disabilities achieve independence, and in congratulating the 2019 MVLE Annual Award recipients. The efforts of MVLE, its supporters, community partners, and clients are an inspiration to all and are worthy of our highest praise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber on November 21, 2019, due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on Roll Call number 638.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 21, 2019 during roll call No. 637, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1309, Byrne of Alabama Part B Amendment No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 638, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1309, Harder of California Part B Amendment No. 4. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 639, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1309, Wexton of Virginia Part B Amendment No. 9. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 640, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1309, Delgado of New York Part B Amendment No. 10. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 641, Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, H.R. 1309, Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 642, On Passage, H.R. 1309, Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY COMMISSION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax County History Commission on the occasion of the 15th Annual Fairfax County History Conference.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Fairfax County History Commission. Since 1969, the History Commission has worked to identify, document, record and preserve the historic past of our region. Few areas in the country are as rich in history as ours. Indeed, the history of this region is the history of our country. The History Conference provides an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and to recognize our neighbors who have made significant contributions to preserving and promoting our local history. Through the dedicated efforts of the History Commission and its many volunteers, we are assured that our history will not be lost and will be available for future generations.

This year, several of these dedicated individuals are being honored for their commitment to the preservation and education of history. I am proud to include their names in the RECORD:

Mr. Brian Conley, for his 32 years of passionate and professional oversight, management and preservation of Fairfax County's historic resources through a variety of positions within the Fairfax County Library's Virginia Room, the County Archives and as County Archivist.

Ms. Joyce Wilkinson, for her efforts in promoting, preserving, researching and taking leadership positions to protect the historic resources of Fairfax County and in taking the initial leadership role as the first Chairperson of the Fairfax County History Commission.

Mr. Chris Barbuschak, for his efforts in preserving, researching and maintaining the history of the National Bank of Fairfax Main Office through this property nomination to the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites.

Ms. Sofia Haile and Ms. Rachel Inman, for their exemplary work as students of West Springfield High School's Applied History class (taught by Brian Heintz), in preserving, researching, documenting, analyzing and presenting a complete and thorough database of some 150 Fairfax County Vietnam War soldiers who were either listed as dead or missing in action.

Last, but certainly not least, it gives me great pleasure to include in the RECORD the name of my friend and colleague, Sharon Bulova, who is receiving a Lifetime Achievement award for her tireless efforts to preserve and protect the history of Fairfax County. Beginning with her efforts as Braddock District Supervisor, this passion has continued throughout her term as Chairman. I was proud to work with her on a host of these projects, perhaps most importantly, the purchase of the Lorton Reformatory and its transformation into the Workhouse Arts Center. Future generations will long benefit from her efforts and I thank her for her dedication.

Madam Speaker, I commend the Fairfax County History Commission for helping to ensure that the abundance of history that is available to our community will persevere far into the future. I congratulate all of the honorees and ask my colleagues to join me in thanking each of them for the important work they do for the Northern Virginia community.

IN RECOGNITION OF CORPORAL HENRY KROLL FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal Henry Kroll, a World War II veteran, for his dedicated service. His commitment to our country and his community are worthy of commendation.

Corporal Kroll was born and raised in Detroit, where he attended Western High School. In November of 1943, Corporal Kroll was drafted alongside his two brothers and served in the artillery for the 106th Infantry Division. During the war, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, where Allied forces repelled a German offensive in Belgium's Ardennes forest in December 1944 and January 1945. Of the 107 men serving in his Division, Corporal Kroll was one of only seventeen soldiers who survived the battle. In 1945, Corporal Kroll returned home on Christmas Day and worked as a mail carrier for 22 years. Today, Corporal Kroll is now a father of four and grandfather of nine.

Corporal Kroll has shown a tremendous love for his country and his community, and his dedication is finally being recognized. Just before his 95th birthday, Corporal Kroll received

the World War II Campaign Medal with four bronze stars, the Army Good Conduct Medal, and a World War II Victory Medal—awards that are long overdue. Throughout his years of service in the United States Military, Corporal Kroll dutifully earned these honors. He bravely defended and made sacrifices for our nation to ensure freedom would persevere for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Corporal Henry Kroll for his exemplary service. We are grateful for his commitment to America, and I am proud that he is finally receiving the recognition he deserves.

