

Mr. Speaker, I once again want to honor Mr. Samuel J. Sworn, Jr. for his dedication and commitment to education, our fraternity, his community, and most of all to his family. He was a kind human being whose legacy and memory will always live on. I was truly proud to call Samuel my friend and will miss him dearly.

CONGRATULATING DONALD  
"TRAE" SHEEHAN III

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Donald "Trae" Sheehan III of Troop 165 of the Shenandoah Area Council in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. This accomplishment required leadership, service to his community, and a great deal of hard work. It makes me proud to see young West Virginians such as Donald work to better themselves and their communities as they prepare to become our nation's future leaders. I join with Donald's family and friends in congratulating him on becoming an Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO VAN CLARK JR.

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Van Clark Jr. for his retirement from Modern Optical in Des Moines after 43 years of dedicated service.

Van has spent his life helping his patients enjoy their lives to the fullest. His dedication to helping others is second to none. During his time at Modern Optical, Van would make special trips to nursing homes in the area to offer optical assistance to those who were in need. He now plans to spend as much time as possible with his family and travel with his wife.

Mr. Speaker, Van's selflessness and willingness to help others is a true embodiment of the Iowa spirit. It is an honor to represent him and Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him on this momentous occasion and wish him nothing but continued success and happiness in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING PAULETTE PYLE

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my very good friend, Paulette Pyle, for her many years advocating for Oregon's farmers, ranchers and foresters. Paulette is retiring from Oregonians for Food and Shelter where she delivered 35 years of historic serv-

ice as their Director of Grassroots, and is one of the most respected and expert advocates in the country in her field. Since many of my colleagues call Paulette a dear friend, I'd like to pay tribute to her numerous contributions to Oregon and its natural resource industries.

Born in Sioux City, Iowa and raised on a wheat and dairy operation near Cottonwood, Idaho, agriculture has always been close to Paulette's heart. As she has worked on behalf of Oregon's farmers for over three decades, Paulette became well known statewide for the passion for and commitment to the farm, ranch and timber families she worked for.

In 1972, after nearly a decade working in health care, Paulette made her first professional foray into politics, serving as district staff for Senator Steve Symms of Idaho during his time in the U.S. House. She campaigned her way from Idaho to Oregon. A tenacious and well-liked go-getter from the start, she was known to go door to door on campaigns with her twin baby girls—one on each hip.

Paulette took her grassroots experience to the newly formed Oregonians for Food and Shelter in 1980. Over the next 35 years, she became a beloved and relied upon household name for Oregon's farmers, ranchers and foresters as well as a highly regarded advocate around the state capitol and in the halls of Congress.

In that role, Paulette became an integral part of Oregon's natural resources community, tying together sometimes differing groups towards a common goal. If there was an issue heating up that affected the industry, you knew you'd find Paulette leading the charge to ensure progress.

Guided by what she knew was right and in the best interest of Oregon, Paulette knew how to get things done. At times when others may have been turned off by a defeat, Paulette just got creative. And this approach often led to success.

One example of Paulette's creative, can-do disposition is the time Paulette worked tirelessly to move a pesticide bill through the legislature, only to have the Governor veto it. Unwilling to give up on the effort, Paulette went to work again, getting the language attached to a bill referring a decision on a light rail project to the voters—a legislative vehicle that the Governor was eager to see approved. Left with a choice between letting the bill move forward with Paulette's language included, or vetoing his own legislative priority, the Governor signed the bill into law. Paulette scored a win on behalf of family farmers, and voters went on to vote down the Governor's project.

This tenacity and skill served Paulette well at the federal level too. Her grassroots efforts were integral as we worked to turn the heat up on the Senate and push the last major federal forest policy reform to become law, the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, across the finish line.

State legislators and members of Congress weren't the only ones leaning on Paulette for advice and assistance. President George W. Bush became fast friends with Paulette, and made sure she was included in any ranching, farming or forestry discussion affecting Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. The president's team would call me before one of his many visits to Oregon during his presidency to confirm that I had not forgotten to make sure Paulette would be available to join "43" when he visited our family farmers, ranchers and for-

esters. The Bush White House team soon learned that I did not need a reminder to include Paulette as I'd tell them she was always first on my call list.

