

one and there are countless examples of where his service has benefitted the entire state and nation. May Mack and his lovely wife, Olivia, enjoy a happy and rewarding retirement with their children and grandchildren.

IN RECOGNITION OF DIANE LILLY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated and courageous citizen from my district in Massachusetts. Diane Lilly, a resident of Duxbury, will be retiring as a Trooper First Class from the Massachusetts State Police after 26 years of exemplary service.

Diane was born on December 13, 1956 in Dorchester, Massachusetts. She graduated from Cardinal Cushing High School in South Boston in 1974 and the University of Massachusetts, Boston, in 1980. Six years later, she graduated from the State Police Academy and began her long career of service to the state. Her work did not slow her passion for education or justice, however, as she graduated from Westfield State College with a Masters in Criminal Justice in 1990.

Diane comes from an extraordinary family of civil servants and community leaders, so it is no wonder she has chosen such an admirable career path. Her father, Leonard, was a Boston Police Officer and retired as Chief Court Officer in Boston Municipal Court. Her sister, Janet, also went to work at that court for many years and her brother, Michael, has been a corrections officer at Suffolk County House of Correction. Two of her other brothers, Lenny and Brian, have both worked as police officers in Massachusetts, while her brother, Kevin, runs the heart and lung machines during open heart surgery at Cape Cod Hospital.

Between 1987 and 2001, Diane worked out of the Norfolk County State Police Office. During this time she was instrumental in the Salvi and Sampson case that put a dangerous and prolific criminal behind bars for more than 30 years. She then began working with the Plymouth County Homicide Unit, where she was able to play an important role in the Matthew Cody cold case and the Magnarelli murder case. Since 2005, she has been a member of the Diversion Investigative Unit working on prescription drug abuse cases.

Bay Staters are safer because Diane—and her colleagues—have had the courage to take on the most dangerous issues facing our community.

As Diane retires after such a commendable life of public service, she will be able to spend some much deserved down time with her three dogs, Dermott, Maggie and Josephine.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Diane Lilly on this remarkable occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her a great retirement and many years of happiness with her family and dogs and thank her for making Massachusetts a safer place.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF TWITCHELL TECHNICAL PRODUCTS

REP. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Twitchell Technical Products—a thriving business in Southeast Alabama.

Mr. E.W. Twitchell founded E.W. Twitchell, Inc. nine decades ago. First established in Unionville, Connecticut, the company later relocated in 1930 to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1945, the company came home to Dothan, Alabama, where its headquarters remain today. To date, Twitchell provides jobs that support nearly 300 families around Dothan. In our area, this company is a staple in the local economy and a cornerstone of the local community.

Mr. Speaker, without question, the number one issue that affects our nation and my home state of Alabama is the health of our economy and the ability to create new American jobs. I am especially aware of this fact from the many discussions I have had with small business owners and employers throughout the district. I was privileged to recently have such a discussion with representatives from Twitchell last month.

During a time when too many employers have been forced to shrink their workforce or even close their doors, I was encouraged to hear about Twitchell's achievements. Through innovation, Mr. Twitchell achieved success by changing and adapting to the needs of the market. Mr. Speaker, that is what the free market is all about. Free from government interference or unnecessary regulation, private companies adjust to the demands of the market and remain competitive. When that happens, both employees and consumers benefit.

For example, four decades ago the company acquired a local yarn extrusion venture that specialized in PVC coated yarns. The yarn weaves into a fabric used for everyday products, such as window shades, athletic goods, and outdoor furniture. The fabric continues to be Twitchell's best selling product, keeping the company in high-demand as it is one of only two manufacturers of PVC coated yarn and woven products in the U.S.

Here in Congress, we regularly discuss the many barriers that prevent job creation, such as costly federal regulations that stand in the way of private sector growth. My House colleagues and I are passing legislation to repeal these burdensome federal rules. We want to encourage small business owners who work hard to invest in their employees and their products, not discourage them. The House has passed nearly 30 pro-growth jobs-bills to reduce the mountain of federal regulations that limit an employer's ability to create jobs. We should never forget: government does not create jobs; the private sector creates jobs.

