

named Superintendent in 2012. Mrs. Luciano is the first Latina superintendent in the Florida public school system.

As Superintendent, Mrs. Luciano provides leadership for the district and school administration, as well as facilitates continuous improvement, educational accountability, and community support through partnerships with stakeholders. She works collaboratively with students, parents, faculty and staff, administrators, community residents, and School Board Members to annually develop an annual strategic plan focused on the district's vision for student success.

In June 2014, the Florida Department of Education recognized the Osceola School District as one of only five Florida counties to improve in all seven assessment areas in reading, mathematics, and science.

Mrs. Luciano has a strong sense of leadership, an unrivaled sense of professionalism, and a passion for community involvement and collaboration. In March 2013, she was awarded the National Association for Bilingual Education's Citizen Award.

I am happy to recognize Melba Luciano, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her passion for education and commitment to improving the Central Florida community.

**HONORING JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE'S TUTORING AND LEARNING CENTER**

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the ribbon cutting of Joliet Junior College's Tutoring and Learning Center in Joliet, Illinois.

Joliet Junior College was the first public community college in the nation, and since its founding in 1901 it has provided students with excellent educational opportunities. This tradition will continue with the opening of the Tutoring and Learning Center.

The Tutoring and Learning Center will provide students with free access to tutoring services such as drop-in math assistance, presentation training, online tutoring, and writing assistance, all under one roof. These services will give Joliet Junior College students the skills they need to succeed not only in their education, but after graduation as well.

Again, I would like to congratulate Joliet Junior College on the opening of the Tutoring and Learning Center and thank the college for its hard work on behalf of our students.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE NFL'S ACTIONS**

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter regarding domestic violence and the NFL's actions:

SEPTEMBER 9, 2014.

ROGER GOODELL,  
Commissioner, National Football League,  
New York, NY.

DEAR COMMISSIONER GOODELL: Today I called for the NFL to take immediate action

in announcing a major effort on fighting national domestic violence. It would be appropriate for the NFL to initiate major funding effort to stop domestic violence now. Domestic violence hits every sector of the Nation without respect to race, religion, wealth and/or gender. Many Americans have lost their lives at the hands of domestic violence. The NFL can collaborate with other professional sports organizations and produce a major gift to provide resources to anti domestic violence groups, health clinics, law enforcement and faith organizations to stop the crisis of domestic violence.

As a Senior Member of the House Judiciary Committee and the Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus who helped reauthorize the most recent Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA), I think it's imperative that we deal with this situation now. Statistics show that one in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. An estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. 85% of domestic violence victims are women.

It is imperative that we come together in strong support of a national, broad and comprehensive strategy to address the causes and effects of domestic violence. Weighing heavily on our conscience is the fact that an estimated 46 million children in our country are exposed to violence each year through crime, abuse and trauma. The gravity of the current situation with Ray Rice and the NFL cannot be overstated.

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior perpetrated by an intimate partner against another. It is an epidemic affecting individuals in Houston, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, nationality or educational background. Violence against women is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior, and thus is part of a systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence results in physical injury, psychological trauma sometimes death. The consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and truly last a lifetime.

Since coming to Congress I have spearheaded efforts to ensure women have equal opportunity and are treated fairly. I have fought year after year for adequate funding to make shelters and supportive services more accessible to victims of family and domestic violence. It is now time for the NFL to place some of their resources into these shelters and programs that work to alleviate domestic violence in our society. The scourge of domestic violence cannot be silenced or covered up. It is real and the NFL, after all the talk is done, can have a visible, constant and long term impact by providing this major funding initiative. We must take on this challenge with the recognition that changing the pervasive culture of domestic violence will not happen overnight. While we can act now and pass legislation to ameliorate some of causes of the domestic violence epidemic, this problem is larger than our laws. That is why we must make an enduring commitment to our families and children suffering from domestic violence.

