

to Peace Prize from the Shinnyo-en Foundation, White House recognition, and being one of six academic leaders tapped by President Obama to create the national Advanced Manufacturing Partnership. His plan to remain at UC Berkeley to teach and conduct research is certainly welcome news. Chancellor Birgeneau's wise guidance, influence, and example has set the course for UC Berkeley's continued status as one of the world's most celebrated public institutions.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Dr. Robert J. Birgeneau, I salute you for your outstanding service to higher education. I congratulate and thank you for your unparalleled legacy as a passionate and effective steward of the University of California, Berkeley. You have touched many lives in profound ways throughout your career, and we wish you and your loved ones continued success and happiness in this new chapter.

PEGGY HALDERMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and applaud Peggy Halderman for receiving national recognition for her efforts to feed the hungry in Golden, Colorado.

April 5, 2013 the White House honored twelve Rotary International members from around the country as "Champions of Change." I am proud to say Peggy Halderman is one of the Rotarians to receive this honor.

When Peggy learned over more than nine hundred children participated in the Free/Reduced Lunch program in Golden area schools and did not have adequate food on weekends, she decided to do something. Collaborating with her Rotary club, the mayor and city council the Backpack program was born. In its fifth year it has grown to feed over five hundred and twenty children every weekend of the school year. Peggy is currently expanding the program to provide food year round.

Peggy Halderman truly exemplifies the Rotary Club Motto of "Service above Self." Her outstanding dedication to our community's children will pay benefits to our citizens for years to come.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Peggy Halderman for this well deserved recognition from the White House. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO LINDSEY GIBBS—  
TEAMSTERS LOCAL 830 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute today for Lindsey Gibbs, a 2013 award recipient of the Teamsters Local 830 Scholarship Fund. Over the past 37 years, this important fund has awarded scholarships totaling over \$2.7 million to talented young adults

throughout our community. Because of the hard work of the members of Teamsters Local 830 and the employers of these members, students like Lindsey are able to make higher education possible.

Lindsey's father, Christopher Gibbs, works in the Operations Department of PBC in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I greatly admire Lindsey's hard work at Little Flower High School and her aspirations to study health administration and pre-law. With her work ethic, I am sure Lindsey will achieve her dream of one day becoming a lawyer.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring Lindsey Gibbs for her commitment to her community and studies that enabled her to become a 2013 award recipient of the Teamsters Local 830 Scholarship Fund.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. LINDA T. SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, 98 years ago, the world suffered its first deliberate act of systematic mass murder of people of one culture by another. With this, the unspeakable horror of genocide was born.

The massacre and mistreatment of one and-a-half million Armenians in the final years of the Ottoman Empire shows the incredible depths of inhumanity that the human race can sink.

Out of this wretched episode of history, we, as human beings, have made a determined effort to move beyond hatred and to prevent similar tragedies from happening in the future.

We are morally obligated to learn from the lapses of the human soul that caused the Armenian Genocide. We are morally obligated to make sure that we do all that we can to protect all oppressed, vulnerable, and subjugated peoples.

I want to express my sympathy to the survivors and descendants of the Armenian Genocide. I hope we can all take time to reflect on this solemn day of remembrance.

As we commemorate this somber anniversary, it's also important that we recognize the resiliency of the Armenian people. Armenia has been a great champion of freedom and democracy. I expect our two nations will continue to build strong commercial ties and support peace and stability in the region.

I am proud to consistently co-sponsor resolutions affirming the U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide. Our policy should appropriately reflect understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to the Armenian Genocide. This should be documented in the United States record.

RECOGNIZING BROTHER RONALD  
GALLAGHER

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise

today to recognize Brother Ronald Gallagher, *Fratres Scholarum Christianarum* (F.S.C.), Ph.D., as he prepares to retire as President of St. Mary's College of California in Moraga and to commend him for his outstanding service to the St. Mary's students, faculty and to our community as a whole.

A Native Californian, Brother Ronald Gallagher spent his formative years in Santa Cruz and Bakersfield, and then joined the Christian Brothers after graduating from Mont La Salle High School in Napa. After graduating from Saint Mary's College in 1969 with a Bachelor of Arts in English, Brother Ronald received an Master of Arts in comparative literature from San Francisco State University and earned his doctorate in comparative literature from the University of Washington.

