

Mr. Speaker, it is time that we take a stand to put an end to long-term homelessness in America. I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this critically important bill, so that we can end homelessness across this nation, because no person deserves to live without a home or to be on the streets.

OUTSTANDING CIVIC LEADERSHIP

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sgt. Matt Levan of the Sugar Land Police Department for being named the 2014 Officer of the Year. This award reflects his exceptional contributions to our community and his outstanding civic leadership.

Sgt. Levan began his service for the Sugar Land Police Department 19 years ago and continues to display leadership and commitment to his job. As a member of the Houston Metro Internet Crimes against Children Task Force, he has taken a special interest in the welfare of children in Sugar Land. Always going a step further, he makes a practice of sharing his experience and insights to empower the public to better defend themselves from criminal threats. Thanks to officers like Sgt. Levan, residents of Sugar Land can sleep better at night knowing that our police officers are dedicated to serving our community and keeping us safe.

I commend Sgt. Levan for his outstanding leadership and service to our community at the Sugar Land Police Department. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Sgt. Matt Levan on being named the 2014 Officer of the Year.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CORPORAL TYLER SCOTT BREWER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life, and note the passing of Tyler Scott Brewer of Stanton, Kentucky, whom passed away on January 24, 2015 at the young age of 23.

According to his friends and family, Tyler lived a life of adventure, compassion, servitude and the natural ability to touch lives. His love for his family, friends, music, and his Kentucky home was sincere and eternal. Tyler was an absolute joy to be around, a true free spirit, and had a network of friends that stretched from coast to coast.

As a child, Tyler loved playing outside. He was especially fond of the days spent on Cave Run Lake with his family. He attended Bowen Elementary School and was praised by his teachers for being an excellent student and an extremely caring person; even at an early age he was an advocate for those who were different or less fortunate. It was in elementary school where Tyler was introduced to one of his passions, Powell County Pirate football.

Tyler started playing football in 5th grade and played all the way through his senior season of high school. He was a four-year starter on the varsity team while playing middle linebacker on defense and full back on offense. In addition to being an outstanding football player, he was also awarded the honor of Academic All State all four seasons of high school. Tyler graduated with honors from Powell County High School in 2010 and enrolled at The University of Kentucky (UK).

While at UK, Tyler decided to join the Marine Corps. He left for Paris Island, South Carolina in March 2011 to embark on the most rigorous training regimen required by any branch of the military; training that molds a recruit into a Marine. His proudest moment was his successful completion of the rite of passage known as The Crucible. Along with being a model Marine, Tyler earned the rank of Corporal in less than 3 and half years. Tyler served one tour in Afghanistan, as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, where he earned the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal.

Tyler left the Marine Corps in September 2014 to return to life as a civilian. Upon returning to Kentucky, Tyler enrolled in the welding program at Maysville Community and Technical College. He was extremely excited about the school but unfortunately he would never fulfill his goal of completing the program.

Tragically, on January 24, 2015, the bright light known as Tyler Scott Brewer was taken in an automobile accident. Over 1,000 mourners visited Tyler. The outpouring of love from people all across the nation was historic for his small Powell County community and a testament to the amount of lives he touched and affected in such a short amount of time.

Tyler was buried with full military honors and laid to rest at the Donnie G. Randall Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Stanton, Kentucky.

Tyler Scott Brewer was a son, brother, grandson, great grandson, nephew, cousin, Marine, and a true friend to all. His kind and loving spirit will be missed, but his legacy will not be forgotten.

MCCOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAMED A 2014 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate McCoy Elementary School in Carrollton, Texas, for earning the distinction of being named one of the nation's most successful schools through the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program.

In 1982, the Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize schools for their high or significantly improved achievement. The program's goal is to identify the methods of thriving American schools to inspire others to imitate their successful practices.

