

serve the people of Northwest Florida as a County Commissioner in both Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties.

In 2005, Buck was selected as Executive Director of the Santa Rosa Island Authority. In this capacity, he is responsible for implementing plans and programs established by the Santa Rosa Island Authority Board and administering the daily operations of the Santa Rosa Island Authority, which includes a staff of 35 permanent employees and approximately 40 seasonal employees on Pensacola Beach.

Buck's tenure as Executive Director of the Santa Rosa Island Authority has coincided with several pivotal moments in Northwest Florida history. He was appointed in the wake of Hurricane Ivan, one of the costliest storms in American history and was also Executive Director during Hurricane Dennis. Buck worked diligently to restore the beach, but in 2010, the community was hit hard again following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. In 2012, however, Pensacola Beach had the best year ever for retail sales, and with the Santa Rosa Island Authority Board approval, Buck implemented "Bands on the Beach," an event that attracts thousands of individuals. Buck also oversees the Pensacola Beach Blue Angels Airshow and is active in various civic and community organizations. His excellent service has not gone unnoticed, and he has received numerous awards, including the 2011 Communicator of the Year award by the Florida Public Relations Association.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful community, I am pleased to congratulate Mr. Buck Lee on his well-earned retirement. My wife Vicki and I wish him all the best for continued success.

JOSEPH DEMOTT

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph DeMott of Lititz, Pennsylvania.

Mr. DeMott served our country in the Army Air Corps during World War II, suffering severe leg wounds in a mission over what is now Jakarta. While he was in the hospital, Japan overtook the city and he was captured in March 1942. He was sent to a POW camp to do farm labor, build fences, dig ditches, and work on the docks. Joseph DeMott was starved, beaten, and temporarily blinded when the camp was liberated in September 1945. For his heroism, he received two Purple Hearts.

After the war, back home in Pennsylvania, he became an electrical engineer after graduating from Penn State. He went on later to work as a plant manager at Champion Blower and Forge in Lancaster.

This October, 70 years later, he and seven other former POWs held by Japan during World War II traveled to Japan as guests of the Japanese government to revisit and reconcile with their past.

Mr. DeMott's story is an outstanding lesson to us all not only in courage, selflessness, patriotism, and valor, but also in forgiveness. Those who are truly strong are strong enough to forgive.

Mr. Speaker, there are heroes all around us in this country. I am proud to represent over 40,000 of them in the Sixteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS AND LINDA KOEHN

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Thomas and Linda Koehn for being recognized as Outstanding Individual Philanthropists by the Des Moines Business Record. They have long been supporters of arts, culture, and community service in the Des Moines area.

For years the Koehns have dedicated their time and talents to promoting the greater good. They have directed most of their philanthropic efforts to The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines and United Way of Central Iowa. Thomas and Linda describe the two organizations as pillars of the greater Des Moines metropolitan area.

The Koehns' willingness to serve others before themselves has left a long-lasting impact on the community. Their dedicated leadership on a variety of philanthropic boards and organizations cannot be understated, as well as their contributions to the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, the Des Moines Symphony, and the Science Center of Iowa, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, the Koehns' display of civic duty throughout their lives is admirable and gives me great hope for our nation's future. It is Iowans like them who make me proud to call myself an Iowan and represent the people of our great state. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating the Koehns for receiving this outstanding recognition and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

HONORING THOMAS "TANK" STRICKLAND

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Thomas "Tank" Strickland is one of the hardest working people I have ever known and a very patriotic American. He will retire soon from his position as city community relations director in Knoxville, Tennessee, where he has served for almost 20 years. He has also represented the city he loves so much for several years as an esteemed member of the Knox County Commission.

A graduate of Austin-East High School and the University of Tennessee, Mr. Strickland's service to the community spans a lifetime and has come not just through government but also volunteer and philanthropy work. The community honored him for this devotion with the naming of Thomas "Tank" Strickland Park. Recently, he was also bestowed with the Jayne Thomas Grassroots Volunteer Recognition Award for community advocacy from the

Community Action Partnership. This award is given only to those who have "made a significant and outstanding contribution toward accomplishing the promise of Community Action" and is "devoted to changing people's lives."