Prior to assuming the college presidency, Brother Ronald was a member of the English Department. His teaching specialties include 19th and 20th Century Anglo-Irish Literature, the modern novel, and the history and culture of Ireland. His passion for Irish literature began when he read James Joyce's "Ulysses" during his senior year at Saint Mary's. In recent years, he has led several groups of students on tours of the historical and cultural sites of Ireland.

From 1993 to 1997, Brother Ronald was Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University, where he oversaw administration, development, finance and academics. As the leader of a Catholic university in the deeply divided Middle East, he responded to formidable challenges by forging strong regional and global support for the school. Enlisting the help of many countries, individuals, groups, international aid agencies and the Vatican, Brother Ronald was able to raise the funds necessary for Bethlehem University to fulfill its educational mission among the economically disadvantaged Palestinian community.

In his role as Secretary General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Rome from 1997 to 2001, Brother Ronald organized the 43rd General Chapter, an international assembly that produced a seven-year global strategic plan for Lasallian educators.

Brother Ronald Gallagher, F.S.C., Ph.D., became the 28th President of Saint Mary's College of California on Jan. 2, 2005. A seasoned educator, he is deeply devoted to the College's Catholic, Lasallian and liberal arts traditions and is committed to promoting the values of those traditions among students, faculty, staff and friends of Saint Mary's.

In addition to leading St. Mary's College, Brother Ronald has served as President of the International Association of Lasallian Universities, as a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Independent Catholic Colleges and Universities (AICCU), a member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU), on the Executive Board of Directors of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), and he is the Chair of the West Coast Conference (WCC) President's Council. Throughout his career, Brother Ronald has also been a strong supporter of intercollegiate and recreational athletics at Saint Mary's College.

Mr. Speaker, I invite this chamber to join me in recognizing Brother Ronald for his devoted service to Saint Mary's College of California and thank him for his unparalleled contribution to higher education. I am pleased to join

Brother Ronald's family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him on his outstanding accomplishments during his long and highly successful career. I wish him a healthy and happy retirement and the very best in all his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATION OF THE DESIGNATION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/ESTUARY AS A WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Leader PELOSI and Representatives ESHOO, GARAMENDI, HONDA, HUFFMAN, LEE, MCNERNEY, GEORGE MILLER, SPEIER, and SWALWELL to commemorate the designation of the San Francisco Bay/Estuary as a Wetland of International Importance on February 2, 2013 by the Convention on Wetlands, also known as the "Ramsar Convention".

The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty adopted in 1971 and signed by the United States in 1987. This treaty provides a voluntary framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, their resources, biodiversity, and ecosystem services. Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance benefit from increased conservation status and recognition, and are part of an international conservation network that encompasses flyways and other migratory routes.

The San Francisco Bay/Estuary is the largest estuary on the Pacific Coast of the United States, encompassing approximately 1,600 square miles and is critically ecologically important, accounting for 77 percent of California's remaining perennial estuarine wetlands. It also provides for a host of social and economic values through ports and industry, agriculture, fisheries, archeological and cultural sites, recreation, and research. Unfortunately, the San Francisco Bay/Estuary today faces numerous threats and challenges from invasive species, development, pollution, sediment shortfalls, disease, disturbance to wildlife, and climate change.

The San Francisco Bay/Estuary has broad support for its conservation and restoration from a large number of federal, state, public, private organizations, and citizens who act to conserve its values. Their conservation efforts continue to pioneer strategies that are modeled, adapted, and adopted by others across the nation and beyond.

The San Francisco Bay/Estuary met or exceeded all nine Ramsar criteria on multiple counts, which refer to biodiversity measures and the presence of rare or unique wetland types, and has undoubtedly earned the global distinction of a dedicated Ramsar Wetland of International Importance:

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in commemorating the designation of the San Francisco Bay/Estuary as an official Ramsar Wetland of International Importance, pay tribute to the dedicated stewards and activists who have worked to preserve this unique ecosystem, and support critical efforts

to ensure the health and protection of the San Francisco Bay/Estuary.

