

passionately. We will miss her leadership, courage, and dedication, and wish her all the best as she retires from active duty service to our great nation.

A TRIBUTE TO DRIAN JUAREZ—
28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Drian Juarez of Hollywood.

Born in Juarez, Mexico and raised by her grandmother, a five-year-old Ms. Juarez joined her mother in the United States after her grandmother's passing.

Ms. Juarez's artistic talents were noticed early on by many of her teachers. She entered a Los Angeles Times art contest, won, and was awarded with art lessons throughout middle school. With these art lessons, Ms. Juarez was able to build a portfolio and gain entry into the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. Upon graduation, she was accepted to Otis College of Art and Design, where she attained a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art.

In 2005, Ms. Juarez was shot in the face at a Halloween event and lost sight in her right eye. After this tragic incident, Ms. Juarez decided to make a change in her life. For the first time, she connected with Los Angeles transgender support groups and increased her involvement in local events and activism. She became a member of the West Hollywood Transgender Task Force, which is now known as the West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board, and also became a member of the Transgender Service Provider Network. In 2009, Ms. Juarez was invited to become a member of the Transgender Law Center's Transgender Leadership Council and the Transgender Economic Development Initiative.

For the past 6 years, Ms. Juarez has served as Program Manager of the Transgender Economic Empowerment Project (TEEP) at the Legal Services Department of the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center. She has demonstrated remarkable entrepreneurial skills and passion for empowering clients who are struggling with immigration, employment, and race issues due to their gender identity.

TEEP, in conjunction with Trans-Unity Pride, held its first job fair in 2008. Since then, TEEP has collaborated with the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce on a yearly job fair. As part of this job fair, Ms. Juarez has provided Gender and Sexual Diversity in the Workplace trainings to human resources professionals and employers. Ms. Juarez has presented over 400 transgender cultural competency trainings to thousands of people, including at conferences sponsored by the Transgender Service Provider Network and the HIV Drug & Alcohol Task Force, LA Youth at Work, the City of L.A. Career Fair, Women's Resource & Job Fair, Trans Action/Friends Community

Center, among others. In addition to all of her accomplishments, Ms. Juarez designed a plaque with an inscribed poem for the City of West Hollywood, which was dedicated in 2009 during the Transgender Day of Remembrance, a day to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred and prejudice.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Drian Juarez.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 117, I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE 2014 ACADEMY
NOMINEES OF THE 11TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW
JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830's, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens

from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

The Academy Review Board is composed of six local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area—many are veterans. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

This year the board interviewed over 40 applicants. The Board's recommendations were then forwarded to the academies by January 31, where recruiters reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admission.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the academy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in Afghanistan or other hot spots around the world, no doubt we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America's best and brightest in command.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2014, 11TH DISTRICT
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Justin M. Blumas, Roseland, West Essex H.S.

Jennifer E. Lam, Boonton, Air Force Academy Prep

Sean M. Lyons, Morristown, Morristown H.S.

Angela E. Martone, Lincoln Park, Trinity Christian H.S.

Michael J. Predojevic, Woodland Park, Passaic Valley H.S.

MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Justin C. Corio, Bloomfield, Bloomfield H.S.

Clay C. Dundas, Sparta, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Zachery F. Flake, Denville, Morris Knolls H.S.
 Seung H. Hwang, Wayne, Wayne Hills H.S.
 Scott R. Johnston, Wayne, Wayne Valley H.S.
 Tyler G. Macejka, Pompton Plains, Pequannock H.S.
 Jennifer L. Pezzuti, Riverdale, Pompton Lakes H.S.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Chris-John H. Bosch, Wayne, Seton Hall Prep
 Anthony Costagliola, Wayne, Wayne Hills H.S.
 Michael T. Herbert, Whippany, New Mexico Military Institute
 Daniel K. Iskander, Madison, Madison H.S.
 Parker F. Meytrott, Montville, MAPS
 Dylan V. Panicucci, Sparta, Sparta H.S.
 John C. Phillips, Sparta, Blair Academy
 Andrew S. Vena, Chatham, Chatham H.S.
 Nicholas D. Wilde, Madison, Madison H.S.
 Austin JC Williams, Verona, Verona H.S.