REMEMBERING JIM GORDON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and service of Jim Gordon, a committed organizer who devoted over 49 years of his life to fighting for the American worker.

Jim worked as a building serviceman, installer, switchman, repairman, and systems technician. While he was committed to his trade, he knew the importance of collective action and quickly became involved in his Communications Workers of America (CWA) local, serving in several positions including being elected by his peers to lead CWA Local 9412 as their President. In 1984 Jim joined the staff of the Communications Workers of America, serving many years as Legislative/Political Director for California, Nevada and Hawaii, headquartered in Sacramento, California. In that role, he used his deep devotion and experience to get the best deal for his members and was awarded the union's Maxine Lee Award in 1990 for excellence in his work.

Jim understood the importance of public service outside of the union serving in the United States Army in Turkey and as an elected member of the Fremont City Council. Jim also served as a member of the California Democratic Party Central Committee, Chair of the CDP Labor Caucus, and as the Vice President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

Jim's legacy is of a tireless union organizer, devoting countless hours to fighting on behalf of American consumers and workers in the U.S. and abroad. Jim's service to his country and work in the labor movement will continue to help the lives of countless people and his spirit will be missed. Please join me in celebrating his life and his memory.

RECOGNIZING THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF OAKTON-VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna on the occasion of their 21st anniversary and to thank them for their many con-

tributions to the Northern Virginia community. Organized in 1998, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) is a non-profit that provides services to help older adults continue living independently, and it offers programs that supply opportunities for enrichment, learning, and socialization.

Every year, approximately 200 volunteers provide invaluable services in support of older residents who want to age in place in their homes and stay engaged in social activities. Services are available free of charge to anyone age 50 or older who resides in the local community.

Last year, volunteers provided 9,922 hours of service to the Northern Virginia community. Volunteer drivers provided more than 900 round-trip rides for medical needs and other errands. Volunteers also made regular contact with individuals who may have limited interaction and may feel isolated in their homes. "Handy Helpers" made minor home repairs to help older adults keep their homes safe and livable. The Health Team provided individual health counseling, referral to community resources, and blood pressure readings. Volunteers also run programs such as Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and caregivers' support groups.

The services and programs offered by this extraordinary organization help to ensure that our seniors stay connected to the community through the promotion of active lifestyles, ongoing social integration, and availability of resources for older residents to use and share their experience, training, and skills. In 2014, SCOV was recognized for these efforts as an Outstanding Volunteer Caregiving Program by the National Volunteer Caregiving Network.

I also want to give special mention to a new series of programs begun by SCOV this year, focused on veteran outreach. Volunteers from SCOV who are veterans themselves reach out to fellow veterans with either a call or an in-person visit or both. The men and women who serve our nation in uniform, especially in combat, are just as vulnerable, if not more so, to the dangers of isolation and depression as our senior population and I commend SCOV for taking this important action to help address that.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna on its 21st anniversary and for its work to enable older adults in our community to age in place and enjoy their golden years with dignity and independence. I thank the many volunteers who generously dedicate their time and efforts to the welfare of our neighbors. The value of their contributions cannot be overstated and are truly deserving of our highest praise.

PALMDALE CITY MANAGER JAMES PURTEE RECIPIENT OF 2019 LARRY CHIMBOLE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Palmdale City Manager James "Jim" Purtee, who will be presented with the Larry Chimbole Public Service Award by the Cali-

fornia League of Cities Desert/Mountain Division. Jim has announced that he will also retire at the end of 2019, after 31 years of public service.

Jim began his diverse public service career with the City of Simi Valley in 1988, where he worked in multiple department and on issues including community services, affordable housing, planning, economic development, and city administration. He was named Simi Valley's Assistant City Manager in July 2012 and was formally appointed to be Palmdale's City Manager on October 5, 2015. Under his leadership, Palmdale's Part I crime rate has decreased to its lowest in a quarter century. Palmdale has also maintained a strong general fund reserve and credit ratings from both of the leading ratings agencies, which is a credit to Jim's strong and strategic management skills. Jim has been very involved with the League of California Cities, where he has served as the Desert/Mountain Division's representative to the League's Administrative Services Policy Committee and Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee.