Mr. Strickland has devoted countless hours of his life to combating neighborhood violence and helping at-risk youth. He is seen in Knoxville as a symbol of integrity. Among other causes he champions are the Howard Circle of Friends, a senior day-care group, and the Interfaith Health Clinic for the working poor.

Mr. Speaker, Thomas "Tank" Strickland has spent his entire life in service to the neighborhood where he grew up. I call his work and dedication to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers in hopes that he will inspire many, many more in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Thursday, December 10, 2015, as I was attending a funeral in my congressional district in Massachusetts.

On Roll Call Vote Number 688, the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair on the Privileged Resolution offered by Ms. PELOSI of California to place on the calendar for an immediate vote H.R. 1076, the Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act, had I been present I would have voted NO.

36TH ANNUAL RECOGNITION DAY OF CONCERNED WOMEN OF BROOKLYN

**HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 36th Annual Recognition Day of Concerned Women of Brooklyn. This organization has helped to make a difference in the lives of countless women, their families and communities in Brooklyn for decades. On December 12, 2015 at Giando's on the Water in Brooklyn, NY, this year's honorees will be celebrated for their invaluable service.

The Concerned Women of Brooklyn are proud to honor 12 prominent individuals selected for distinguishing themselves in their chosen fields. Ms. Georgetta Belton, Director of Culinary Ministry at Bethany Baptist Church, Mr. Frank Boswell, Executive Director of Bushwick Economic Development Corporation, Mr. Edie Gonzalez-Devonish, Educational Director of Two by Two Child Care, Dr. Benjamin Igwe, President and CEO of Family Service Network of New York, Mr. Winchester Key, President and CEO of East New York Urban Youth Corporation, Reverend Rose M. King-Bennett of Associated Minister Greater Bright Light Missionary Baptist Church, Ms. Judy D. Newton, independent consultant and community advocate and Reverend Marsha Scipio, Esq. Executive Director of Berean Community and Family Life Center are recipients of Concerned Women of Brooklyn's Excellence in Community and Civic Services.

Dr. Jonah Green, Medical Staff President of Woodhull Medical Center, Ms. Marcia Peters, JD, Senior Associated Executive Director at Bellevue Hospital Center and Dr. Ramanathan Raju, President and CEO of the New York City Health + Hospitals are recipients of Concerned Women of Brooklyn's Excellence in Health Services and Ms. Jani Selestine Ahay, a New England College student is the recipient of the Peggy Pinchback Scholarship Award.

I commend these honorees for their dedication, commitment and contribution to serving the people of Brooklyn.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating the 36th Annual Recognition Day of Concerned Women of Brooklyn and these 12 wonderful honorees.

#### TRIBUTE TO STEVE CHAPMAN

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Steve Chapman for being recognized by the Des Moines Business Record as this year's Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser. For over 20 years Steve has been relied upon in the greater Des Moines metropolitan area as a trusted and effective fundraising leader.

Among the many diverse contributions Steve has made to the Des Moines metro area, his fundraising acumen has been exceptionally influential. In dedicating his time and talent Steve has successfully fundraised for organizations like ChildServe, Yes for Valley, Boy Scouts of America, Easter Seals, and the American Heart Association, to name a few.

Steve has also played a key role in a number of important Des Moines initiatives, including the passage of the Polk County local option sales tax. His willingness to serve and work on the behalf of others is a testament to his character.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Steve today. It is Iowans like Steve that make me proud to be an Iowan and represent our great state. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Steve for this outstanding accomplishment and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

#### CONGRATULATING LISA DRAKE UPON HER RETIREMENT

### HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lisa Drake upon her upcoming retirement after 28 years with Monsanto.

