

can also access learning centers in Moldova, Taiwan and Seoul, South Korea.

With over 3,500 talented and distinguished faculty and staff Keiser University has served nearly 60,000 hardworking alumni over the years. The university's committed philosophy of putting "students first" is reflected in its 60 programmatically-accredited academic offerings designed to prepare students for careers in business, criminal justice, health care, technology, hospitality, education, and career-focused general studies. Approximately 62 percent of students at Keiser University graduate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and healthcare fields. The university's students are pursuing degrees in over 100 doctoral, specialist, master's bachelor's, and associate fields as well as various continuing education programs.

Keiser University's goals include continually improving and ensuring effectiveness of its programs, building students' analytical and technical skills, as well as maintaining an unwavering devotion to powerful research at the doctoral level. These goals have led to successful students, an improved economy, and satisfied employers. Annually, Keiser University has made a statewide economic impact of over \$3 billion, as well as direct and indirect impacts for over 30,000 Florida jobs. It is no wonder that Keiser University is ranked 40th among colleges within the Southern Region of the United States.

Aside from changing the lives of its students and touting an impressive staff, Keiser University has consistently given back to the community. They have a major involvement in, among other things, food drives for primary schools, seniors citizen assistance, and major job fairs for those who want to find a role in America's and the international community's workforce. The U.S. News & World Report ranked Keiser 13th overall and 1st in Florida for the category of Regional Colleges South, specifically for its service to our nation's veterans. Moreover, Keiser University and the Keiser Mills Foundation have provided nearly \$44 million in scholarship funds to academic and needs-based US and international students.

Mr. Speaker, I once again want to congratulate the Board of Trustees of Keiser University, Chancellor Dr. Arthur Keiser, and Vice Chancellor Belinda Keiser, on opening their new Flagship campus. I wish them much success as they continue their perpetual dedication to students and commitment to quality, education and community service.

#### 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**HON. TIM WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 175th Anniversary of Bethel United Church of Christ in Freedom Township, Michigan.

In 1840, a young German minister, Rev. Friedrich Schmid, gathered 20 German immigrant farm families into a congregation named The Evangelical German Bethel Congregation of Freedom Township. Holding their first services in a log building, the congregation built a

wood frame church in 1857. The stone church used today by the congregation was constructed in 1909 with members providing the stones from their fields.

Eighteen pastors have shepherded Bethel UCC over the last 175 years, during which they have undertaken numerous mission projects for the benefit of those near and far away. For example, in the 19th century, clothing and blankets were sent to a Detroit hospital and orphan homes in three states. In the 20th century, several heifers were raised by the church and sent to Appalachia and Germany. The farmers in the congregation sent a rail car of wheat to help feed the hungry and quilts were made for veterans and those in hospitals. Today, quilts are still being sewn and the congregation also helps to feed the homeless locally and participates in a variety of projects that reach worldwide, keeping with the church's mission statement to "reach beyond these stone walls to impact communities both near and far."

In a stone church on a hilltop in rural Freedom Township, this congregation of more than 300 still gather to worship at Bethel, the "House of God." In January of this year, Bethel United Church of Christ began their year-long celebration and reflection on 175 years of sharing joys and sorrows together. On Sunday, November 8, descendants of those early pioneers will gather for a special worship service to acknowledge God's many blessings. I pray for a memorable celebration and for many more years of faithful witness of God's everlasting love in our community.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RULE OF LAW IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on the occasion of the visit of Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic to the United States and his meeting with Vice President Biden, to add my voice to the international criticism about human rights and the rule of law in the Republic of Serbia.

In December 2012, Miroslav Miskovic, the president of Delta Holding was arrested and charged with a crime based on an outdated, internationally discredited provision of the Serbian criminal code that is a relic of the nation's communist past. He was charged with "abuse of position by a responsible person" (Article 234) for allegedly receiving market rate interest payments on legitimate commercial loans to a Serbian road construction company that was privatized in 2005. This is not only legal, but common in other European Countries.

The State Department and the European Union have criticized Miskovic's arrest as an example of the ineffective judiciary, excessive use of pretrial detention and a denial of fair public trials. The State Department Human Rights Report states that Mr. Miskovic's pretrial detention was "contrary to the well-established position of the European Court of Human Rights on the issue, that custody must not only be lawful, but also reasonable and necessary." The European Union, as part of Serbia's EU accession process, has called on the government to reform the provision of the

Serbian criminal code under which Mr. Miskovic and 4,168 other individuals are charged. Mr. Miskovic's arrest is indicative of the Serbian justice system's serious need for reform.

