

Deputies who give back to the Greater Springfield area by providing service to the community outside their normal duties. In addition to the immeasurable contributions made every day in the line of duty, these men and women have distinguished themselves through their extraordinary efforts in the community, which largely go unseen. They willingly volunteer their personal time, energies, and support to activities for the betterment of our children, our neighborhoods, and our quality of life.

It is my honor to enter the names of the following individuals into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Master Deputy Sheriff Rodney Harrison has served the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office for 26 years. Through his church, MDS Harrison makes an annual trip to Africa for the purpose of ministering and donating educational materials and clothing. In addition, twice a year the Sheriff's Office provides security for a portion of the will of President George Washington between Mount Vernon and the Circuit Court. MDS Harrison willingly participates and uses this opportunity to educate others on the history of the will and how to safely transport this important historic document.

Officer Long Dinh, Jr., endured traumatic head injuries when responding to a call on duty in 2013. However, these injuries did not deter him from continuing to serve his community. He has applied his language abilities to the Habitat for Humanity Restore program by creating tutorials and helping to train volunteers. His tremendous contributions to the program have been recognized by the Director of the James Lee Senior Center. In March of 2014 Officer Dinh returned to the police force.

Auxiliary Police Officer Thomas Oliver has volunteered his services since 1999. In addition to his regular duties, APO Oliver participated in over 70 community events for vehicle or crime prevention displays in 2013. He has assisted in "Operation Hands-On," which is a new process developed to obtain information on cases previously closed. He helped follow up on these cases and has educated members of our community on how to keep themselves secure.

Officer Paul F. Stracke has just completed his second year with the police force. He began his service at age 18 when he attended the Fairfax County Volunteer Fire Academy and obtained an Emergency Medical Technician certification. Apart from his police duties, he continues to work 60 hours every quarter at Fire Station #14 to maintain his firefighter status. Officer Stracke was nominated in 2013 for a lifesaving award and received the Volunteer Firefighter of the Year Award in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking each of the brave men and women who go above and beyond the call of duty to serve our community. They are part of the bravest and the finest who collectively ensure that Fairfax County remains one of the nation's safest communities in which to live, work, and raise a family. Moreover, the volunteer service exhibited by these honorees is one of the hallmarks of what has made Fairfax the thriving community it is today, and because of their efforts, that tradition will carry on for future generations.

IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the holiday of Juneteenth, or as it is also known Juneteenth Independence Day, Freedom Day, and Emancipation Day. Juneteenth commemorates a huge step toward the emancipation of African American slaves in Texas from the morally abhorrent institution of American slavery.

On June 19, 1865, after the Union's victory in the Civil War, Major General Gordon Granger arrived with Union troops on the island of Galveston, Texas. The celebration of Juneteenth recognizes that day, when Major General Granger publicly read "General Order No. 3," ostensibly freeing Texas slaves. Granger said, "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer." The order ostensibly freed 250,000 slaves in the former Confederate state of Texas, more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

"General Order No. 3" was another marker on our nation's long road toward the full realization of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all our fellow citizens. We are still traveling down that road but because of the extraordinary courage and compassion of some of our greatest citizens, we have come further than many ever imagined.

We traveled further down that road when in 1979, my friend, Texas State Representative Al Edwards introduced the bill that officially made Juneteenth a state holiday in Texas. In 1996, the House of Representatives and the Senate officially recognized June 19th as "Juneteenth Independence Day." As of today, 43 states observe Juneteenth.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's emasculation in the U.S. On this Juneteenth, I encourage all my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the historical significance of this holiday, which celebrates a huge step toward the extension of the American Dream to African Americans and encourages multicultural respect for all.

RECOGNIZING ACTION IN COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS ADVOCACY SERVICE ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the staff and volunteers for Action in Community Through Service Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service (ACTS SAVAS) as

they celebrate 30 years of assistance and advocacy on behalf of survivors of sexual assault in Prince William County, Virginia.