Since January 2007, Lisa has served as the Team Lead for U.S. State and Local Government Affairs for Monsanto. In that capacity, she has managed the company's government affairs and community relations teams in all fifty states and Puerto Rico. She also has served as Secretary of the Board of Colorado Biosciences Association.

Prior to working in Government Affairs, Lisa was Director of Public Affairs for Monsanto's Agricultural Sector, managing global media relations and issues management for the company's leading herbicide, Roundup herbicide, and several of its biotechnology traits and seeds businesses.

Before she joined Monsanto, Lisa earned a B.A. in technical journalism from Colorado State University and she worked for two trade associations in California. She also served as a reporter for several daily and weekly newspapers in Colorado, Mississippi and Alabama.

As the Team Lead for U.S. State and Local Government Affairs, Lisa recruited, trained and developed an outstanding team of professionals to represent Monsanto before local and state governments. She and her team have built deep and effective relationships with legislative bodies, elected officials, and grower organizations throughout the nation. While she has had many accomplishments, one of note is her development and implementation of a strategy to engage and partner with communities around a number of Monsanto's facilities.

Throughout her career, Lisa has represented Monsanto with professionalism, grace, and class and has been a strong advocate for American agriculture and farmers. After relocating from St. Louis some years ago, Lisa and her husband Jack and two children, Sam and Amanda, live and work in Denver, Colorado. In retirement, Lisa and Jack are looking forward to traveling and pursuing their hobbies and philanthropic activities. I wish them the best as they begin this exciting new chapter in their lives.

#### TRIBUTE TO RICHARD AND BARBARA KUNZE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Richard and Barbara Kunze of Griswold, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. They were married at the Lewis Methodist Church in 1950.

Richard and Barbara's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Rebecca, Dennis, Brad and Dana, along with their grandchildren and great-children truly embodies our Iowa values. It is families like the Kunzes that make me proud to call myself an Iowan and represent the people of our great state.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 65th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

#### TRIBUTE TO TED BEATTIE

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Ted Beattie

for his dedication to education and to congratulate him on his retirement after twenty-one years with Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

For over two decades, Mr. Beattie has led Shedd Aquarium as its president and CEO, overseeing the aquarium's largest expansion project and launching Shedd to its position as one of the country's leading educational aquariums.

Mr. Beattie began his career as a marketing and development director for the Cincinnati Zoo and eventually went on to lead zoos in both Tennessee and Texas before coming to Chicago in 1994. He is an active member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and formerly served as its president.

As a respected leader in his field of marine science, Mr. Beattie was appointed by President Bush to serve on the sixteen-member U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, an initiative that has led to the creation of new ocean policies, such as pollution prevention efforts and the enhancement of marine science, commerce, and transportation.

A commitment to education has been one of Mr. Beattie's top priorities in his years with Shedd Aquarium. The \$45 million Wild Reef wing opened in 2003 and features one of the most diverse shark exhibits in the country. In 2009, during Mr. Beattie's tenure, the renovation of Shedd's Abbott Oceanarium marine mammal pavilion was completed—restoring one of Shedd's favorite exhibits, beloved by teachers, students, and patrons of all ages.

Under Mr. Beattie's leadership, Chicago's Shedd Aquarium has secured its reputation as a world-class aquarium, hosting millions of guests each year. Mr. Beattie's commitment to marine education has undoubtedly contributed to Shedd's excellence and I congratulate him on his many achievements and thank him for his work to make Shedd Aquarium one of Illinois' most treasured attractions.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 687—Yes, rollcall No. 688—No, rollcall No. 689—Yes.

I was unavoidably detained.

#### TRIBUTE TO GREENFIELD OIL

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 11, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Greenfield Oil from Greenfield, Iowa. The company has reached an important milestone this year and I join them in celebrating their 100th anniversary of providing goods and services to southern Iowa.

Greenfield Oil's doors first opened on August 15th, 1915 by its owner, Frank Grounds. Since that time, three generations of family have owned and operated Greenfield Oil, focusing on auto care and tires.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor that I'm able to recognize Greenfield Oil and its hard-working employees today for their dedication and