

Since the adoption of the 19th Amendment, women have continued to reach significant milestones in that fight for women's equality, including having a greater presence in our government. Today, 17 women serve in the Senate and 76 in the House, and you, Madam Speaker, are making history as the first female Speaker of the House. Also noteworthy is the unprecedented participation of women in our judicial branch. The Supreme Court was without the service of a single woman for nearly 200 years until September 25, 1981, when Sandra Day O'Connor was confirmed as the first woman Supreme Court Justice. Today, for the first time in history, there are three women serving simultaneously on our Nation's highest court: Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan.

While we acknowledge that much progress has been made in the fight for women's equality, we must also recognize that significant work remains to be done. For the first time in our Nation's history, women make up half of the entire U.S. workforce, yet according to the U.S. Department of Labor, they still do not receive compensation packages equivalent to those of their male counterparts.

My home state of Indiana reflects both these significant milestones in the fight for gender equality in the United States and the disparities that still exist. In 1920, Julia Nelson became the first woman to serve in our state legislature. Nine decades later, 31 of the 150 seats in the Indiana General Assembly are filled by women. Clearly, much work remains in our efforts for women's equality in our communities, our states, and our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in marking the 90th anniversary of the legal guarantee of women's right to vote, and in acknowledging that the promise of freedom and equality in America requires our ongoing focus to diminish those remaining gender-based inequities. In doing so, we honor the memory of the pioneers of women's suffrage like Mott, Cady Stanton, and Anthony, and create better futures for our mothers, sisters, daughters, wives, and friends.

TRIBUTE TO GARY ALTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to remember my good friend, Gary Alter. Gary passed away on May 18th, a victim of cancer and will be honored tonight at the Flint Jewish Federation's 21st Annual Donald Riegle Community Service Awards ceremony.

Born in 1936 at Steubenville, Ohio, Gary Alter came to Flint 11 years ago to assume the post of Executive Director of the Flint Jewish Federation. He said he came to Flint because it was "a community that was active and had people who cared." The love and respect Gary had for Flint was reflected back to him by the community. He was passionate about developing the community into a place of strength, vibrancy, and diversity. He believed that people could get past their differences and work for the common good. Gary was an active participant in Congregation Beth Israel, Temple Beth El, Rotary Club of Flint,

100 Club of Flint, Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee, Genesee County Census 2010 Committee, Michigan Jewish Conference, Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce, Urban League of Flint, the Hate Crimes Task Force, Flint Golf Club, and Professional Golf Teacher's Association of America.

Gary was deeply committed to maintaining Jewish traditions and heritage. He was involved in bringing Soviet Jews to the United States, he established the Karen Schneider Jewish Film Festival in Flint, and he was a passionate supporter of Israel. He leaves behind his wife, Emily Alter, and children: Dr. Carol Alter, Karen Jacobson, Alison Bank, and Andrew Bank to cherish his memory.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and remember the life and work of Gary Alter. I considered Gary a wonderful friend and an outstanding humanitarian. His compassionate, insight and enthusiasm are deeply missed by all that knew him. May his memory be a blessing and to the Jewish community, "May God console you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem, Ha'makom yenehem etkhem betokh she'ar avelei Tziyonvi'Yerushalayim."

CELEBRATING THE DESIGNATION OF THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE AS AN ADVANTAGE WEST CERTIFIED ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITY

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eastern Band of Cherokee in Cherokee, North Carolina on becoming a Certified Entrepreneurial Community by the AdvantageWest Economic Development Group. AdvantageWest, an economic development commission which serves 23 Western North Carolina counties, created the "Certified Entrepreneurial Community Program" to train local communities to encourage small business start-ups in the mountain region and to help such businesses thrive.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee, North Carolina has an over 11,000-year history rich with culture, arts, and a heritage of magnificent storytelling. Being designated as a Certified Entrepreneurial Community is just one example of the continuation of the remarkable history, and a tribute to the vision of the Eastern Band of Cherokee. The focus on youth and education as integral components of their Certified Entrepreneurial Community vision ensures that the future leaders of the community will have the tools to continue their strong legacy.

The Certification, developed by the AdvantageWest Center for Rural Entrepreneurship Institute, contains a strict set of guidelines that highlight a community's enthusiasm and readiness to support entrepreneurship and small business. While several communities throughout Western North Carolina have become certified as entrepreneurial communities, the Eastern Band of Cherokee is the first nation to receive this designation. This designation showcases the Eastern Band of Cherokee's foresight in creating and fostering an environment in which prosperity can be achieved. As a Certified Entrepreneurial Com-

munity, the Eastern Band will build upon the success of its marketing campaign to further promote the potential of its people to the United States and abroad.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to celebrate this remarkable honor bestowed on The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Cherokee, North Carolina, and their commitment to the future of their people. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating their outstanding achievement.

TRIBUTE TO CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of Carlisle Christian Church of Carlisle, Iowa, on celebrating their 150th anniversary as a congregation.

The Carlisle Christian Church was founded in 1860, shortly after the pioneer village of Carlisle was formed. As the town grew, so did the church, moving to several different locations from the town school to the homes of members of the congregation. The Carlisle Christian Church moved into a permanent building in 1868, where it continued to grow with the community for the next 150 years.

Today, the Carlisle Christian Church serves the community as a sponsor for the local Boy Scout troop and acts as a center for holiday worship for the whole town of Carlisle. The church, in partnership with other parishes, also provides for families with special needs in the Carlisle community through the Christian Community in Action program. In addition to their service work, the congregation frequently sponsors a float and a booth during the town's annual 4th of July festivities.