With Prime Minister Vucic's visit, the Serbian government is seeking to foster closer ties to the United States as it continues its efforts to join the European Union. While I share the U.S. government's appreciation for Serbia's contribution to Balkan stabilization, I believe any U.S. support for improved relations or for Serbian accession to the EU should depend on that country's commitment to political reform, the addressing of the lack of transparency in the government and genuine efforts to increase the independence of its judiciary. The repeal of Article 234 would go a long way toward establishing those goals.

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ROSARIO ANAYA

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on August 5th a beloved community leader, education and affordable housing advocate, and civil rights activist passed away in San Francisco. Rosario Anaya was a trailblazer and a pillar of San Francisco's Latino community, who dedicated her life to championing social and economic justice for the disenfranchised and underserved.

Rosario was born on October 7, 1944 in Cochabamba, Bolivia and moved to San Francisco in the early 1960's, where she earned her bachelor's degree in public administration and a master's degree in counseling and psychology from the University of San Francisco. She went on to the UCLA Anderson School of Business's Management Development for Entrepreneurs program.

From the start, she proved herself to be a formidable force in the struggle for civil rights. Soon after moving to our city, she became a leader within the Mission Coalition Organization, a diverse network of local agencies that advocated for employment, housing, and education reform.

For forty years, until her untimely passing, she directed the Mission Language and Vocational School, a nonprofit community organization that offers English as a Second Language, and a wide range of computer and vocational courses for all immigrants. Among her many accomplishments with MLVS, she established the flourishing Latino Cuisine Culinary Academy, which provides immigrant workers with expanded opportunities within the San Francisco food industry.

In addition to her commitment to MLVS, Rosario was a key leader in many campaigns and coalitions for social and economic justice, including the San Francisco Latino Voter Registration Project, Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition and the United Farm Workers, where she organized food caravans from San Francisco to UFW's headquarters in Delano, California. She campaigned to rename Army Street in San Francisco for legendary labor leader Cesar Chavez.

Mayor George Moscone appointed Rosario to the San Francisco Board of Education in

the late 1970's. When she ran for a full four-year term in 1978, she became the first woman of Latin American descent elected to public office in San Francisco and subsequently served two more terms as School Board President.

More recently, in 2010 Mayor Gavin Newsom appointed her to the San Francisco Redevelopment Commission in order to help plan and supervise the construction of affordable housing.

Rosario served on more boards and committees and received more commendations and honors than can be named for her work in San Francisco and the State of California, as well as receiving international recognition from the governments of Mexico and Venezuela.

Rosario Anaya's leadership improving the lives of immigrants and at-risk populations within the San Francisco community has inspired generations of activists. She epitomized dignity and grace, and she leaves a shining legacy of fighting injustice.

I extend my deepest sympathy and condolences to Rosario's family and friends during this sad time. I hope it is a comfort to them to know that Rosario's legacy will live on through the countless lives she touched and the numerous coalitions and programs she helmed in her efforts to create a more just and equitable world.

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IN RECOGNITION OF PROGRESS AT  
WEST LOS ANGELES VA MEDICAL CENTER

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**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize the remarkable accomplishments being made at the VA West Los Angeles Medical Center by the Department of Veterans Affairs and Secretary Robert A. McDonald.

I will not be able to join Secretary McDonald in Los Angeles today as Congress is in session, but it is my pleasure to acknowledge the attention given and progress made at the West LA VA this year by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The West LA VA is the largest VA Medical Center in the nation and it had faced unfortunate challenges for many years. In January 2015, Secretary McDonald quickly settled a lawsuit that had been holding back progress for Veterans in Los Angeles. Since that time, all of the parties involved have been following a Principles Document that has been driving a Strategic Homeless Initiative and the development of a Master Plan.

