

decades, and she previously served as General Manager for IBM's Public Sector with responsibilities for global government, state and local agencies, as well as education and health care.

Ms. Altman is a recipient of the prestigious Eagle Award, one of the highest honors issued to technology partners serving the Federal market. In addition, her many other accolades in the IT sector include: Federal Computer Week's Top Federal 100, Washingtonian Magazine Top Tech Titans, Washington's 100 Most Powerful Women, the AFFIRM Leadership Award for Industry, the CIO Council's Azimuth Award for the Industry Executive of the Year, and a Lifetime Achievement Heroines award from the March of Dimes and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association.

She is a recognized authority on federal IT matters and has testified on behalf of IBM before congressional committees on a range of topics including national security, technology in the military and intelligence communities, "smarter" government, intelligent transportation, cloud computing, business analytics software, and the role of innovation to drive economic growth and government R&D. Her work has been featured in leading industry and national news publications, including The Washington Post, Associated Press, Federal Computer Week, Business Week, The New York Times, Washington Technology, Government Computer News, InformationWeek, among others. Ms. Altman also has contributed to key government-related review boards for organizations such as the National Academy of Public Administration, the National Science Academy and the Private Sector Council.

Ms. Altman also has established a strong record of community engagement, serving on the executive committees of the Northern Virginia Technology Council, National Symphony Orchestra, and National Kidney Foundation. She also serves on the executive council for the Dean of George Mason University's School of Management.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Anne Altman as the IES&BD's 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient and for her many contributions to the federal IT procurement field and our community.

KATIA MERAZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katia Meraz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Katia Meraz is a 9th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Katia Meraz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katia Meraz for winning the Arvada Wheat

Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF DEADLY TORNADOS IN NORTH CAROLINA

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the lives of those we lost in the largest tornado outbreak in the history of North Carolina. April 16th marks two years since those devastating natural disasters took 24 precious lives in my state and injured 133 others. Today is also for applauding the rebuilding efforts of the communities that were affected and the courageous storm survivors.

According to the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, 28 tornadoes swept across central and eastern North Carolina due to tornadoes that were part of the same thunderstorm system. Then-Governor Beverly Perdue declared a state of emergency due to the more than \$20 million in damages sustained across 30 counties. This destructive force of nature ravaged thousands of homes and businesses and truly tested the strength of North Carolinians.

The worse-hit county in the state, Bertie, located in the First Congressional District and home to 21,000 people accounted for 10 deaths and 50 people who were seriously injured.

I applaud the heroism of those who risked their lives to help others find safety during the height of the storm. During tough times Americans have always banded together to assist one another. It is this patriotic spirit that we must always remember during times of peace as well. Whether natural disasters or acts of terrorism we must remember that what makes us strong as a nation is that above all else we are Americans, no matter our race, ethnicity, religion or political affiliation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the lives of the victims and the communities impacted in my district by this powerful storm. Let us never forget the communities that experienced the loss of loved ones and may we continue to support the rebuilding efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY ICE HOCKEY TEAM

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary accomplishment of the Western Washington University Vikings Ice Hockey team, which defended their national title at the National Association of Intercollegiate Hockey Championship on March 17.

Under the leadership of Head Coach John Dougan, the Vikings had a regular season

record of 23 wins, four ties, four losses and a four-and-one record in the tournament. Western showed great heart and perseverance. After losing the first game of the tournament, they fought their way to the national championship.

Led by the strong play of Western goalie and the tournament's most valuable player Tyler Zetting, the Vikings concluded the tournament and defense of their national title with a two-to-one overtime win against top-ranked Le Moyne College.

We are proud of this team in Bellingham and across Northwest Washington and we look forward to their future successes on and off the rink.

KLARISSA VICK

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Klarissa Vick for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Klarissa Vick is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Klarissa Vick is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Klarissa Vick for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF OAKTON-VIENNA

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the volunteers of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna and to thank them for their many contributions to the Northern Virginia community. Organized in 1997, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna 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.

The center works to support older residents who want to age in place in their homes and to engage them in social activities. Every year, approximately 200 volunteers for the Shepherd's Center serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness counselors, fundraisers, and grant writers. These volunteers run programs such as Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and caregivers' support groups. Services are

available free of charge to anyone age 50 or older who resides in the local community.

The Shepherd's Center has also been recognized as "One of the Best" 2012–13 by the Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington and the 2012 Nonprofit of the Year award from the Vienna-Tyson's Regional Chamber of Commerce. The services and programs offered by this extraordinary organization help to ensure that our seniors stay connected to the community through promotion of active lifestyles, ongoing social integration, and availability of resources for older residents to use their experience, training, and skills in significant roles in society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Shepherd Center of Oakton-Vienna for the services which 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 deserving of our highest praise.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ARMINE G.  
HACOPIAN

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District.

Today, I rise to commend Dr. Armine G. Hacopian of Glendale, California, whose tire-

less efforts have benefited her community and beyond. Dr. Hacopian moved to the United States at the age of sixteen. It was evident that she was committed to receiving a higher education, and keeping the promise she made to her ailing father, an Armenian Genocide survivor, who did not have the opportunity to receive a formal education. Her father continuously reminded his children, including Armine, about the importance of learning, and Armine attended Alhambra High School, went on to receive a B.A. in Art Education, two M.A.s in Art Education and Supervision and Administrative Services from Cal State University, Los Angeles, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

Armine's unparalleled commitment to education has benefited many. In 2001, Armine was elected to the Glendale Community College Board of Trustees, where she is currently serving as the Board President. Through her hard work, dedication, and support of her co-trustees, the Glendale Community College–Garfield Campus construction plan received an additional two million dollars in funding. In addition, she was instrumental in helping pass a \$98 million dollar bond measure for capital improvements at Glendale Community College.

For the past two decades, Armine has assisted many girls and women who have been victims of rape and domestic abuse with finding safe homes. Many of these women eventually landed on the path of a successful career, and to this very day, keep in touch with Armine to inform her of their new accomplishments.

Armine has also served as department chair, counselor, teacher and as coordinator of the Even Start Family Literacy program, through which she was able to work closely with Head Start and provide parenting classes. She was also an ESL, English as a Second

Language, specialist, where she helped teachers improve their skills as they worked with students whose primary language was not English. Armine is also a consultant in the areas of sexual harassment prevention, career transitions and communication and conflict management.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Dr. Armine G. Hacopian, for her exceptional service to the community.

JOHNNY WIGHTMAN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Johnny Wightman for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Johnny Wightman is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Johnny Wightman is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Johnny Wightman for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.