The Carlisle Christian Church has been an integral part of the surrounding community, and for this, I offer the congregation my utmost congratulations on a prosperous history. It is an honor to represent all the parishioners and the current Pastor, Rev. Karen L. Moore, in the United States Congress, and I wish them continued success, grace, peace and celebration as a community.

RECOGNIZING SUE THOMPSON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Sue Thompson and her dedication to the city of Highland Village, Texas. On September 3, 2010, Sue is retiring after 22 years of distinguished service.

Sue first came to the city of Highland Village as the Service Action Center Coordinator for the Code Enforcement Department in September of 1988. Since that time, Sue has been quite the Renaissance woman and has served Highland Village in five other positions: administrative assistant for the Service Action Center; Community Development Coordinator;

Community Services Coordinator; Community Services Manager; and Community Development Manager.

In 1996, Sue established the Highland Village Business Association, HVBA, which has served to promote local businesses in the community and enhance the connectivity and support of its members. Sue has capably spearheaded the HVBA's most special event each November, the annual "Salute Our Veterans" Luncheon, where each veteran in attendance is recognized. My office has been proud to participate in this important event to honor local veterans since its inception in 2003.

Sue has been involved in many other community activities as well, including the Highland Village Women's Club, Highland Village Lion's Club, and the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize an outstanding public servant to both her community and the Nation, Mrs. Sue Thompson. Sue has been an extremely dedicated staff member of the city of Highland Village and demonstrated wholehearted commitment to the community, and it is my honor to represent such a valued community member in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING COUNCILMAN ROBBIE
WATERS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sacramento City Councilman Robbie Waters, who has served the people of Sacramento for more than 55 years. In recognition of his public service, the Sacramento Public Library Authority has named its new library, the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, in his honor. As his colleagues, friends and family gather to celebrate his career and this outstanding project, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding public servant.

Robbie has a long history of serving his country and community. Not long after graduating from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and completed his service in 1957. He then returned to his hometown of Sacramento and became an officer with the Sacramento Police Department. During his time with the Sacramento Police Department he held several key positions, including leadership roles in the detective bureau and homicide unit.

Robbie was elected to the position of Sacramento County Sheriff in 1982 and served in that position until 1987. He accomplished many goals during his term as Sheriff, including focusing more resources in the North

Area, expanding the Sexual Assaults Bureau, implementing the 911 Emergency Response System, and developing the "Thumbs Up" fingerprinting program to help protect local children. Altogether, Robbie has served over 28 years in law enforcement.

After retiring from the Sheriff's Department, Robbie was elected to the Sacramento City Council where he has served for 16 years. As a councilman, he worked on a variety of community projects, including renovation of all 13 of his district's playgrounds, and collaboration with neighborhood associations to improve the quality of life for Sacramento families. He has received numerous awards for his work, most notably the prestigious Certificate of Merit from President Bill Clinton.

The Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library is a new 15,000-square-foot library which will be used by the public, including thousands of Sacramento area students. The project features a 100-seat community room, two group study rooms and quiet reading rooms, and will eventually hold more than 50,000 books. The library is truly a leap forward for the Pocket-Greenhaven neighborhood. When completed, it will be certified by the U.S. Green Building Council with a LEED Silver rating.

Councilman Waters has played an important role in getting this library built and has worked tirelessly as a board member for the Sacramento Public Library Authority. In addition, he helped initiate the Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Sacramento Public Library, an all-volunteer community organization, whose mission has been to advocate for the library as well as provide funding for books, materials, programs, and library activities.

Madam Speaker, I am truly honored to pay tribute to my friend and dedicated public servant, Councilman Robbie Waters. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in wishing Robbie, and his wife of 49 years, Judie, continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING THE TOUR OF DUTY
RUN

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Australian and American participants of the Tour of Duty Run as they complete the 4,600 mile journey from Los Angeles, California to New York, New York to honor the memory of those who died responding to the September 11 terrorist attacks.

These firefighters, police officers, military personnel and emergency service workers have come together in a symbol of international unity to remember those who gave their lives to save others. Leaving Los Angeles

on August 12, they have stopped in four U.S. cities along their journey before reaching our nation's capital on September 7.

On their journey to New York City, they have shown that firefighters the world over are alike in innumerable ways, forming a global family dedicated to hospitality, service, and public safety.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Tour of Duty Run for their symbolic gesture of fraternity, camaraderie and unwavering commitment to peace.

HONORING COLLETTE JOHNSON-
SCHULKE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Collette Johnson-Schulke, who has been a tireless advocate of quality health care in the Sacramento Region. As she retires from her position with Sutter Health, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in thanking Collette for her immeasurable service to the Sacramento community.

Before serving as Director of Government Relations for Sutter Health, Collette worked as District Director for my late husband, Congressman Robert T. Matsui, from 1991 to 1997. For seven years, she coordinated his official duties and worked diligently on his behalf for the people of Sacramento. As Director of Government Relations for Sutter Health, she has been instrumental in supporting Sutter's commitment to the Sacramento community. In recent years, Sutter has started a major expansion of their Women and Children's Center, as well as comprehensive renovations of Sutter General Hospital and the Sutter Cancer Center.

Collette has served on the Boards of Directors of numerous local non-profits that serve the people of Sacramento. This includes the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Valley Vision, the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission and Sutter's Sacramento Community Benefits Board. As part of Sutter's Sacramento Community Benefits Board, she helped identify and implement local community benefit activities through partnerships with government and non-profit agencies. Collette also served on the Board of Directors of the Midtown Business Association and as the Division Vice President of State and Municipal Legislation for the National Association of Realtors.

Madam Speaker, as Collette, her husband, Francis Schulke, family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate her retirement, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting this truly remarkable woman for her many years of service to the people of Sacramento.