

of National Park Service Water Resources Division. He was instrumental in the successful settlement of park water rights issues in the western United States, and in the continued protection of Yellowstone National Park. In addition, he has held positions at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Surface Mining (OSM), as well as in various environmental consulting firms. His accomplishments have earned him a number of awards, including the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOT) Superior Service Award (1989), the Stephen Tyng Mather Award for resource conservation given by the National Parks Conservation Association (1995), and the Pacific Northwest Regional Directors Award for Professional Excellence in Natural Resources (2002).

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Dan Kimball. I want to offer my sincerest congratulations and heartfelt gratitude to him for all that he has done for the state of Florida and this nation. I wish him the very best on his retirement, and much success in his future pursuits.

CELEBRATING BERNITA PEEPLES

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Bernita Peeples, the newest honoree of the Yellow Rose of Texas Award for her tremendous legacy as a Texas woman of outstanding volunteer and public service. A pillar of the Belton, TX community, Bernita's life and career is a reflection of hard work, activism, and dedication to bringing news to central Texas.

Lucky enough to know what she wanted her life's work to be since she was a young lady, Bernita started her career as a reporter for The Belton Journal during her senior year of high school. In an age when the average worker stays on the job for just over four years, Bernita has been faithfully reporting to her desk for 80 years! While chronicling stories big and small, as well as producing regular and popular columns, she's seen The Belton Journal's circulation climb tenfold.

The unofficial historian of Belton, Bernita's truly seen it all. A career that began on a 1927 Royal typewriter witnessed the rise of personal computers, the Internet, and social media to transmit the news. While reporting on 13 presidential administrations, WWII, and nearly a century of American advancement and innovation, she's kept her ear to the ground in Belton, never forgetting the community she calls home.

Bernita took breaks from writing and even retired once. But like all who have a calling, she couldn't stay away from her profession and soon returned to journalism. She still has a desk at The Belton Journal office where she writes one feature per week. Even better, she still has the typewriter with which she started her career.

Bernita's work doesn't stop when the paper has gone to the printers. She's involved in many organizations, including the Bell County Historical Commission and 1874 Church Restoration, for which she posed on a motorcycle for a 2010 calendar. She didn't miss a meet-

ing of the Belton Rotary Club for 19 years and she was the first woman to receive the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen award.

The people of Belton and central Texas are lucky to have Bernita Peeples. She's a local treasure and a fitting recipient of the Yellow Rose of Texas Award. I join all who celebrate her enormous contributions to journalism and her beloved community.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR 60TH ANNUAL TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show—the largest gem and mineral exhibition in the United States and an event that has set the standard for such shows around the world.

The show, which will be held this year from Feb. 13–16, has been hosted for the past six decades by the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Inc. The show began as a club show and today is dedicated to presenting extraordinary mineral, gem, fossil, lapidary and jewelry exhibits that provide a rare window into private and museum collections from around the world.

The theme of this year's show is “60 years of Diamonds, Gems, Silver and Gold” and will feature a display of diamonds from the Smithsonian Institution.

As a result of interest generated by this long-running show, dozens of satellite shows have proliferated throughout the Tucson area—bringing with them gems, minerals, fossils, meteorites and other items from around the world. This weeks-long collection of events has become known as the Tucson Gem, Mineral and Fossil Showcase and attracts thousands of participants, enthusiasts and buyers from across the globe.

During the showcase, Tucsonans and visitors find everything from rare diamonds to boxes made of petrified wood. There are dinosaur skeletons, loose stones, jewelry, African art, beads, polished stones, minerals and gifts of every description.

None of this would have happened without the vision and the hard work by members and volunteers of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Inc., which remains dedicated to promoting the study of earth sciences. I am proud to recognize the organization and its members including President Diane Braswell and Vice President John Callahan. Its other officers are Marilyn Reynolds, Ellen Alexander, Alrene Hibben, Madison Barkley, Mark Marikos, Bob O'Donnell, Mark Ascher and Robert and Elaine Royer. The chairman of this year's show is Paul Harter.

I am proud to recognize the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Inc. on the occasion of its 60th Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

IN MEMORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY ICON GUY PORTER GILLETTE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Western Music Icon Guy Porter Gillette who is being honored this weekend in Houston County.