As a former city councilmember, I know that replacing Jim will be an incredibly tough task for the City of Palmdale, and I wish their councilmembers the best of luck in finding a successor. Jim Puttee embodies all of the qualities of the Larry Chimbole Award, and I congratulate him on this prestigious honor as well as a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LINDA ORANGE

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe and mourn the passing of long-time Connecticut State Representative Linda Orange who passed away on November 20, 2019 after a difficult battle with pancreatic cancer that she met with bravery and grace, which characterized her overall approach to the challenges and vagaries of her life.

At the time of her passing, Linda was in her 23rd year of service as a state representative in a district that she shared with me in eastern Connecticut. I can personally attest to her unstinting focus on advocating for her constituency in ways both big and small. Whether it was her committee work, work on the House floor where she rose to the position of Deputy Speaker, or taking a call from a constituent at any time of day, she kept complete and total fidelity to the people who sent her to the State Capitol in Hartford.

I had the privilege to see Linda at work at another time in her life, when she worked in my Committee room during part of the time I served at the State Capitol from 1991-1994. She clerked for me and my colleague then State Senator Ken Prysbyz when we co-chaired the Joint Committees on Human Services and Public Health. The two of us were a handful for Linda, partly because of the volume of the bills that passed through our doors, but also because the sometimes frenetic pace that could make it a real pressure cooker. To say that we tested her patience at times is an understatement. Her natural good humor and kindness always overcame any

drama, though, and after I left the State Capitol she, Ken, and I always had a lot of laughs reminiscing about that fun time in our lives.

The other special view I had of Linda was through the eyes of my former District Director, the late Jenny Contois, who was Linda's closest friend. Jenny was First Selectwoman in their hometown of Colchester for 15 years before taking the helm at my district office. The two of them were inseparable and were so close they could practically finish each other's sentences. Some of their friends nicknamed them "Laverne and Shirley" since the non-stop banter they engaged in when they were together resembled the memorable comedy duo of sitcom fame. During election season, when Linda and I shared campaign headquarters, Jenny and Linda would hold court in front of the staff and volunteers, always with lots of snacks, drinks, and many times even full meals. It gave the headquarters a special feel that kept morale high which translated into a lot of happy successful Election nights. Jenny sadly passed away four years ago, which was a terrible loss for many, many fellow public officials and townspeople, but it was extremely hard for Linda. At a difficult time like this, it is maybe some small consolation to think that Linda and Jenny are together again, looking down on us all, with lots of new funny banter commenting on all of us who knew them.

Madam Speaker, I would ask the entire body to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to Linda's husband Dennis, and her entire family for their loss and salute her inspirational example of a life well lived in the service of others. I include in the RECORD the text of her obituary, which perfectly captures her life and legacy.

CT State Representative Linda Ann (Smith) Orange, 69, of Colchester, passed away peacefully at Middlesex Hospital, surrounded by her loving husband, sons, family, and friends, on November 20, 2019 after a sudden and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. During this time, she continued to put family, friends and community first. Linda's grace and courage never faltered. Linda and her family are grateful for the outpouring of well wishes that brought her joy and smiles. She never lost her sparkle.

She was born in Hartford, CT on September 25, 1950 to the late Arthur L. and Anna (Gemeasky) Smith. Linda grew up in Marlborough and attended RHAM High School, became a respiratory therapist, and had a distinctive public service career. Linda was very dedicated to her two sons and always active in their lives, especially as they were growing up. She was very active in their schools, Boys Scouts, baseball games and as a second grade catechism teacher. She served as a member and chair of the Colchester Board of Assessment Appeals, the Colchester Police Commission, the East Haddam Historical Society, and as a incorporator of William W. Backus Hospital. She also was an honorary member of the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Company and a Major in the Connecticut Civil Air Patrol, Legislative Wing. Linda was an enthusiastic member of the Colchester Democratic Town Committee and the Colchester Democratic Women's Club which led to her eventual career at the State Capitol.

In 1991, she became assistant clerk of the Human Services Committee and later became clerk of the Public Health Committee.

She made many friends and learned the working of the legislature so well that she ran as a candidate for State Representative of the 48th District in 1996. She went on to serve twelve terms in Hartford, becoming one of the longest serving members at twenty-three years.

