

WPD arrived on scene approximately 30 seconds later. The male was arrested.

Officer Tommy Gardner's handling of this situation is remarkable for several reasons. First, he went above and beyond his Call to Duty. He is employed as a Correctional Officer at Northwestern. He was also off duty at the time. He was under no obligation to become involved in the situation. His strong character and desire to help those in his community propelled his actions. Second, Officer Gardner showed exceptional courage. When he walked over to the crowd of people he was informed that the individual was under extreme duress and had a handgun in his possession. He could have simply done nothing and waited for the police to arrive.

Instead, Officer Gardner chose to establish a dialogue and de-escalate the situation even though he knew he would be in harm's way. Officer Gardner's actions on the date personify those of the law enforcement community who chose to put the safety of the citizens above their own.

Officer Tommy Gardner, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

NW DRUG TASK FORCE

Lt. Wally Stotlemeyer

Wally Stotlemeyer is a Lt. with the Winchester Police Department currently assigned duty with the NW Virginia Regional Drug and Gang Task Force. The recent spike in heroin overdoses has put a tremendous strain on the resources of the task force. A large number of the deaths have occurred in the Region Wally and the North End Team is responsible for. Wally is the supervisor of the team and he has exhibited tremendous leadership skills in managing the increase in their cases. Practicing leadership from the front, Wally regularly appears on the scene of the tragic events and makes sure that these cases receive the proper attention to insure our valley is safe. In addition, Wally is always present at meetings where his opinion matters. He is truly working this epidemic from both ends and deserves to be recognized for his efforts.

Lt. Wally Stotlemeyer, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

WINCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

K-9 Officer Kota

Cpl. Brittney Kotynski-Neer

Officer Kota has been with the Winchester Police Department since May, 2009. On January 3rd of this year, Kota was injured while helping apprehend two suspects hiding an attic crawl space during a burglary. He fell eight feet through the ceiling to the floor below and broke his right front leg and injured his "wrist". Despite his injuries, he climbed up a flight of stairs to return to Cpl. Brittney's side in the attic. Kota returned to work last week.

Officer Kota, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

That, ladies and gentleman, highlights how lucky we citizens of Northern Virginia are given the outstanding people we have protecting us. Thank you for coming and don't forget them.

#### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, to keep the government open, the House is considering a

continuing resolution (H.J. Res. 124) that permits government agencies to continue spending at the 2014 level through December 11, 2014. As a result, it allows a rate of overseas contingency operations spending at the Department of Defense, Department of State, and other agencies that if sustained over the entire fiscal year would total \$92 billion. This sum exceeds what the Administration requested for overseas contingency operations for 2015 by \$26 billion. Budget Committee Chairman PAUL RYAN and I agree that this bill should not be interpreted as endorsing the expansion of overseas contingency operations spending above what our military commanders say is needed to support our troops engaged in war operations. Congress will revisit the full-year funding needs for overseas contingency operations at a future date, including whatever resources may be necessary to counter emerging threats, including those ISIL poses. Over the course of the CR period, the Administration should spend OCO funding at a rate that will still allow for full-year funding at no higher than the level military commanders say is needed for 2015.

The OCO budget has been misused to get around discretionary funding caps over the years. Billions of dollars of non-war related activities have been funded in the OCO budget. For 2014, Congress shifted \$9 billion of non-war activities into the OCO budget so it could free up funds within the budget caps. Over 2001 through 2014, Pentagon OCO cost reports indicate that \$71 billion of non-war funding was provided through war appropriations.

This is a problem that both Chairman RYAN and I have been looking at in the Budget Committee. We both agree that the OCO budget should only be used to fund those requirements that are related to the transitory, non-recurring costs of war activities. In fact, the Budget Committee adopted report language as part of the budget resolution affirming that goal. It says, "Abuse of the OCO/GWOT cap adjustment is a backdoor loophole that undermines the integrity of the budget process. The Budget Committee will exercise its oversight responsibilities with respect to the use of the OCO/GWOT designation in the FY 2015 budget process, and it will oppose increases above the levels the Administration and our military commanders say are needed to carry out operations unless it can be clearly demonstrated that such amounts are war-related."

