

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THOMAS HECKMAN ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Thomas Heckman of Toledo, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Evan's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2018. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Thomas brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2018. While attending E.L. Bowsher High School in Toledo, Ohio, Thomas was a member of the Spanish club, student council, yearbook, and National Honor Society.

Throughout high school, Thomas was a member of his school's soccer, cross country and track and field teams and earned varsity letters in all three sports. Thomas also volunteered with Safe-T-City all four years of high school. I am confident that Thomas will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Thomas Heckman on the offer of his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Thomas will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

MISS INDIAN WORLD—TAYLOR THOMAS

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Taylor Thomas on her achievement of being crowned the 2014–2015 Miss Indian World. The competition was recently held at the University of New Mexico Arena in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where each contestant was judged on public speaking, personal interview, traditional representation, and dance/essay.

Ms. Thomas resides in my congressional district at Fort Hall and is a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. She qualified for the national competition by being named Miss Shoshone-Bannock Queen this past year. It is truly an honor for me to recognize Ms. Thom-

as for her national accomplishments and as a role model in the Fort Hall community. She will make an excellent representative of Native American culture throughout her tenure as Miss Indian World.

Not only is Ms. Thomas a respected ambassador of the Fort Hall community, but she also attends Idaho State University, where she is majoring in political science. I have no doubt that her commitment to higher education played an important role in the competition, as her personal interview was the strongest of any competitor. Ms. Thomas has also been an advocate for Native Youth programs and indigenous language preservation, which are important components of Shoshone-Bannock culture.

I wish Ms. Thomas well as she travels across the United States in her role as Miss Indian World. It is a great honor for the Fort Hall community, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and my congressional district to have such a talented young woman represent her community on a world stage.

BILL ADAMS: PITTSBURGH INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION'S 2014 INVENTOR OF THE YEAR

**HON. MIKE KELLY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Bill Adams on having been named the 2014 Inventor of the Year by the Pittsburgh Intellectual Property Law Association. This award honors living inventors whose patented inventions have had a significant impact on the economy, social well-being, and the advancement of technology.

After returning from military service in Vietnam, Bill Adams worked in the Pittsburgh Public Schools as an elementary school librarian. In the late 1970s, Bill inherited \$10,000, resigned from his job and built Adams Manufacturing into the \$50 million-plus enterprise it is today.

As the Founder and Chairman of Adams Manufacturing, Bill has contributed to progressing the design and use of a number of consumer products, such as suction cups, outdoor resin furniture, and holiday accessories. Founded in 1976, Adams Manufacturing is headquartered in Portersville, Pennsylvania, and celebrates American ingenuity by ensuring that their products are "Made in the USA."

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Mr. Adams' contributions to Western Pennsylvania and American manufacturing.

TRIBUTE TO MISS MILLMAN, MR. DOWGIN, MISS VALLAD, & MISS DAVANZO

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lana Millman, Matthew Dowgin,

Anna Vallad, and Amanda Davanzo for their dedication and hard work for the people of Colorado's Sixth District as interns in my Washington, DC office for the spring 2014 session.

The work of these young men and women has been exemplary and I know they all have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these four and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

All four of our interns have made plans to continue their work in public service next year with various organizations in both Colorado and Washington. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Lana Millman, Matthew Dowgin, Anna Vallad, and Amanda Davanzo for their service this spring.

4TH ANNUAL JUNIOR INVITATIONAL AT SAGE VALLEY GOLF CLUB

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last weekend, I had the opportunity of attending the Sage Valley Golf Club in Graniteville, South Carolina, for the 4th Annual Junior Invitational at Sage Valley Golf Club. This spectacular event featured 54 of the top junior golfers from around the world coming together to compete at this prestigious championship. In just four short years, this tournament has quickly become heralded as one of the premier events in world of junior golf.

Congratulations to Scottie Scheffler, of Dallas, Texas, on his victory at this year's championship. Scottie's 54-hole total of 5-under par, 211, was one-shot clear of Cameron Champ, of Sacramento, California, who finished second.

This tournament, which brings juniors from around the country and world together for a unique experience, is the vision of the Club's founder, Weldon Wyatt. Mr. Wyatt is to be congratulated on this immensely successful tournament. The great golf legend Gary Player even made an appearance at this year's event. Each year golf enthusiasts will look forward to attending next year's championship, which provides extraordinary opportunities for young golfers worldwide.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BRYANT SCHLADE ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce

that Bryant Schlade of Napoleon, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Bryant's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2018. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Bryant brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2018. While attending Napoleon High School, in Napoleon, Ohio, Bryant was on the Honor Roll and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Throughout high school, Bryant was a member of his school's football, basketball, and track and field teams and earned varsity letters in all three sports. In addition, Bryant served as captain of the football and basketball teams his senior year. He was class president, member of the student council, Spanish Club member, Envirothon, and volunteered his time as an usher at church. I am confident that Bryant will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bryant Schlade on the acceptance of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Bryant will excel during his career at the Naval Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

#### HONORING DR. RAY ANN HAVASY

##### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Ray Ann Havasy, an esteemed resident of my congressional district. Not only is she an active and vocal member of her community in Port Washington, she is also the Director of the Center for Science Teaching and Learning, a valuable and necessary organization on Long Island.