An economy built to succeed is an economy that is built on a foundation of small business entrepreneurship. Operating on the principles of persistence, innovations, and hard work, Twitchell is a model of American enterprise. It

is a privilege for me to stand here today to honor the legacy of Twitchell and to recognize the many dedicated employees who have made the company a success through the years. I congratulate Mr. Twitchell and his family for reaching this milestone, and look forward to the centennial celebration.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Twitchell on its 90th anniversary and in wishing the company many more decades of success.

A TRIBUTE TO DOCTOR JOHN BYRD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Dr. John Byrd as the President of Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

This month, President Byrd announced that he will be retiring at the conclusion of the upcoming 2012–2013 academic year as Simpson's 22nd president. Dr. Byrd has been involved with higher education in numerous ways for more than 30 years and has been Simpson's president since 2005. Over his long career, Dr. Byrd has acquired valuable experience in academic services, planning and strategic services, institutional research, student affairs, financial aid and enrollment management. Dr. Byrd originally received his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia, before earning his Ph.D. in health education from Southern Illinois University.

It goes without saying that President Byrd will certainly be missed on the Simpson campus. It was through Dr. Byrd's leadership that Simpson initiated a new strategic planning process to accompany new faculty initiatives. President Byrd's legacy will be felt for years to come through his work to increase diversity on campus as well as overseeing the college's plans for building renovation and construction. Dr. Byrd will leave Simpson next year with a completed Kent Campus Center, expanded Blank Performing Arts Center, updated Pfeiffer Dining Hall, as well as a new activities quad well under way.

Outside of Simpson, Dr. Byrd is known for his extensive involvement in the community, most notably the Indianola Rotary Club. Dr. Byrd also serves his community in his capacity as a member of the Village Advisory Council, Greater Des Moines Committee, as Secretary of the Board for the Iowa College Foundation Board of Governors, and as Chair of the Executive Committee for Iowa Campus Compact.

I want to thank President Byrd for his many years of service to the students and employees of Simpson College. It is an honor to represent all the great people of Indianola in the United States Congress, and I know that my colleagues in the House will join me in wishing Dr. Byrd, and his wife Nancy, happiness and good health as they enter this new chapter of their lives together.

IN RECOGNITION OF KELLY
KOLANDER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kelly Kolander, who has served Northern Calif. through the O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc. TLC for Kids Sports Program. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate these accomplishments, we ask all of our colleagues to join us in saluting this outstanding and giving Company and this businessman.

Kelly Kolander's journey began soon after graduating from The California State University in Fresno where he earned a BS in Heavy Civil Construction. It was there that he began his career in Heavy Construction, working part time and summers for a local firm while going to school. Upon graduation, he continued his career for a few short years in the Central Valley before coming to O.C. Jones as an Estimator in 1987. In O.C. Jones, he found a firm with an outstanding reputation with tremendous experience and top quality people. Today he sits as the President and CEO of O.C. Jones & Sons Inc where he's served since 2006.

While heading O.C. Jones in 2009 the Company searched for a way that they could further their community outreach and support during the difficult recession. The Company's background in Heavy Civil Construction as well as Stadiums and Sports Facilities led Kolander to create the TLC for Kids Sports Program. The TLC for Kids Sports Program allows youth sports leagues to compete for renovations on their subpar facilities that would otherwise go to ruin. It is designed to improve the Community and Youth Sports . . . One field at a Time.

TLC for Kids Sports' Contributions to the community prove to be a great asset in Northern California in the fight to keep sports programs alive and well. Mr. Kolander's work is pivotal in the fight against childhood obesity and diabetes. The newly renovated little fields they have refurbished thus far will surely motivate and keep children interested in America's great pastime.

Kelly Kolander and the TLC for Kids Sports Program have already renovated three baseball and softball facilities in Northern California since 2009. The Tahoe Tallac, Eastridge and Antioch Little Leagues have all benefited from the efforts and charity of the TLC for Kids Program. The Eastridge Little League now has a girls division thanks to the new fields and can now proudly say young boys and girls are part of their organization. Most recently the program renovated the fields for the Antioch Little League in my own 10th district in California. Additionally, TLC for Kids Sports is continuing its efforts in the Community by constructing an Outdoor Classroom Memorial at Las Lomas High School in Walnut Creek to commemorate students Matt Miller and Gavin Powell, who died in February 2011 in a rafting accident. There are also plans to renovate another series of fields and playground area in West Sacramento. Mr. Kolander's contribution to my district is greatly appreciated and does not go without recognition. O.C. Jones and its 'TLC for Kids Sports program' work in the 10th Dis-

trict and throughout the Bay Area can only help create a better tomorrow through a more healthy and motivated youth.