We should provide our military and diplomatic corps all the resources they need to carry out the important missions the country gives them. However, we should not use the OCO budget as a back-door mechanism to get around discretionary funding caps. The continuing resolution gives the Administration the spending authority needed to keep the government open and to give the necessary resources to support those engaged in operations overseas. It does not give the Administration a blank check to finance non-war activities.

In the coming months when the House considers the final full-year appropriation for overseas contingency operations, I am committed to working with Chairman RYAN to ensure that funds appropriated in the OCO budget will only be used for war-related costs.

RECOGNIZING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE

**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 225th anniversary since the creation of the United States Customs Service, the oldest legacy agency consolidated into the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), within the Department of Homeland Security.

The history of the U.S. Customs Service is in many ways the history of the nation. In the years after the American Revolution, our young Nation needed to generate funds to power its economy and rebuild its infrastructure. On July 31, 1789, the First United States Congress, in its fifth act, created the U.S. Customs Service, staffed by official Customs collectors. In this role, a Customs collector had the responsibility to supervise the collection of custom duties on imported goods in a particular city or region to enforce the newly passed Tariff Act.

Customs collectors also oversaw the building of revenue cutters, to patrol our coasts, and lighthouses to guide ships to our ports, which was essential to the Nation's maritime security and trade activities. For over 100 years after its birth, before the passage of the Sixteenth Amendment, the tariffs collected by the Customs Service were the primary source of funds for the entire government, which paid for the nation's early growth, infrastructure and land purchases such as the Louisiana and Oregon territories.

The responsibilities of the U.S. Customs Service would be reshaped and refocused following the attacks of 9/11. The Homeland Security Act of 2002 transferred the U.S. Customs Service in its entirety from the Department of the Treasury to the Department of Homeland Security.

Today, CBP manages the Nation's 328 air, land, and sea ports of entry. CBP officers, like their predecessor Customs inspectors, serve on the frontlines, securing our homeland from transnational threats, including terrorists, terrorist weapons, drugs and other contraband, while simultaneously facilitating the legitimate flow travel and trade across our borders.

While the responsibilities of a CBP Officer have grown since 9/11, Officers continue to perform essential revenue-collecting services as when established by the founders of the Republic, and enforce hundreds of immigration, agriculture, and trade laws.

The men and women of CBP are still making history. They continue to fuel our Nation's economy and support American jobs by facilitating legitimate trade and travel while keeping our borders secure.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to commend the men and women of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection for their many years of service and wish them a happy 225th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING YE OLDE  
YARDLEY FLORIST ON ITS 100TH  
YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, a small business in Yardley, Bucks County, Pennsylvania has provided plants and flowers to local and regional customers for over 100 years. On September 27, 2014 its doors will open for a special anniversary celebration. Ye Olde Yardley Florist on South Main Street is truly an example of "small business," the very backbone of our economy. Due to their experience, effort and knowledge, the Yardley floral and gift shop has thrived. Community leaders and citizens will join owner Susan Gorka for a celebration to acknowledge the quality and service the store has provided, while retaining the tradition of good business they have come to expect. Congratulations on this milestone and may Ye Olde Yardley Florist have many more years of continued success, bringing beauty and joy to its friends and customers.

HONORING JOLIET JUNIOR COL-  
LEGE'S VETERANS RESOURCE  
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 the Veterans Resource Center at Joliet Junior College.

The Veterans Resource Center will benefit approximately 300 students that use GI education benefits every semester at Joliet Junior College. The dedicated space will provide veterans with an area to socialize, study, access computers, and attend counseling sessions.

I applaud Joliet Junior College for providing our veterans with services like the Veterans Resource Center and for its dedication to ensuring that the men and women who serve our country have access to a great education in a supportive environment.

I congratulate Joliet Junior College on opening the Veterans Resource Center and thank the college for its hard work on behalf of our veterans.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE  
2014 GREATER RESTON CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE AWARDS FOR  
CHAMBER EXCELLENCE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize recipients of the 2014 Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce Awards for Chamber Excellence.