In addition to being the largest VA Medical Center, Los Angeles has the largest population of homeless Veterans in the United States. We cannot solve homelessness nation-wide without addressing it in LA. Secretary McDonald engaged me early this year and we have partnered on many initiatives to address the crisis in homelessness. He has demonstrated a serious commitment to addressing homelessness among Veterans in Los Angeles and to developing a roadmap to ensure the sprawling West LA VA campus is focused on uses and services to directly benefit our nation's Veterans.

In fact, since March 2015 almost 1,400 area Veterans have been placed into permanent supportive housing. The VA expanded capacity to care for homeless Veterans by providing \$30 million in additional Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grants. Additional HUD-VASH vouchers have been awarded to our region, new beds have been added, and VA has hired more than 100 new employees prioritizing outreach and case management.

The VA has also actively forged relationships with every level of government, along with public and private partners to leverage resources in a truly unprecedented way.

We have a rare opportunity at this moment to solve homelessness among Veterans if we work together to make it happen. At the same time, we must also transform the West LA VA into a campus that serves our nation's Veterans with the dignity and integrity they so deserve. I am confident with our support and partnerships, Secretary McDonald will achieve this.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude to VA Secretary McDonald for dedicating an enormous amount of time and resources to restoring the trust of our Veterans at West Los Angeles and for delivering critical housing, programs, and services.

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TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

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**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2015*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Taiwan National Day, known as Double Tenth National Day and celebrated every year on October 10th.

Taiwan is a critical country in the Asia-Pacific region, and the people of Taiwan and the current President Ma Ying-jeou have been instrumental in improving relations between neighboring countries. President Ma has been a leader in finding peaceful solutions to the challenges they face, including building a cross-strait relationship between Taipei and Beijing as well as promoting the East China Sea Peace Initiative and the South China Sea Peace Initiative, both of which call upon the countries making claims in contested waters to share the natural resources in those waters.

Taiwan's role in trade has also grown significantly over the past 20 years. Taiwan now ranks as the 10th largest trade partner of the United States. The economic expansion in Taiwan has raised the country to become the 10th ranked country in trade volume among the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation economies and a leading supplier of intermediary goods in the region.

There is no doubt that Taiwan is leading by example in the Asia-Pacific region, and I am grateful that the United States and Taiwan remain close allies. I wish the people of Taiwan all the best as they prepare to celebrate Double Tenth National Day.

SAFER OFFICERS AND SAFER  
CITIZENS ACT OF 2015

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2015*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to join my colleagues Senator TIM SCOTT and Senator CORY BOOKER in introducing the "Safer Officers and Safer Citizens Act of 2015." This legislation will provide federal grant funding to outfit law enforcement officers with body cameras.

Police departments that use body cameras consistently have lower rates of complaints, show a reduced use of force, and have been shown to be a win-win for officers. A report conducted by the City of San Diego showed a 40% reduction in complaints filed by individuals, a 46% reduction in the use of force, and a 30% reduction in the use of pepper spray. A second study in Rialto, California showed a 60% reduction in force. These cameras make our streets safer for law enforcement and individuals.

Further, 785 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies participated in a study of the effectiveness of body-worn cameras, and 85% agreed that these cameras reduce false complaints.

The bill I am introducing today with Congressman BILL FOSTER and Congresswoman ELIZABETH ESTY, which is the companion to the Senate bill recently introduced by Senators CORY BOOKER and TIM SCOTT, will provide these law enforcement agencies additional resources to equip their officers.

At a time of tension and eroding trust between law enforcement and the public in many communities, body cameras help hold police officers accountable and encourage them to act appropriately as they protect and serve. This legislation enables departments to purchase body cameras without cutting or diverting funds from other important programs including community outreach efforts.

The "Safer Officers and Safer Citizens Act of 2015," will provide \$100 million annually to state, local, and tribal law enforcement departments through a grant program to outfit their officers with body cameras. I call on my colleagues in Congress to join me in this effort, and pass this bill.

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CONGRATULATING DR. JEFF REUTTER ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS RETIREMENT

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**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2015*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Jeff Reutter, pioneering and indefatigable Director of the Ohio Sea Grant College Program, Stone Laboratory, Center for Lake Erie Area Research, and Great Lakes Aquatic Ecosystem Research Consortium, on the announcement of his retirement.

Dr. Reutter's name has become synonymous with Lake Erie. He has spent his career fighting to develop the foundational data sets to support Lake Erie's recovery. During that time, Dr. Reutter has distinguished himself as