To respond or ask any questions about this letter, please contact my Chief of Staff Glenn Rushing at 202-225-3816. A prompt response to this letter would be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

SHEILA JACKSON LEE,  
Member of Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF NAROPA UNIVERSITY'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JARED POLIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Boulder, Colorado's own Naropa University, in celebration of its 40th anniversary. Naropa University is this nation's leader in contemplative education and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

40 years ago, a Tibetan-born Buddhist leader named Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche, who as a young man led hundreds of Tibetans on foot from a besieged homeland, assembled a collection of students and guest faculty for the first summer session in Boulder at what is now called Naropa University. Trungpa's vision was to create a university that would combine contemplative studies with traditional Western scholastic and artistic disciplines.

The first classes at Naropa University (then called the Naropa Institute) were held in a summer session in a vacated bus garage, now the site of the Alfalfa's supermarket. The organizers expected around three hundred people to show up. Instead, more than 1,300 students flocked to Boulder, and in the process, transformed Boulder into an energetic center of learning, culture, and the performing arts.

As the leader in contemplative education, an approach to learning and teaching that integrates Eastern wisdom studies with traditional Western scholarship, Naropa has always been a magnet for great minds, intellectual curiosity, and those who search for greater meaning. Indeed, Naropa is renowned for its ability to attract spiritual leaders, such as His Holiness the Dalai Lama, political and business leaders, and global thought leaders. And through Naropa's vaunted Summer Writing Program, generations of writers, performers, and activists have come of age and worked side-by-side with some of our nation's greatest poets, authors, and performers.

Naropa is now firmly embedded in the cultural, academic, and economic fabric of Boulder. Each year, 1000 undergraduate and graduate students seek degrees that will enable them to transform the world around them. Programs in counseling psychology, performing arts, art therapy, writing and poetics, early childhood and K-12 education, environmental leadership, peace studies, religious studies and pastoral counseling and traditional eastern arts are training a new generation of leaders. Thousands of Naropa alumni are changing the world for the better through work in nonprofits, small business and social enterprise start-ups, therapy, counseling, teaching and writing. They studied with a distinguished faculty who are nationally and internationally recognized for their scholarship and contemplative teaching techniques. And finally, Naropa was recently named both a "College of Distinction" and one of the "8 Greenest Colleges" in the United States.

Naropa University is truly a Colorado treasure. I'm so proud to join my fellow Boulderites, as well as the thousands of Naropa alumni around the world, in congratulating Naropa University on its 40th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING WALTER FURNACE ON RECEIVING NAFCU'S PAUL REVERE AWARD

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Walter R. Furnace on receiving the National Association of Federal Credit Union's Paul Revere Award. Walter received this award because he excels at promoting the credit union industry's most pressing concerns. In his work with the American Airlines Federal Credit Union (AAFCU), Walter has demonstrated great passion for supporting credit unions and their mission to provide members an opportunity to have a hand in the services they use for the financial wellbeing of their families. Walter's relationship building and strong work ethic over the years continues to prove successful. He works to build relationships not only with Members of Congress from his home state, but where AAFCU has fields of membership as well. His strong grasp of issues affecting credit unions and their members allows him to be an effective member of NAFCU's operations. I've had the pleasure of working with Walter for many years.

Walter uses his experience in public service as a former State Representative of Alaska to benefit those whom he serves by effectively advancing the priorities of credit unions in the public sphere. His past public service catalyzed his success in his current role, caring and doing what he can for his members.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Walter Furnace as a recipient of the National Association of Federal Credit Union's Paul Revere Award.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARS CHOCOLATE IN ALBANY, GEORGIA

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the associates and leadership of the Mars Chocolate manufacturing facility in Albany, Georgia as they celebrate 50 years of operation. The Mars Chocolate plant will commemorate this milestone with a celebration to be held on Friday, October 10, 2014.

Family owned since 1911, Mars, Incorporated has 44 manufacturing facilities in the United States and employs more than 26,500 associates. It has diverse consumer businesses in chocolate, gum and confections, food, drinks and pet care. Mars strives to create a mutuality of benefits among all stakeholders through its Five Principles: Quality, Efficiency, Responsibility, Mutuality and Freedom.

The Mars plant in Albany opened in 1964 as "Peanut Masters" and operated primarily as a peanut roasting facility. This plant has a long history and a strong connection to the Georgia

peanut industry and today roasts all the peanuts for Snickers®, Snickers® Ice Cream, Snickers® Peanut Butter Squared, M&M's® Peanut Butter, and Twix® PB Bars in the United States. The plant employs 172 of my constituents and now manufactures Combos® and Marathon® bars, in addition to the roasting operation.