The long lasting benefits of Kelly Kolander's TLC for Kids Sports Program not only benefit children now but will create healthy and more motivated adults in the future; they stand as a testament to what diligent work and true commitment to community can produce.

Mr. Speaker, We are truly honored to pay tribute to our friend and dedicated program founder and president Kelly Kolander. We ask our colleagues to join with us in thanking Mr. Kolander and O.C. Jones and Sons, Inc., for their dedicated service to the citizens of Northern California and wishing continued success in all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE 1,000TH
GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE
U.S. BORDER PATROL ACADEMY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the 1,000th graduation ceremony of the U.S. Border Patrol Academy in Artesia, New Mexico, where members of this graduating class will be assigned to one of three Border Patrol sectors: Tucson, Arizona, Del Rio or in my Congressional district in Laredo, Texas.

As an active member of the Committee on Homeland Security in the U.S. House of Representatives, I understand the vital role that Border Patrol plays in securing our country, while facilitating trade and travel responsibilities and enforcing drug laws to protect our nation. Border patrol is a critical component for my Congressional district that sits along the nation's southwest border, as well. Their national presence along the border is necessary to ensure Americans' safety, protect our homeland and serve our nation and is greatly appreciated. The men and women of the Border Patrol make up the largest law enforcement organization; therefore this 1,000th graduating class is a milestone for the agency and enables the organization to foster increased security, trade and travel at the border.

Every day, the Border Patrol processes over 932,000 passengers and pedestrians and over 64,000 truck, rail and sea containers, based on fiscal year 2011 data. Nearly 14,000 pounds of drugs are seized on a typical day showing the product of their vigilance to law enforcement and protection. The intricate composition of the organization includes a range of professionals such as, trade specialists, intelligence analysts, agricultural scientists and more to run an efficient system. With 21,063 CBP officers, 21,137 border patrol agents and 1,220 air and marine agents, their service is unified to their sole mission—"securing America's borders while facilitating legitimate travel and trade" as their slogan states.

The graduation ceremony was held on April 12th and included the Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, Acting Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection, David V. Aguilar, and Chief of the United States Border Patrol, Michael J. Fisher.

I look forward to members of this graduating class being assigned to the three sectors, in-

cluding Laredo, Texas in my Congressional district. Congratulations and thank you for your vital work to secure the homeland.

SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE ACT OF
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4089) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing and shooting:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4089, the Sportsmen's Heritage Act. This bill is the latest attempt by House Republicans to use America's natural treasures for the benefit of a handful of private corporations who are eager to mine, drill and log.

Protecting and increasing hunters' access to public lands has been a bipartisan issue for decades, and is something I support. As a result, America's hunters have incredible access to our Federal lands. Today, 75 percent of all Federal lands are open to hunting and fishing. This includes approximately 67 percent of National Wildlife Refuge land and 70 percent of all the land managed by the National Park Service. The Bureau of Land Management allows hunting on 95 percent of the acres it manages. In Minnesota, we are fortunate to have large areas of public land open to hunting, including the Superior National Forest.

In the United States, hunting access on public lands is not a crisis requiring legislation; it is a success story that deserves to be celebrated. H.R. 4089 abandons and reverses this legacy. This bill changes Federal laws to prioritize development over conservation and put corporate interests ahead of hunters.

H.R. 4089 reduces the decision-making power of Park Rangers and other local land managers by centralizing authority in Washington, thousands of miles away. These highly trained professionals must be allowed to do their jobs, keeping land open to the public while protecting areas from disasters such as forest fires.

H.R. 4089 would encourage the destruction of millions of acres of wildlife habitat. Every hunter knows that less habitat leads to less wildlife, which means less hunting. It is obvious that the beneficiaries of H.R. 4089 would not be America's sportsmen and women but instead, the owners of large oil, gas and mining corporations.

This legislation repeals important provisions in the Wilderness Act that would open millions of acres of public land to development. H.R. 4089 allows the construction of new permanent road networks and authorizes permits for logging, mining and drilling in designated Wilderness areas.

As a strong supporter of conservation on America's public lands and our country's proud hunting heritage, I urge my colleagues to stand up for hunters and oppose H.R. 4089.