In October of 2014, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan named McCoy Elementary School as a 2014 Blue Ribbon School. Schools selected for national honors reflect high standards and accountability to their stu-

dents and community alike. McCoy Elementary School remains committed to enhancing the quality of learning for its students. The tireless work of the school's educators and families cannot go unnoticed, commensurate with the hard work of the students who helped earn this award.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating McCoy Elementary School on its accomplishment as a National Blue Ribbon School.

HONORING ALAMEDA COUNTY AS- SISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOHN JAY ON RETIREMENT

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Alameda County Assistant District Attorney John Jay on his upcoming retirement.

John has devoted his career to achieving justice for the residents of Alameda County and to keeping them safe. Following law school he served as a law clerk in the Alameda County Assistant District Attorney's Office and then, in December 1979, was appointed to be a deputy district attorney.

Over his 35 year career, John has played a positive role in nearly every part of the District Attorney's Office. Early on he tackled some of the most serious felony cases in the county, proving to be an excellent trial attorney.

John first took on a management position in 1998 when he became head of the Alameda Branch. Later he became a preliminary examination team leader in the Wiley Manuel Branch and the Assistant in Charge of the Fremont Branch, a position he holds today.

John has been a terrific mentor to the many young prosecutors in the District Attorney's Office, including myself. He also taught outside the office as well, serving as a criminal law and evidence professor at Chabot College and Las Positas College. And, he worked with police officers to help them understand what a prosecutor looks for when presenting a case.

John has well earned his retirement. He looks forward to spending time with his wife Corrine and enjoying his interests in carpentry, travel and the outdoors.

I want to thank John for his years of dedicated service. I also want to wish him a very enjoyable retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 108, I was absent attending Auditor Tom Schweich's funeral in the State of Missouri. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

CELEBRATING THE
CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARY KIGHT

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Kight of Waterbury, Connecticut.

Mary Kight, an extraordinary woman, exhibits remarkable strength, courage, and patriotism. Her son, Michael Aaron Kight served as a helicopter pilot in the U.S. Army and was killed in action on May 19, 1967 while trying to evacuate injured soldiers in South Vietnam.

Shortly after her son's death, Mrs. Kight joined the Gold Star Mothers and dedicated her time to helping families and communities remember her son and all those who sacrificed their lives for our country.

Mrs. Kight went on to serve as Connecticut Department Chair of the American Gold Star Mothers for many years. She was instrumental in acquiring the beautiful Gold Star Mothers Statue that is proudly displayed in Waterbury City Hall.

While Mrs. Kight is no longer the department chair of the Gold Star Mothers, she is still an active member of the organization. She is also involved in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Waterbury Veterans Memorial Committee. She proudly wears her white uniform at all of the local veterans' ceremonies to honor and remember her son.

This evening, as part of the Department of Defense's Vietnam War Commemoration program, the Daughters of the American Revolution will present Mrs. Kight with a certificate recognizing her for her service and sacrifice.

I congratulate Mrs. Kight on this honor, and thank her for all that she does for the City of Waterbury, State of Connecticut, and United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO JOE HOGAN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize a long-time friend and a resident of my home town of Levittown, Joe Hogan. Joe was named to be the grand marshal of the 2015 Bucks County St. Patrick's Day Parade because of his lifetime of service to the veteran's community. I have known Joe for many years and over that time he has exemplified how a committed community servant should live his life. A combat wounded Marine, Joe has served as a post-commander for his local VFW, member of the Disabled American Veterans and presently serves as the president of the Guardians of the National Cemetery, an all-volunteer support organization for the Washington Crossing National Cemetery. Joe has also served as an adult leader for Boy Scout Troop 123 and has remained active with coaching youth sports including his grandson's baseball team for the last three decades. I am fortunate to call him my friend and I look forward to seeing many more years of his involvement in our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA SCHIANDRA FOR HER EFFORTS IN PITTSSTON, PENNSYLVANIA ON BEHALF OF BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Schiandra who is to be named Person of the Year by the Greater Pittston Sunday Dispatch. In October 2014 Ms. Schiandra organized one of the biggest fundraisers in the history of Pittston, Pennsylvania. Over the course of four days, Ms. Schiandra raised both awareness of breast cancer's toll and the importance of its prevention and \$30,000 for breast cancer research—all during the first annual and very successful Paint Pittston Pink event.