For the past 50 years, Mars has had a tremendous impact on the Albany, Georgia community. Not only does it offer economic benefits by providing jobs, the company also encourages its associates to give back to the community through various community engagement programs.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I ask that my colleagues join me and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating the Mars Chocolate manufacturing facility in Albany, Georgia for 50 years of operation. I am so glad to have this iconic American company in my District and I look forward to 50 more years of continued success in Southwest Georgia.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID STARR AND HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN JOURNALISM

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great personal satisfaction that I pay tribute to a remarkable individual who has spent more than 70 years working in the only profession that ever mattered to him: journalism. David Starr knew he wanted to be in the newspaper business when he was in the fifth grade, and since then, he has gone on to have a long and distinguished career with the Newhouse publications. He has been a reporter, an editor, a publisher and a president; performing each task with enthusiasm and great skill. To me, he is the quintessential newspaperman, bringing passion, integrity and devotion to his beloved craft. More importantly, I am proud to call him my friend.

As much as David Starr enjoys his day job, he has another keen interest, and that is making western Massachusetts a better place to live, work and raise a family. Since I first met him in 1977, few people have done more to improve the quality of life in the Pioneer Valley. Under his leadership, downtown Springfield experienced an unprecedented rebirth. He encouraged the public and private sectors to work together to bring economic development and jobs to the region. The Monarch Building, the Sheraton Hotel, the Bank of Boston Building and a new state-of-the-art high speed color press are all living proof of his tireless efforts. He had a vision for our community and it was realized. But knowing David Starr, I am certain that he believes his work is far from complete.

It should not come as a surprise that he used to read 13 New York newspapers every day in his youth. A born journalist with a curious mind, David got his start with the Long Island Press in 1940. That is where his lifelong partnership with the Newhouse family began. They recognized his talents and he quickly rose through the ranks. Following his service in the Army, he returned to the paper where

he would eventually become its senior editor. His hard work was rewarded once again when the Newhouse family sent him to Massachusetts to run the Springfield Republican. He has been in his corner office at 1860 Main Street ever since.

Besides his fondness for the newspaper business, the other constant in David's life has been his wife Peggy. For more than a half century they have been a formidable team. Their philanthropic efforts and willingness to give back to our community is legendary. If you have heard the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, visited our extraordinary museums, listed to public radio or watched WGBY, you can thank David and Peggy Starr. They have continually invested in our cultural institutions and helped make a difference in the place we call home.

As his friends and colleagues gather together in Springfield this week, I want to join them in thanking David for many years of friendship. For eight decades, you have been a fixture in the newsrooms of America. You have encouraged your writers and informed your readers. Both you and Peggy have generously given your time and resources for the betterment of others. And the lasting contributions you have made to our community will never be forgotten. On behalf of the United States of House of Representatives, let me congratulate you on a job well done.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE 2014 BEST OF BRADDOCK AWARDS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2014 Best of Braddock Awards, presented by the Braddock District Council of Community Associations. These awards are given annually to deserving individuals, organizations, and companies in the Braddock Magisterial District of Fairfax County, Virginia, who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the community.

The goal of the Braddock District Council is to promote the civic, community, and general welfare of the citizens of the Braddock District. The Council represents the interests of community associations, facilitates cooperation and coordination between associations, and provides a path of communications between associations and officials or elected representatives of the Braddock District.

I am pleased to join the Braddock District Council of Community Associations in recognizing the following Recipients of the 2014 Best of Braddock Awards:

Citizen of the Year—Norma Heck, founding member and immediate past president of the North Springfield Civic Association, for nearly 40 years of extensive involvement in the community. Norma is well known for her dedicated service and although she has reached an age at which most people decide to slow down a bit, she plans to become even more active on the NSCA board and in Braddock District Council programs.

Young Person of the Year—Elizabeth Banks, who is a student at Robinson Secondary School, for her many efforts on behalf of others including working with children, volunteering for Second Chance Employment