In addition to Paulette's significant professional achievements, it is important to note that an even higher priority for her is her cherished family and the faith that guides her daily. Paulette and her husband Ken raised six outstanding children, who in turn are raising their 16 grandchildren. Paulette has led her family by love and Christian example, and this is very clear to all who know her.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join me in recognizing and thanking my good friend, Paulette Pyle, for her years of leadership and tremendous dedication on behalf of the natural resource industry. Oregon's farmers, ranchers and foresters have benefited in countless ways over the past three and a half decades thanks to Paulette. I wish Paulette and Ken the best for many years of good health and happiness in retirement and the years ahead. She will forever remain a very special friend.

CONGRATULATING THE 2015 HONOREES OF THE TOLEDO AFRICAN AMERICAN LEGACY PROJECT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate thirteen community leaders who are being recognized as 2015 honorees of the Toledo African American Legacy Project. The Toledo African American Legacy Project is dedicated to bringing together people to document and preserve the history of northwest Ohio's African American communities and demonstrate the impact and influence of individuals upon Toledo and the greater world community.

This year's honorees are indeed a celebrated group. Elinor Allen is a retired school teacher who for 33 years served as an elementary teacher, Unit Leader, and reading teacher in Toledo Public Schools. Ronald Jackson, Sr., was appointed as the first African American Deputy Chief of the Toledo Police Department and also served as Executive Director of the Board of Community Relations. Theresa M. Gabriel has served in many capacities within the city government including Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry and Director of Department of Human Resources. She currently serves on Toledo City Council. John Moore is a consultant, motivational speaker and author whose current and past board memberships include Owens Community College and the College's foundation, Boys and Girls Clubs of Toledo and Hospice of Northwest Ohio. Doni Miller is the CEO of the Neighborhood Health Association, a federally qualified health center. She earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Toledo and has 25 years of experience in health administration in addition to hosting a local public affairs television program. Ben Williams has dedicated his life to youth. He is currently the Executive Director of the Ben E. Williams Youth Service, Inc., and was the first African American coach inducted into the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

The Toledo African American Legacy Project also posthumously recognized: Dr. Frank A. Brown, who was elected the first African American as Vice President of the Toledo Board of Education and eventually President; and Roland A. Gandy, Jr., who was Chief of Staff at Mercy Hospital and Maumee Valley Hospital and was known for providing services free of charge to Scott High School and the University of Toledo athletics.

In addition to honoring these community leaders, the Toledo African American Legacy Project also highlights young, emerging African-Americans leading the way for the future. This year, four people were recognized for their efforts. Larome Myrick is a Parole Service Supervisor in the Department of Youth Services Toledo Region. Kelly Westmoreland is an agent for Bankers Life and Casualty. Jason Woodward is a minister, deacon and finance director at Trinity Faith Tabernacle Church. Rashieda Timpson is founder and CEO of the Christian based non-profit organization United Sisters (women inspiring women).

It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate all of these honorees for their hard work and dedicated service. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us and together we build community forward. The 2015 African American Legacy Project honorees represent the excellence that is in us. Their leadership inspires.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARSHA  
BIANCONI'S SERVICE AS EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR OF THE CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Marsha Bianconi for her distinguished service as the Executive Director of the Conference of Western Wayne. Marsha's commitment to our community has enriched the lives of so many and helped guide the leaders of our region towards collective and coordinated success.

The Conference of Western Wayne is a consortium of eighteen western Wayne County communities who meet monthly to discuss issues including: legislation, transportation, public safety, substance abuse, economic development, and the environment. For over thirty five years, the Conference of Western Wayne has moved forward with its mission to support the bi-partisan, mutual interest of its member communities. For twenty seven of those years, Marsha has shaped the mission, vision, and programming of the organization and taken it far beyond what anyone would have imagined when it started.