There are more than 235,000 sexual assaults every year in the United States. That is one assault every two minutes. Forty-four percent of survivors are under the age of eighteen, and eighty percent of survivors are under the age of thirty. Sixty percent of sexual assaults are not reported and ninety-seven percent of attackers will never spend a day in jail. These are staggering statistics, and they illustrate the challenges faced by ACTS SAVAS. There are few safe havens for these survivors. ACTS SAVAS provides survivors with a safe, secure place to go and receive counseling from experts who can assist with the healing and recovery process.

SAVAS was first established in 1983, and in 2012, it joined Action in Community Through Service. ACTS SAVAS is the only center of its kind serving the Greater Prince William community. The staff and volunteers are dedicated to empowering survivors of sexual assault and their loved ones with the resources necessary to heal and move forward, while working towards ending all forms of sexual assault and combating human trafficking. ACTS SAVAS has provided assistance to more than 15,000 individuals in the areas of crisis intervention, a 24-hour hotline, court companions for victims, adolescent and adult support groups, and community education and outreach.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the staff and volunteers of ACTS SAVAS for their many contributions during 30 years of service to the Greater Prince William community. ACTS SAVAS engages an issue that threatens to undermine safety and trust in our community. For providing survivors of sexual assault with the resources they need to recover, ACTS SAVAS is certainly a vital service and is deserving of our highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO THE TAIWAN FELLOWSHIP

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Taiwan Fellowship, a highly prestigious scholarship which allows American experts and scholars to conduct advanced research at universities or academic institutions in Taiwan. Established and funded by Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fellowships provide for tuition, financial assistance and a monthly stipend.

In the past 4 years, 346 scholars from 57 countries around the world have been awarded Fellowships. Recipients include professors, doctoral candidates, and post-doctoral researchers interested in Taiwan, cross-strait relations, mainland China, the Asia-Pacific region and Chinese studies. The fellowship terms are as short as three months and can be as long as a year. In terms of resources devoted to awardees, the Fellowship is on par with the Fulbright Program and the Rhodes scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, this scholarship serves as an important conduit for educational and cultural exchange between the United States and Taiwan. This is the 35th Anniversary of enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, the measure that crafted the modern, successful and

beneficial US-Taiwan partnership. It's important that we continue to build our alliance on a mutual commitment to the rule of law, free and fair elections, and free enterprise. It is in that spirit that the Taiwan government offers the Taiwan Fellowship to students: so that our friendship and mutual understanding will continue into future generations.

COMMENDING THE EFFORTS OF
"DO MORE 24—ONE DAY. OUR
COMMUNITY."

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the tremendous efforts of "Do More 24—One Day. Our Community." Today, June 19th, thousands of residents from across the National Capital Region will help make a positive, lasting contribution to those in our community in need of assistance through the region's largest philanthropic giving day: Do More 24.

For 24 hours only, residents will go to domore24.org and choose an organization or cause closest to their hearts to support. They will be able to contribute to one or more of the 550 participating nonprofits serving our neighbors in Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia, and suburban Maryland by providing food, shelter, education, and access to medical care, affordable housing, and other essential services.

Launched by United Way of the National Capital Area last year, the Do More 24 campaign helps nonprofits raise money during the difficult summer months, when many nonprofits see a drop off in donations that creates gaps in their budgets. Last year, 11,000 donors contributed \$1.3 million during the Do More 24 blitz. Their generosity allowed our regional nonprofits to serve more people, expand their programs, and buy necessary equipment.

For example, Martha's Table, which has been providing food to families for 35 years, plans to use this year's Do More 24 donations to expand its "Summer Food Fund" to provide breakfast and lunch for children who would normally receive those meals through school. Hunger doesn't take a summer break, and neither will Martha's Table.

Joseph's House, another nonprofit, provides nursing and support services to homeless men and women struggling with AIDS and cancer. Its mission is to "nurture the living and accompany the dying." Thanks to last year's donations, Joseph's House was able to purchase a desperately needed new van and cover food costs that had exceeded its budget.