DAVID MYERS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud David Myers for being honored by the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for his outstanding service to our community.

David is President and CEO of Metro Community Provider Network. MCPN is a non-profit healthcare organization providing medical, dental, mental health, substance abuse, pharmacy and community based services to the underserved, uninsured and working families who cannot afford these services. Under David's leadership in fiscal year 2012, MCPN provided healthcare services to nearly 39,000 individuals.

David's dedication to healthcare for all is evident by his pivotal role in health insurance reform. He was one of the on the ground drivers, paving the roads ahead for the health care community. David navigates the complex issues surrounding healthcare with his dedication to partnerships and collaborations. The patients at Metro Community Provider Network are recipients of the fruits of his labor of love every day.

I am honored to congratulate David Myers on receiving this recognition from the Jefferson Center for Mental Health. I have no doubt David will exhibit the same dedication, passion and vision to all his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO GABRIELLE BAMBERSKI—TEAMSTERS LOCAL 830 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute today for Gabrielle Bamberski, a 2013 award recipient of the Teamsters Local 830 Scholarship Fund. Over the past 37 years, this important fund has awarded scholarships totaling over \$2.7 million dollars to talented young adults throughout our community. Because of the hard work of the members of Teamsters Local 830 and the employers of these members, students like Gabrielle are able to make higher education possible.

Gabrielle's father, Joseph Bamberski, works in the Delivery Department of Canada Dry. I greatly admire Gabrielle's hard work at Archbishop Ryan High School and her aspirations to study forensic psychology. With her work ethic, I am sure Gabrielle will be successful in whatever career she chooses.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring Gabrielle Bamberski and her commitment to her community and studies that enabled her to become a 2013 award recipient of the Teamsters Local 830 Scholarship Fund.

HONORING LAUREL SAYER, OF IDAHO, FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF IDAHO

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Laurel Sayer, a member of my staff and one of the finest public servants I have ever met. While I am happy for Laurel that her long career as a Congressional staffer has culminated with her well-earned retirement from this body, I am equally concerned by the hole her absence will leave in my office and the challenge my remaining staff faces in filling the void.

Laurel began her service in my office not long after my election to Congress in 1998. She had served with then-Congressman Mike Crapo for several years and I consider my successful effort to lure her away from his office one of my earliest, and finest, achievements.

For the last 14 years, Laurel has been the anchor of my staff in eastern Idaho where she led my outreach efforts regarding natural resources, arts, and conservation issues. She was also my lead staffer on issues related to the Idaho National Laboratory and its talented workforce. Her compassion, insight, knowledge, and reliability were often critical to my constituents dealing with the peaks and valleys of the federal government's support for nuclear energy and the work of the laboratory.

In a district that spans almost two dozen counties and roughly half of the State of Idaho, you spend a lot of time driving back roads, visiting small communities, talking politics in farmer's fields, and marveling at the stunning geography of the American West. Laurel has always been the best traveling companion a Congressman could ask for on those long trips across the state.

We've been backpacking and fishing in the Boulder-White Colds. We've worked together to open a wheel-chair accessible trail in central Idaho and to assist Custer County in their economic development needs.

Laurel is a great advocate for the arts, and will remain so in her life after Congress. A few years ago we visited Idaho's rural communities with National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Rocco Landesman and watched Idaho's Shakespeare Festival share its talents with schoolchildren. Laurel and I have spent many hours in book stores large and small and have been in perpetual pursuit of the best chicken fried steak in Idaho. And we think we found it in Salmon, Idaho.

Laurel and I have shared a lot of laughs, many successes, a few failures, and a tremendous friendship over the past 14 years. Laurel has been loyal, fair, honest, and dependable. She has provided wise counsel, constructive criticism, and the not-so-subtle nudges those of us who work in this body need from time-to-time. She has been a fierce advocate for my priorities but the source of measured advice when things didn't go our way. In short, she has been a valued adviser, supporter, and friend for as long as I have been in Congress. What more could any of us ask of our staff?

Laurel's presence in the office and in the communities of eastern Idaho will be deeply