The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1982 as a business roundtable in the growing community of Reston, Virginia. For more than 30 years, the Reston Chamber

has facilitated business growth and entrepreneurship through its programming, advocacy, and engagement throughout the region. The Reston Chamber currently has more than 600 member businesses that together employ more than 10,000 people. It is the 6th largest chamber of commerce in the Washington, DC-metropolitan region and is deeply embedded in the community.

The Reston Chamber hosts annual events such as Taste of Reston, Oktoberfest Reston, and Best of Reston, and it has received national recognition for its Ethics Day, a workshop for high school students on ethical decision making. Members use the INC.spire Education Foundation and free SCORE business coaching programs to help create and grow their enterprises. INC.spire has assisted more than four dozen entrepreneurs create 500 jobs and \$45 million of business investment.

Each year, through the Awards for Chamber Excellence, the Chamber recognizes member companies, individuals, and volunteers who have demonstrated excellence, innovation, and exceptional dedication to the Reston community. I am pleased to join the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce in recognizing the following Awards for Chamber Excellence (ACE) recipients:

Committee of the Year: Charles Kapur, EagleBank, Membership Committee.

Committee of the Year: Sam Cousins, SBIS, Membership Committee.

Small Business of the Year: Silver Spoon Catering.

Medium Business of the Year: Business Engineering, Inc.

Large Business of the Year: Sheraton Reston Hotel.

Member of the Year: Lisa Nicholls, Tiral Strategies.

New Member of the Year: Ellen Moyer, Re/Max Allegiance.

Volunteer of the Year: Andy Klaff, Colliers. Joe Ritchie Pinnacle Award: Casey Veatch, Veatch Commercial Real Estate.

President's Award: Tonia Chagnon, Red Thinking.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this year's award recipients and in thanking them for their contributions to the local economy and outstanding service to our community. I also commend the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for its role as an invaluable partner to local businesses, nonprofits and schools. The efforts of the Chamber, the member businesses, and volunteers have helped make Reston a truly special place to live, work, and raise a family.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT  
AWARENESS MONTH

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this upcoming month of October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). As part of a national campaign, NDEAM raises awareness about employment issues facing individuals with disabilities and celebrates the vast contributions made by American workers with dis-

abilities. This year's theme is "Expect. Employ. Empower."

NDEAM's origins can be traced back to 1945, when Congress first passed a resolution declaring the first week of October as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1988, Congress expanded this week to an entire month and changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" to reflect the wide variety of disabilities, physical or nonphysical, that an individual may have.

This month serves to remind us all that a strong, thriving workforce is an inclusive workforce. As a nation, we must work together to increase meaningful employment opportunities for those with disabilities and utilize their many talents.

I would like to especially recognize the great work of the Georgia Industries for the Blind (GIB), a facet of the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). The GIB was established in 1937 and subsequently opened its first manufacturing plant in 1949. Since then, it has grown to include three manufacturing sites located in Albany, Bainbridge and Griffin, as well as two service sites located in Bainbridge and Warner Robins. The GIB employs nearly 100 blind persons and boasts over \$12 million in annual sales.

The GIB is a leader in the fight against the marginalization of the disabled worker and I applaud their resounding efforts to expand employment opportunities to those with disabilities throughout Georgia. By offering competitive wages and a full benefits package, Georgia Industries for the Blind stands as a shining example for other employers across the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month by acknowledging the positive impact those with disabilities have on the American workforce, as well as understanding the need to increase meaningful employment opportunities for our disabled citizens. In addition, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the strides made by Georgia Industries for the Blind and other employers leading the effort to implement a more inclusive employee culture.

IN HONOR OF JUDGE ANN  
OSBORNE

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Ann Osborne of the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas in Pennsylvania. She is retiring after many years of serving her community.

Judge Osborne has been a beacon for justice on the bench in Delaware County for the last 16 years. Before the bench, Judge Osborne served as Sheriff of Delaware County from 1991 to 1998. Additionally, she taught comparative government, international law and criminal law at Temple University, Villanova University and Immaculata College. She left her mark on the Delaware County community and her contribution will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Judge Ann Osborne for her long and honorable service. I applaud her