It was Ms. Schiandra's own experience that led to this remarkable achievement. She was pregnant with her youngest son when she discovered her own cancer. At only 34 years old she was diagnosed with a highly aggressive type of cancer with a high recurrence rate. After she began chemotherapy, she learned that she qualified for a clinical trial of a vaccine at the University of Pennsylvania sponsored by the Pennies in Action Fund, the eventual beneficiary of her community work.

Initially, the plan for Paint Pittston Pink was to utilize breast cancer awareness flags to line Pittston's Main Street during the month of October. Paint Pittston Pink quickly grew into a much larger event, attracting hundreds of people and a host of local businesses. The ColorMePink 5K and Caped CURE-Sader Family Fun Walk drew over 500 participants to Downtown Pittston. At the end of the four days, Barbara and her team presented a check for \$30,000 to the University of Pennsylvania Pennies in Action Fund to support its cancer research. Greater Pittston, and all those affected by cancer, were highly moved by her efforts.

I congratulate Ms. Schiandra on being named Person of the Year by the Greater Pittston Sunday Dispatch, and I applaud both her inspirational personal courage and her heroic efforts to fight cancer. With efforts like Barbara's, we will one day fully beat this disease.

HONORING THE 11TH ANNUAL
SENEY VETERANS SNOWMOBILE
RIDE

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 11th annual Seney Veterans Snowmobile Ride, which will occur on Saturday, March 14, 2015 in Seney, Michigan.

I had the privilege of participating last year with over 300 fellow riders as we honored and remembered the sacrifices and service of all that have served our nation.

Founded by Don and Diane Reed, veterans and owners of the Fox River Motel and sponsored by the Seney Snowmobile Association,

the event has grown every year since it was first established building on their motto of "be a Vet, bring a Vet, thank a Vet."

Please join me in recognizing all the veterans and supporters participating in the Seney Veterans Snowmobile Ride. We must never forget our veterans and their contribution to the United States.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HUMAN
TRAFFICKING FRAUD ENFORCEMENT
ACT OF 2015

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce bipartisan legislation with my colleague Rep. TED POE.

In March of 1931 the infamous gangster, Al Capone, was indicted for tax fraud. Today the IRS Criminal Investigations division continues to play a vital role in proving criminal activity and fraud, and I believe they can play an even stronger role in cracking down on human trafficking and prostitution.

This bill is meant to enhance the Internal Revenue Service's ability to crack down on sex trafficking by authorizing \$4 million to establish an office within the IRS to prosecute sex traffickers for violations of tax laws. The office would focus on the willful failure of traffickers to file returns, supply information, or pay tax where the taxpayer is an "aggravated" non-filer. In addition, the office would coordinate closely with existing task forces focused on sex trafficking offenders in the Department of Justice.

The bill also amends the Internal Revenue Code to increase criminal monetary and other penalties for attempts to: evade or defeat tax, willful failure to file a tax return, supply information, or pay tax, aggravated failure to file tax returns, fraud and false statements, and underpayment or overpayment of tax due to fraud. This offense will carry a maximum sentence of 10 years and a maximum fine of \$50,000.00.

The Human Trafficking Fraud Enforcement Act of 2015 also establishes a new felony offense for an aggravated failure to file to include failure to file with respect to income or payments derived from activity which is criminal under Federal or State law. This will target conduct committed by those involved in the promotion of commercial sex acts—pimps and traffickers—and not conduct of exploited persons in prostitution.

Last, this bill directly benefits those that are victimized by the traffickers by revising current IRS Whistleblower provisions so that women and girls who choose to participate in the investigation will be eligible to participate in the whistleblower program and may ultimately be granted up to 15% of any fines levied against the trafficker.

While important strides have been made to address trafficking, we must still use every tool possible to take down the traffickers. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation.