

2012 Police Chief of the Year award from the Illinois State Crime Commission and for his thirty-five years of exceptional service to the citizens of Oak Lawn.

Chief Villanova first joined the Oak Lawn Police Department on March 22nd, 1977, and quickly earned the respect of officers and village officials alike with his caring, methodical, and unselfish work. In his first year alone, Chief Villanova made 7 felony arrests and 11 misdemeanor arrests, and issued 52 traffic and 74½ village ordinance citations. Continuing his record of excellence, Chief Villanova went on to earn several awards of distinction including the Police Club Officer of the Year in 1991 and the Cook County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Award of Merit in 1997.

In addition to his many achievements, Chief Villanova has also bravely served in times of great danger. In 1978, Chief Villanova negotiated with an estranged spouse to diffuse a hostage situation which resulted in the victim being released unharmed. Also, in 1980, Chief Villanova persuaded a suicidal subject to surrender. And in 2005, Chief Villanova successfully prevented an armed robbery of an Oak Lawn jewelry store. I speak not only for myself, but also the community, when I thank Chief Villanova for all of his hard work and dedication to the Village of Oak Lawn.

Chief Villanova has touched countless lives as a police officer, leader, and mentor. It is fitting that such an upstanding member of society should receive the high honor of Police Chief of the Year. This prestigious award is cause for celebration for Chief Villanova and his family, including his wife Linda, three children, and five grandchildren. Please join me in congratulating Police Chief William Villanova for his outstanding achievement and career of service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENDING TAX BREAKS FOR DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2012

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, while the Augusta National Golf Course is known as a premier golf course and for hosting the Master's tournament, the club is also known for its discriminatory policy of denying women membership. Yet Augusta is not the only 'boys club'—over 20 other clubs throughout the country prohibit women from joining.

In addition to these unfair and unjust policies, Augusta and other clubs around the country are benefitting from federal tax breaks that allow deductions of business-related entertainment, business meals, and business expenses associated with travel and meetings. The government currently indirectly subsidizes discrimination by allowing tax deductions when individuals and corporations do business at private clubs that discriminate. It is simply outrageous that taxpayers barred from joining these clubs are forced to pay for business expenses associated with them. This is why I am reintroducing the Ending Tax Breaks for Discrimination Act of 2012 so that clubs that discriminate will not be subsidized by the government. This legislation would deny all deductions for business expenses associated with

the use of a club that discriminates on the basis of sex, race, or color. Discriminatory clubs will have to state on their receipts that their expenditures are nondeductible.

It's time to end tax breaks for discrimination—plain and simple.

MRS. LOIS KELLY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. LOU BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Lois Kelly, one of the 2012 recipients of the Governor Robert P. Casey Medal for a Lifetime of Service. This award is presented annually by the Neighborhood Housing Services of Lackawanna County and given for a person's contributions to the region throughout the years. The Neighborhood Housing Services serves individuals and families through homeownership education and promotion, property rehabilitation and affordable lending.

After creating a legacy of community service in her own family, Mrs. Kelly worked with the Country Day Nursery School. The school has been serving the community for over 40 years. During this time, Mrs. Kelly provided guidance and encouragement to generations of children in northeastern Pennsylvania.

In addition, Mrs. Kelly was the first woman elected to the Dunmore Borough Council. She passionately advocated for community spirit and spent her career trying to encourage women to engage in the political process and community service.

Mr. Speaker, today, Mrs. Lois Kelly stands as an example of selflessness to her family and community in northeastern Pennsylvania. I commend her for years of dedicated service to our children, community, and country, and I wish her continued success in the future.

WISHING EUGENIA MUROS MALLIS OF SUMMIT A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Eugenia Muros Mallis who will celebrate her 100th birthday on May 2, 2012. Known as Jennie to her family and friends, Mrs. Mallis has been devoted to children's bilingual education in Summit, Illinois for many years.

Born in Slimnitsa, Greece on May 2, 1912, Mrs. Mallis immigrated to the United States in September of 1927. Becoming an American citizen on February 19, 1928, she immediately kindled a strong relationship with her neighborhood Greek-American community. She married her loving husband, Constantine J. Mallis, on April 22, 1934. After settling in the Chicago suburb of Bedford Park with her three daughters, Jennie's love of children led her to seek employment with the local area school district. As a teacher's aide in an English-as-a-second language program at Walsh Elementary School in Summit, Illinois, she helped chil-

dren translate their native languages into English. Mrs. Mallis worked with hundreds of immigrant students from countries such as Albania, Greece, and Yugoslavia to help them overcome a challenging educational barrier.

A devout Christian and active member in the Chicago-area Greek Orthodox community, Mrs. Mallis is one of the founders of the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Justice, Illinois. She is active in many fellowship and philanthropic organizations including the Brotherhood of the Grammos, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Philopticos, and the American Legion. She also enjoys classical music, reading, baking, and spending time with her three daughters and her granddaughter.

On behalf of the residents of the Third District of Illinois and the students who have benefited from her dedication, it is my honor to wish Eugenia "Jennie" Muros Mallis a happy and healthy 100th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR GABRIEL BERHANE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today joined by my colleague, Congressman JAMES MORAN, of Virginia's 8th District, to recognize Command Sergeant Major Gabriel Berhane for his 29 years of exemplary service to our nation in the United States Army and to congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary dedication to country and sacrifices exhibited by our men and women in uniform. CSM Berhane possesses each of these qualities in abundance.

Since enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1983, CSM Berhane has consistently excelled while honorably serving in every position in the Armor and Cavalry field from Dismounted Scout to Command Sergeant Major. Other than Sergeant Major of the Army, there is no higher rank; a soldier who attains the rank of Command Sergeant Major is the epitome of success and professionalism. And while it is impossible to detail each of the remarkable events in CSM Berhane's illustrious career, let us highlight some of his more recent achievements and actions that should serve as an inspiration to all Americans.

Between August 2000 and June 2002, CSM Berhane served as a Sergeants Major Course Instructor, in which he provided pivotal instruction and mentorship to more than 750 Senior Noncommissioned Officers. In this role, he provided invaluable insight into the management of the academy and implemented an in-depth Standard Operating Procedure that was a critical component of the accreditation of the academy and the continued professional development of our military leaders.

From June 2002 to March 2004 CSM Berhane served as Squadron Command Sergeant Major of the 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry

which consisted of more than 900 personnel assigned to four ground and three air troops. He ensured the overall readiness of more than 400 vehicles, helicopters, and equipment. While deployed, CSM Berhane led a task force of 1,241 personnel during Operation Iraqi Freedom without losing a single soldier. CSM Berhane was commended for establishing and enforcing standards of combat readiness, training, morale, and discipline for the unit during eight months of intense combat operations.

From March 2004 to January 2009, CSM Berhane served as Brigade Command Sergeant Major of the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division. He oversaw command and control, planning, training, maintenance, deployment and combat readiness of the Brigade, ensuring the overall readiness of more than 1,230 vehicles and managing the deployment of more than 3,800 personnel to Iraq as part of the surge initiative. While deployed during this time, CSM Berhane personally led more than 300 combat patrols and increased retention standards by 40%, earning the Commanding General's Top Brigade Retention Award for the Division.

Most recently, in 2009, CSM Berhane was assigned to USAG Fort Belvoir as the Garrison Command Sergeant Major, and he has skillfully assisted in the execution of one of the largest BRAC missions within the Department of Defense. He has provided direct leadership and management to a staff of 120 soldiers and 558 civilians to ensure the effective operations, installation management and base programs and services that provide support to 9,500 soldiers, 27,000 family members, 100,000 military retirees, and 50,000 DoD employees of 145 partner agencies. CSM Berhane has worked closely with Garrison Commanders to maintain and enhance the excellent relationships that exist between Fort Belvoir and local communities and governments that have been impacted by BRAC.

CSM Berhane is a highly decorated officer; his awards and decorations include: Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal (w/"V" Device); Bronze Star Medal (w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster); Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal (w/6 Oak Leaf Clusters); Army Achievement Medal (w/6 Oak Leaf Clusters); Good Conduct Medal (8th Award); National Defense Medal (w/Bronze Star); Iraqi Campaign Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Armed Forces Services Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon (w/Numeral Four); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Ribbon (w/Numeral Five); United Nations Medal; Presidential Unit Citation Medal; Joint Meritorious Unit Medal; Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal; Parachutist Badge; Drill Sergeant Badge and Combat Action Badge. CSM Berhane is a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club and also a recipient of the Order of Saint George.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in commending Command Sergeant Major Gabriel Berhane for his unwavering dedication to duty in peacetime and in combat. CSM Berhane's accomplishments and expertise have contributed immeasurably to our national defense and security, and he has earned the admiration, respect, and gratitude of all Americans. We also thank CSM Berhane's wife, Connie, and their children, Jasmin, Michael and Rashawn, for their support and sacrifices

over the years. We wish them a happy and healthy retirement filled with continued success.

ON THE BIRTH OF TALLON WILLIAM LENIHAN

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my Legislative Director, Brian Lenihan and his wife Keagan, on the birth of their son, Tallon William Lenihan. Tallon William was born at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, April 2, 2012, in Washington, DC.

Tallon William Lenihan is nine pounds and one ounce of pride and joy to his loving grandparents, Michael and Marilyn Lenihan of Seminole, Florida, and Barclay and Lorita Resler of McLean, Virginia.

I am so excited for this new blessing to the Lenihan family and wish them all the best on their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LITERARY COUNCIL OF NORTHERN VIR- GINIA'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Literary Council of Northern Virginia.

Founded in 1962, the LCNV is the oldest literacy program in the state and one of the largest literacy councils in the nation. Throughout its 50 years of service, the LCNV has adapted to the growing needs of the Northern Virginia community to serve adult learners at the lowest literacy level. By empowering approximately 1,600 adult learners to better participate in their communities, the LCNV is ensuring the economic success of hundreds of local families for a lifetime.

With the help of more than 1,000 volunteers, the LCNV has become one of the more efficient and effective community-based literacy organizations in the country. In FY2011, these trained volunteers provided more than 31,000 hours of service, which amounts to an average of 84 hours of volunteer service per day. Their longstanding partnerships with community organizations such as Crestwood Elementary School, Woodlawn Elementary School, and the Lorton Senior Center, ensure neighborhood ties that foster educational growth for the whole family.

Following an economic downturn, adult education becomes a low priority for many low-level literacy adults. Even in the face of this, the LCNV's programs saw improved retention and attendance rates. This last year, it also added a credentialed Special Education teacher to its staff to ensure a learner-focused education for any adult with learning differences.

Recognized for the second time as "One of the Best Small Charities in the Washington, D.C. Region" by the Catalogue for Philanthropy, the LCNV is continually lauded as a successful and valued partner in the commu-

nity. It has been acknowledged for its leadership in human rights and cultural diversity through numerous awards, including the Virginia State Reading Association's Annual Literacy Award, the Virginia Foundation's Award for Volunteering Excellence, and the Arlington Human Rights Commission's James B. Hunter Human Rights Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia. Its values of Integrity, Innovation, Respect, Collaboration, and Excellence have propelled it to success for the past 50 years and will continue to carry the Council through the next 50 years. I also want to express my gratitude to the LCNV staff, Board of Directors, and countless volunteers who dedicate their time and resources to empower neighbors of our community to develop basic skills of reading, writing, and speaking English.

HONORING GUARIONE DIAZ ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great south Floridian and a dear friend, Guarione Diaz, who after 34 years as President and CEO of the Cuban American National Council is retiring. He leaves behind an immense legacy of service. Fleeing Castro's tyrannical regime in 1961, Guarione left his native Cuba and immigrated to the United States. While working odd jobs, he graduated with a degree in sociology and philosophy from St. Francis College in New York. He later received his masters in social work from Columbia University. Guarione first worked for New York City's Department of Employment and the Community Development Agency, where he held numerous management positions. In 1972, Guarione was invited by Father Mario Vizcaino to join CNC. Initially named the Cuban National Planning Council, the Council was the first non-profit organization conducting research on the socio-economic needs of Cuban Americans in the United States. In less than a decade, the Council transformed itself to address the educational, housing, employment needs of all Hispanics.

I have had the privilege to have worked with CNC on numerous occasions. From pre-school programs to internships to employment services and low-income housing, CNC has helped prevent so many in our community from slipping through the cracks. It has been a tremendous asset and support system for so many in our south Florida community. Not only has CNC assisted those who have fallen on hard times, they have also nurtured the next generation of Hispanic leaders.

Even though his public persona has been as head of the Cuban American National Council, I consider Guarione a part of my extended family. Given that he has been friends with my dad for nearly 50 years, he has been a dear part of my life for as long as I can remember. His life has always been marked by a sense of responsibility towards those most vulnerable in our society. Guarione's entire professional career has been centered on this mission.