Guy left us on September 2nd, but his memory is alive and well. Guy was the son of famed photographer Guy and his wife Doris Gillette. He and his brother, Pipp, co-owned the Camp St. Café & Store where they enjoyed entertaining southeast Texas.

The brothers were raised in Yonkers, New York, but spent their summers at their grandparents' Lovelady ranch. Back in their teens, the brothers had a band called the Roadrunners. Their lead singer was a young woman named Diane Keaton, who later became a movie star. Guy met Diane while studying at The Neighborhood Playhouse School of Theatre in Manhattan, NY and the brothers were known for playing coffee houses in many states, but Texas kept a piece of their hearts.

They inherited their grandparents' Lovelady ranch and shortly after Guy's return to Texas he met Cathi Stas from Wheeler. They married and welcomed daughter, Dorcie in 1995. After fixing up their family homestead, Camp Street in Crockett was their next project. They turned a pool hall and barbershop their grandfather built into a new music venue where they could entertain us with a unique mix of blues, cowboy ballads and Celtic folk songs. One never knew what was on the bill at Camp Street. It could be comedy one minute and vaudeville the next—and audiences loved it.

The awards stacked up for the Gillette Brothers: the Western Heritage Award for Best Traditional Western CD of 2010; two Cowboy Culture Awards; the Wrangler Award for Best Original Composition of 2012 for the song “Tradeoff”; as well as awards for their chuck wagon sourdough biscuits.

While cancer may have silenced Guy's tenor voice just two weeks after his father's passing, Cathi, Dorcie and Pipp have wonderful memories of music, laughter, and love to cherish.

Guy was a bright star that gave so much to Houston County, Texas. He will be missed. God bless Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WORK OF DR. AMPARO VILLABLANCA AND THE 20TH YEAR OF THE WOMEN'S CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE PROGRAM

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the work of Dr. Amparo Villablanca, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of California, Davis, and to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Women's Cardiovascular Medicine Program. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr.

Villablanca, who has devoted her career in medicine to identifying and building awareness of the cardiovascular disease risk factors for women.

In 1994, Dr. Villablanca established the nation's first program dedicated to researching, preventing and treating heart disease in women. Heart disease is the leading cause of death of women in the United States, causing one in three deaths each year, more than all forms of cancer combined. Dr. Villablanca has conducted laboratory research that has advanced scientific knowledge of the unique biological causes and indicators of heart disease in women.

Dr. Villablanca has actively engaged with grassroots organizations in conducting community-based research to identify and mitigate heart disease risk factors among populations most at risk, including African American and Hispanic women. Her tireless advocacy for women's heart health earned her a place on the Woman's Day magazine Heart Health Advisory Board and the magazine's inaugural Red Dress Award.

Furthermore, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Cardiovascular Medicine Program at the University of California, Davis, which recognizes the importance of research and patient-care programs to identify the risk factors and preventions for heart disease among women. As part of the program, Dr. Villablanca has hosted the annual Women's Heart Care Education and Awareness Forum since 2006 to encourage community champions for women's health and expand appreciation for lifestyles and health behaviors that benefit cardiovascular health. In 2010, Dr. Villablanca forged an innovative partnership with the UC Davis Department of Design to create and display a collection of student-designed red dresses and ensure heart-health messages reach a younger generation of women. The Forum embraces the link between health and art that the UC Davis Red Dress Collection represents and its role in engaging young women in understanding the importance of paying attention to their heart health.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the ongoing work of Dr. Amparo Villablanca and the UC Davis Women's Cardiovascular Medicine Program in providing a woman-centered, culturally sensitive and respectful approach to patient care.

HONORING MORRIS TURNER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Morris "Morrie" Turner, former cartoonist for the Oakland Tribune. Known throughout the Bay Area and the Nation by his cartoon strip "Wee Pals," Mr. Turner has left an indelible mark on our national discourse. With his passing on January 25, 2014, we look to the outstanding quality of his life's work and the inspiring role he played in breaking racial barriers as the first nationally syndicated African American cartoonist.

Born on December 11, 1923 Morrie Turner was born and raised in Oakland. His passion

for drawing began as a young child. After graduating from Berkeley High School, Mr. Turner served in World War II as a mechanic for the Tuskegee Airmen. During this time, he drew comic strips for military newspapers. Once returning back to the Bay Area, he worked as a clerk for the Oakland Police Department while freelancing cartoons to newspapers and magazines. In 1964, Mr. Turner's drive and admiration for cartooning inspired him to create cartoons full time.

During the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Morrie Turner realized that African American kids rarely appeared in cartoons. Inspired by Charles Schulz's "Peanuts" cartoon, Mr. Turner began creating a comic strip featuring kids from all backgrounds called "Wee Pals." In the beginning, only a few papers would run the strip. After the tragic event of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination in 1968, "Wee Pals" achieved national recognition, appearing in more than 100 newspapers.

Morrie Turner's "Wee Pals" covered issues of racism, sexism and bullying. His hope was "to portray a world without prejudice, a world in which people's differences—race, religion, gender and physical and mental ability—are cherished not scorned." There was a wide range of characters, encompassing many different ethnicities. The success of the comic strip inspired an animated television show called "Kid Power." As he continued to produce comic strips, Mr. Turner wrote and illustrated children's books.

Renowned for his cartoons and children's books, Mr. Turner received numerous awards. Among the many prestigious awards, he received the Sparky Award from San Francisco's Cartoon Art Museum, the Anti-Defamation League's humanitarian award, the Boys and Girls Club Image Award and the California Educators Award. During the Vietnam War, Mr. Turner had the honor as one of six cartoonists with the National Cartoonist Society to travel to Vietnam and draw more than 3,000 caricatures of the service people on the frontlines and in hospitals.

Morrie Turner left an imprint on many generations by addressing these important topics still facing our Nation. He found a creative way to educate children and reach out to approximately 25 million readers with his "Wee Pals" cartoon. In addition, he was actively involved in educational programs and charities in the Bay Area.

On several occasions I was humbled to be one of Morrie's caricatures in his very creative, educational and funny cartoons. When I met him, I knew I was in the presence of not only a brilliant intellect but a soaring spirit. It was an honor and a privilege to have been in his presence on many occasions.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual and cartoonist, Morris Turner. As an Oakland native, Mr. Turner's efforts have truly paved the way for minorities and impacted so many lives throughout the Nation. I join all of Morrie's loved ones in celebrating his incredible life. He will be deeply missed.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHN COLACCHIO

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of the Central Florida community, John Colacchio. Mr. Colacchio is an 89-year-old veteran of the Second World War who recently participated in an Honor Flight. The Honor Flight, comprised of 50 World War II, Korean, and Vietnam veterans, was a one-day event in which these veterans flew from Florida to Washington, D.C. and visited the memorials to their fallen comrades. A native of Long Island, New York, Mr. Colacchio was drafted at the age of 18 after graduating from high school. He bravely fought with the Army's 2nd Infantry Division in historic battles including the Invasion of Normandy. Mr. Colacchio served with distinction for two years and nine months. He earned the rank of Staff Sergeant and was awarded a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

After his service, Mr. Colacchio returned to work at the Long Island Railroad, where he worked for another 34 years. In 2008, after the passing of his beloved wife, Laura, Mr. Colacchio moved to be near his only child, in Celebration, Florida. His daughter, Barbara, is a Marine Corps veteran and served as Honor Guardian on his recent Honor Flight. On Veterans Day 2013, his daughter and friends dedicated a memorial brick in his name at the Veterans Memorial Park in Celebration.

Mr. Colacchio sacrificed greatly to help our country in a time of need. He served with dedication and bravery and has remained active in the veteran community. It is my pleasure to recognize his accomplishments and contributions to the community.

HONORING KEIFER MARSHALL, JR

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Keifer Marshall, Jr., recipient of the Drayton and Elizabeth McClain Community Achievement Award for individuals who truly exemplify public service leadership. Marshall's life of sacrifice and activism reflects the very best values of central Texas.

Marshall, a native son of Temple, TX, bravely stepped forward when his country needed him most and served in the U.S. Marine Corps during WWII. Stationed in the Pacific Theater, he fought the ferocity of the Japanese head on. At Iwo Jima, the casualties of his company were the severest of the entire campaign. Out of 250 Marines, Marshall was one of the lucky few to survive.

This proud Marine is also a committed citizen. Marshall returned to Temple and began the next chapter of his life of extraordinary service. A member of numerous councils and boards, he later became a City Councilman and a two-term Mayor. Marshall was President of the Temple Chamber of Commerce, was