The Center for Science Teaching and Learning exists to promote science education and literacy in children and adults. They accomplish this by holding workshops that engage our youth and challenge them to pursue their education inside and outside of the classroom.

Dr. Havasy, along with CSTL, has made an effort to promote S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) learning through local competitions that challenge participants to think critically about their studies and allow them to sharpen their knowledge in an applicable manner. The efforts of CSTL represent the type of innovative, out-of-the-box thinking we need to ensure that our children's academic competence remains that of a global leader.

Dr. Havasy and the Center for Science Teaching and Learning represent a positive institution in our community and I applaud their work. I am honored to be able to represent them here in Congress.

#### REMEMBERING JOHN BENINCASA

##### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the exemplary life and service of John Benincasa. John sadly passed away on April 6, 2014 at the age of 87.

Affectionately known as "Mr. Alliance" to those in his community, John was an extraordinary civil servant and veteran who served as president of the Alliance City Council and dedicated himself to the people of Stark County. On the day of his passing, John was in his 11th consecutive term as City Council president.

After graduating from Mount Union College, John worked as vice president and general manager of Da-Tronics Inc. He later became the City of Alliance Safety Service Director for much of the 1980s under then Mayor Francis Carr.

John was an active volunteer for his community, including 12 years on the Alliance Park board. John also spent 13 years in the Alliance Jaycees as a Board Member, where he helped organize and manage the Carnation City Triathlon/Duathlon for 25 years. John was also an active member of the United Methodist Church and the Alliance Area Family YMCA.

He was an exemplary civil servant, who was able to set aside partisan differences and work for the betterment of the city he loved. John will be honored by the Stark County Democratic Party posthumously with the lifetime achievement award. He was devoted to his family and faith, and was dedicated to and strongly preached the principles of the Democratic Party.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to honor the life of John Benincasa. I extend my most sincere condolences to John's entire family. His contributions to this community will not be forgotten. Northeast Ohio is a better place because of his service and his life. I ask that the House join me in remembering Mr. John Benincasa.

#### HONORING THE ETZ CHAIM CENTER ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of The Etz Chaim Center on the occasion of their anniversary this June, marking 25 years of providing quality Jewish education from a spiritual perspective to the Delaware Valley. Etz Chaim is a welcoming, non-judgmental organization dedicated to bringing the beauty and depth of Judaism to the contemporary Jew. Through a diverse menu of educational and spiritually-focused programs, Jews of all backgrounds are able to grow and connect more passionately with their heritage. Based in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, in my Congressional district, Etz Chaim provides programming for Jews and families in Montgomery County and the Philadelphia area.

Etz Chaim was founded in 1988 by Rabbi David Wachs and Rabbi Moshe Ungar in Northeast Philadelphia. Since then, both their space and their programs have grown. Etz Chaim's new headquarters in Elkins Park opened in 2012, allowing them to expand their numerous class, forum, and event offerings, providing hundreds of educational and spiritual programs for the community. Each year, Etz Chaim reaches almost 1,000 people, from community based events attended by many, to one on one learning sessions for individuals looking to advance their personal growth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 25th anniversary of Etz Chaim and all of their success in supporting the Jewish community in Pennsylvania.

#### HONORING CHARLES WILLIAM RANSOME

##### HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014*

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charlie Ransome who served our country for 23 years in the United States Army. I had the great privilege of knowing Charlie, and today I am including in the Congressional Record a tribute to him so that my colleagues will know how much he contributed to the nation, to his community, to his friends, and to his family.

Charles William "Charlie" Ransome, 49 years of age, passed away peacefully at his home in Sugar Land, Texas on November 30, 2012, after a courageous seven month battle with pancreatic cancer.

A celebration of Charlie's life was held at a funeral mass at St. Laurence Catholic Church in Sugar Land, Texas on Friday, December 7, 2012. He was buried in Houston National Cemetery with full military honors, as was his wish. Serving as pallbearers were Michael Ransome, Bobby Balli, Terry Ray, Adrian Janak, David Ragusa, Richard Whitworth, Bill McLaughlin, and Jim Allen.

Charlie is survived by his beloved wife and son, Melinda Janak Ransome and Charles Zachary Ransome of Sugar Land, Texas. Also surviving him are his parents Rufus G. Ransome, Jr. and Jeanine Calderoni Ransome of Brownsville, Texas; his sister, Kathryn Anne Traynor (Frank) and nieces Sarah, Emily, and Rebecca of Houston, Texas; his brother, Michael Edward Ransome (Denise) and nephew Joshua and niece Olivia of Scottsdale, Arizona.

Additional survivors include his uncle, Charles Fount Ray and cousins Sandy and Karen Ray, Marshall and Mary Lou Ray, and Terry and Laurie Ray, all of Brownsville, Texas; and his uncle and aunt, William S. McLaughlin, Jr. and Doris Calderoni McLaughlin, and cousins Mary Leigh McLaughlin, Grayson Tate, and William S. McLaughlin, III, all of Houston, Texas.

Charlie was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Rufus G. Ransome and Kathryn Eidman Ransome; maternal grandparents, Dr. Charles F. Calderoni and Doris Thompson Calderoni; and his aunt Ann Ransome Ray.

Charlie was born on June 7, 1963, in Brownsville, Texas, to Rufus G. Ransome, Jr.