As we reflect on her service and accomplishments, it is important to recognize that Marsha has been a wonderful mother of two children, Steven and Melissa, and a loving wife to her husband Bob. After all, we are all working to build stronger, safer communities not just for ourselves, but for our families and friends. While she is looking forward to retirement, I know that we will not lose her insight and leadership in our region because she will continue to stay involved in so many of our community organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Mrs. Marsha Bianconi for her twenty seven years of service to our communities and for her dedication to regional cooperation. I thank her for her leadership and wish her many years of joy in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO SARA ROSS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sara Ross of Minden, Iowa, for being selected as the Midwest Farm Mom of the Year. Sara grew up in a small rural community in Nebraska, but she did not grow up on a farm. When Sara married her husband Kevin, a sixth-generation Iowa farmer, she took it upon herself to learn the farm business.

The criteria used in selecting the "Farm Mom of the Year" by the American Agri-Women, a national coalition of farm, ranch, and agribusiness women, is based on support for family and commitment to agriculture. Sara's commitment is evident through her blog about farm life, her involvement in volunteer farm organizations, and her international work, including traveling to China to teach women there about U.S. agriculture and soybean production.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Sara for her leadership in the agriculture community in Pottawattamie County, the State of Iowa, and with international partners. Sara's hard work and dedication to her family and farm represents our Iowa values, and I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Sara and in wishing her and her family nothing but the best.

A TRIED AND TRUE TRADITION:  
TEXAS BARBECUE

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, barbecue is among the great traditions of Texas. Texans are passionate about their favorite barbecue as they are about football and politics. I've heard barbeque, football, and politics should not be brought up in mixed company. All three are contact sports here.

We take our barbecue seriously, and we know we smoke it the best way. Folks are known to plan road trips across the state to remedy a hankering for barbecue at legendary joints, like Louie Miller Barbecue in Taylor, Black's Barbecue in Lockhart, or City Market in Luling. Let's not forget one of the world's best barbecue cook-offs is held every year at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Folks ask me all the time, "Where do you go for good Texas barbecue?"

My choice, hands down, is located practically in my backyard—Tin Roof BBQ in Atascocita. There are few places I would rather be than sidled up to a table at Tin Roof,

catching up on local conversations with neighbors and enjoying authentic Texas barbecue.

Tin Roof has been a staple in our community for 14 years, and over the years, I've eaten there so often that I consider the owners, Ronnie and Nancy Webber, to be friends. Ronnie and Nancy decided to open Tin Roof soon after Ronnie retired from the Houston Police Department. Not content with retirement, they purchased a historic home, located close to Memorial Park, which was used during World War II to house military personnel at Camp Logan. A developer was going to tear it down until the Webbers saved it. They moved the structure to Atascocita and outfitted it in Texas-themed decor.

The restaurant has grown from the original house with several additions, including a Texas-sized covered deck. On a typical Saturday night, folks fill the place to sample delicious, homemade cooking, from Texas' best barbecue to side dishes made from scratch. Of course, there's Ronnie's delicious homemade sauce, sweet tea, and live music.

Family-owned restaurants, like Tin Roof, are the heart of our community. Ronnie and Nancy are deeply rooted here, and it shows. They give back whenever they can. They provide food, friendship, and support for a number of neighborhood organizations, area schools, and our local law enforcement officers. Recently, they participated in a charity cook-off to help the Banded Brigade Outdoors, an organization that provides morale-boosting events, such as hunting, fishing, and target shooting, for those who have served our great country.

Many love barbecue for its taste. Aficionados love it for its craft. Texans love it for its tradition, steeped in community with friends and family gathered around a picnic table, making memories. This weekend grab the family and head to the nearest Texas barbecue joint. Just be careful if you mix it with football and politics.

And that's just the way it is—y'all.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR GZ  
(CHARLIE) BROWN

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2015*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize University of Oregon Professor GZ (Charlie) Brown, Philip H. Knight Professor of Architecture. For 38 years, Professor Brown has taught and inspired generations of University of Oregon students and practitioners.

Prof. Brown is a leader in sustainable design and founded the UO Energy Studies in Buildings Laboratory, (ESBL) located in Portland and Eugene. As director of the ESBL, he developed and oversaw research projects focused on understanding how building and transportation design determines energy consumption. The lab collaborates with designers, builders, developers, and governmental agencies to develop strategies and design tools that maximize energy efficiency in new materials, components, assemblies, buildings, and communities. The ESBL has acted as a design consultant on more than 100 projects.

Prof. Brown is a pioneer. In 1988, he collaborated on a study investigating the impacts