NAVAL ACADEMY

Joshua C. Corbett, Mendham, Gill St. Bernards
 Patrick E. Dugan, Morristown, Oratory Prep
 Jacob S. Ferraro, Kinnelon, Kinnelon H.S.
 Jack W. Frey, Sparta, Pope John XIII H.S.
 Nicholas R. Maletto, North Haledon, Pas-saic County Technical Institute
 Michael B. Meisel, Sparta, Sparta H.S.
 Nicholas A. Markferding, Florham Park, Seton Hall Prep
 Michael E. McGlone, Boonton, Iona College
 Dylan P. Pennell, West Orange, West Or-ange H.S.
 Patrick K. Stanton, Hopatcong, Hopatcong H.S.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH J. JOYCE, JR., RECIPIENT OF 2014 THE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in acknowledgment of Joseph J. Joyce, who will receive the Achievement Award from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on Monday, March 17, 2014. Joe is a graduate of St. John's High School, Pittston, Pennsylvania, and Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. He went on to major in Business Education & Accounting at Bloomsburg University.

In 1989, Joe became licensed in Property and Casualty, Life, Accident and Health insurance and joined Joyce Insurance Group. Today, he focuses his efforts on commercial insurance, overseeing the Commercial Lines Division and company-to-agency relations, specializing in governmental and self-funded entities.

Throughout his life, Joe has done charity work with several organizations. He is a member of St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Pittston, PA; the Jolly Boys Association, Avoca, Pennsylvania; the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce; the Avoca Lions Club, where he served as Secretary to the Board of Directors; and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Greater Pittston Chapter, where he served as President and Treasurer. Among his many accomplishments, Joe was the 2012 recipient of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Swingle

Award, which honors a member for assisting and giving back to his community.

Currently, Joe resides in Hughestown with his wife Anna. They have raised five children: Joseph, John, Brent, Kahli and Aidan. They are also proud grandparents of four grandchildren: Annabel, Joey, Adeline, and Remy Mack Joyce.

I am proud to congratulate Mr. Joyce for receiving this acknowledgment from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons, and for his many years of service to the Pittston Area.

HONORING PATRICK L. SULLIVAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF THE CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FEDERAL HEALTH CARE CENTER

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to honor Director Patrick L. Sullivan on the occasion of his retirement from the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in the suburban Chicago district that I represent.

In 2010, the nation's first integrated Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)—Department of Defense (DoD) federal health care center opened its doors with Pat Sullivan as Director. The Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC) at Naval Station Great Lakes was the culmination of years of vision, planning and hard work. It was and is an example of excellence for all other VA and DoD health care facilities.

I am incredibly proud that Illinois's Tenth District is home to the Lovell FHCC and Naval Station Great Lakes, the Navy's only recruit training command. It's here that the Navy trains more than 40,000 new sailors each year. It's here that the nation's first integrated federal health care center was created. And it was here that Director Sullivan's leadership helped make the vision of an integrated health system a reality, raising the bar of achievement to new heights.

Director Sullivan has done a remarkable job leading an outstanding team of more than 3,000 dedicated professionals. His leadership, drive, determination and forward-thinking approach have been key to Lovell FHCC's success and will be sorely missed.

Serving veterans, active duty personnel, military families and recruits each year, the Lovell FHCC demonstrates an unwavering commitment to preparing warriors and caring for heroes.

Director Sullivan's accomplishments have laid the foundation for the care of many future generations of sailors, families and veterans. I want to personally thank Director Sullivan for everything he has done, and congratulate him at the successful completion of a distinguished career with the Lovell FHCC.

HONORING TYLER THORNE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Thorne. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tyler has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Thorne for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF EVANGELIST STEVE HILL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of Evangelist Steve Hill, who passed away on March 9, 2014, after a courageous battle with melanoma. Pastor Hill served as a mentor and an inspiration to countless individuals. The loss of a devoted husband, father, and unparalleled servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is felt not only in Northwest Florida but throughout this great Nation and around the world.

Pastor Hill was born to a military family in 1954 in Ankara, Turkey. It was during his teen years, after his family moved to Huntsville, Alabama, where Pastor Hill felt the power of prayer for the first time more than ever. Though, this was only the beginning; Pastor Hill's love for God and helping others only grew.

Leaving behind a difficult past, Pastor Hill attended David Wilkerson's Twin Oaks Bible Academy located in Lindale, Texas. He met the love of his life there, the former Ms. Jeri Larson, and the two were married in 1979. Both began serving Christ through full-time ministry with Outreach Ministries of Alabama and then as youth pastors in Panama City and Tallahassee, Florida. Pastor Hill and his wife then felt the Lord's calling to serve His people abroad. Within seven years, they had managed to spread God's Word throughout South America and Europe, establishing ministries and churches.

In 1995, Pastor Hill touched the Northwest Florida community when he spoke at a revival at Brownsville Assembly of God in Pensacola, Florida. Following his sermon, what would become known as the Brownsville Revival was ignited, attracting millions of people from all over the world. Pastor Hill's ability to encourage and empower those seeking the Lord led