Mr. Speaker, Do More 24 encourages us to imagine a community where every man, woman, and child is healthy, fed, educated, and employed. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the United Way of the National Capital Area for this initiative and in thanking the thousands of residents who participate. I encourage us all to consider how we can "Do More" for our local community on June 19th.

AZERBAIJAN'S REPUBLIC DAY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan on its commemoration of Republic Day, a remembrance of an extremely important event in Azerbaijani history. When the Russian Empire collapsed in 1917, it brought chaos to the region. On May 28, 1918, the Muslim National Council adopted a Declaration of Independence, and established an independent Azerbaijan Democratic Republic in the southern and south-eastern Caucasus.

Along with the establishment of this Democratic Republic, Azerbaijan adopted several laws, the most famous among these was the establishment of the right to vote for women, a full year before it was adopted in the United States. Azerbaijanis also received the rights to assembly, speech, and religion.

This new and leading democracy flourished until it was crushed by a military attack of the Soviet Union in April 1920, and all government institutions of Azerbaijan were abolished. Sadly, it took another 71 years of Russian repression until Azerbaijan could, once again, establish an independent Democracy.

Today, we remember the courage and foresight of this independent Democratic Republic and we wish them well for the future.

RECOGNIZING PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE RECRUIT CLASS 2014-01

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the most recent graduates of the Prince William County Public Safety Academy. As they join the ranks of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, these men and women are entering a proud profession with a rich history.

Securing a position as a first responder begins with a competitive application process. Recruits must then complete a rigorous and comprehensive 23 week training program before graduating as a Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue Technician I.

A Technician I is trained in emergency medical services, fire prevention and countless other public safety measures. The certifications required to reach the status of a Technician I cannot be accomplished without dedication and hard work. The graduates have completed the requisite coursework for certification in CPR, Infection Control, CISM, EMT-B, Firefighter I, Firefighter II, EVOC 2, EVOC 3, Flashover Simulation, RIT, Mayday, Hazmat Awareness/Operations, Swift Water Rescue Awareness, LPG with Simulation, Rural Water Supply, BLS Protocols, Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle Rescue Awareness and Child Passenger Safety Seat Installation. Each graduate has completed more than 600 hours of training and education.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the Prince Wil-

liam County Department of Fire and Rescue Recruit Class 2014-01:

Joel Bernardo, Ryan Beuttenmuller, Peter Francisco, Brendan Galvan, Andrew Mullinax, Daryl Palumbo, Lauren Pinkston, Rachel Reardon, Craig Walton, Jordan Wiley, and Travis Zimmerman.

There are many reasons that firefighters and first responders are known as America's Heroes. These brave men and women regularly put the lives and well-being of those they serve ahead of their own. I am confident that this newest group of graduates will serve the citizens of Prince William County with distinction and honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. I want to thank them for making this commitment to public service in our community, and, in the tradition of their new firefighting family, I say, Stay Safe.

CONGRATULATING FORT LAUDERDALE AS AN ALL-AMERICAN CITY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fort Lauderdale for being one of only 10 communities nationwide selected as an All-America City.

Established in 1949 by the National Civic League, the All-America City Award recognizes cities and towns across the country for exemplary community-based problem solving and civic engagement efforts that involve public, private, and non-profit entities.

I would like to congratulate Mayor Seiler and his staff, Fort Lauderdale's residents, and all its community and business leaders on this accomplishment.

Together, you're helping make Fort Lauderdale an outstanding place to live, work, visit, and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY AND HONOREES OF THE VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Virginia Chapter of the Global Organization of the People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) on the occasion of its 5th Anniversary and to recognize this year's honorees.

GOPIO was founded at the First Global Convention of People of Indian Origin in New York in 1989. The initial purpose of GOPIO was fighting human rights violations of people of Indian origin. While we have seen improvements over the years, human rights violations continue to be a major issue for people of Indian origin living outside India. In 2001, GOPIO was accredited by the U.N. as an NGO to participate in the World Conference