The interests of her constituents were always her priority without regard for political labels. As a legislator, Linda served on many committees and currently was a member of Legislative Management, General Law and the Public Safety and Security Committee. She became a knowledgeable authority on public safety issues and the legislature's chief advocate for work of first responders—police, fire fighters, emergency medical personnel, dispatchers and others. Linda also was Deputy Speaker and often presided over the House of Representatives controlling the process by recognizing members wishing to speak, putting all questions to a vote, and directing the business of the legislature. While presiding, her charming personality, ability to add a quip or joke, and her booming voice endeared her to all her colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

The staff at the Capitol, the Senators and Representatives, and all those associated with the Connecticut General Assembly will remember Linda for being such a kind and warm-hearted person, friendly to everyone, and always ready for a good laugh at herself or playing a joke on others. Over the years, Linda was recognized by many organizations too numerous to mention all. She humbly accepted such honors and was grateful to those who appreciated her work.

Some of her distinctions included awards from the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, the Coalition of Connecticut Sportsmen, UCONN Advocates, the Middlesex County and New London County Medical Associations, the Connecticut State Fire Fighters Association, the Connecticut Council of Police Unions, the National Guard Association, the Eastern Connecticut EMS Council, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers. Recently, the charter of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut was changed to make Linda the only life-time honorary member.

Linda was known to end her many encounters on the phone and in person with: "Bye, Bye, Now!" Her spirit will live on with her many friends, using this phrase to remember her extraordinary life.

Linda is survived by her husband of 43 years, Dennis Orange, Sr.; her son Patrick Orange and his partner Jennifer Nadeau; step-son Dennis Orange, Jr., all of Colchester; step-daughters, Denise and Darleen O'Neal of Arkansas; her beautiful grand-daughter, Dezarae Ann Orange, whose love is everlasting; brothers, Brian and his wife Linda Smith, of Marlborough; George and his wife Phyllis, of Windham, ME; god-daughter, Lorna Smith, of Marlborough; sisters-in-law, Genevieve Lescoe, of Meriden, and Marion Coriaty, of Willimantic; many extended family members; and a host of amazing long-time friends. In addition to her parents, Linda was predeceased by her son, Matthew Orange who passed away in 2018 of pancreatic cancer, her brother Bruce Smith, parents-in-law William and Rose Orange, brother-in-law Henry Coriaty, and her sister-in-law Rosemarie Hart.

RECOGNIZING THE GRADUATION OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT'S 145TH RECRUIT CLASS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and the graduates of the 145th Recruit Class. As they prepare to join the ranks of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, I encourage the 20 graduates to reflect on the history of the department and the contributions and dedication of the brave men and women who have served before them to protect our community.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Recruit School consists of an extensive and demanding 24-week program. In addition to two weeks of orientation, recruits completed seven weeks of EMT training and fifteen weeks of fire suppression training. Upon graduation, these recruits will be certified at the level of Firefighter I/II by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

These recruits have the distinct honor of joining one of the best Fire and Rescue Departments in the United States. The efforts of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department have been recognized across this country. Members from the Department serve on the elite VA Task Force 1, which is among the first units called to disaster zones to provide search and rescue support. Members of that Task Force were recognized by the International Association of Fire Chiefs with the Benjamin Franklin Award for Valor as a result of their efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes that struck Nepal in 2015.

They also saw extensive work in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands as part of disaster relief and rescue efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. This summer, the team deployed to the Southeast in support of relief efforts for Hurricane Dorian.

Fairfax County is fortunate to have such excellent ambassadors for our community and I commend them for all that they have done to protect lives and property not only here in Fairfax County, but around the world. As the newest members of the Fire and Rescue Department, the 145th Recruit Class graduates join the department as integral parts of our community's emergency response and public safety team. I am confident that this graduating class will serve the residents of Fairfax County with honor and distinction. It is my great honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 145th Recruit Class:

Adriana Caruso, Sharly Clavel Tobar, Luiz Costa, Sean Dolan, Lucas Groff, Andrew Hackett, Jenny Huh, Benjamin Jacobeen, Matthew Kahle, John Lilley, Sean Mack, Aaron Marsh, Andrew McCandliss, Jackson-

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McEachin, Steven Ratliff, Matthew Rieder, Bradley Schuyler, Christopher St Clair, Allison Updike, Priscilla Vickery.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. I thank them for their service to their

community and to all members of the Fire and Rescue Department, past and present, I say: "Stay safe."