

Science program expansion. The expansion is estimated to be completed in late 2016 and will allow Red Rocks to respond to the growing workforce needs in the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Red Rocks Community College for their well-deserved Genesis Award and their economic contributions and leadership within and outside of Jefferson County.

#### TRIBUTE TO LARRIE WEST STALKS

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Larrie West Stalks, and the many contributions she made as a dedicated public servant in Essex County.

Born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, Mrs. Stalks had an extensive career in public service and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of others in her community. In 1974, Mrs. Stalks was elected as Essex County Register of Deeds and Mortgages and served four consecutive five year terms. In her fourth term she was the only African-American Constitutional Officer serving on a County level in New Jersey.

As a trailblazer, she served as Director of Health and Welfare and Executive Secretary of the Newark Central Planning Board, where she became the first African American appointed department head and cabinet member in the history of Newark municipal government. In 1984, Mrs. Stalks achieved another first, when she was elected President of the County Officers of the State of New Jersey. Following her election, she also served on the National Association of County Officers (NACO) Human Services Steering Committee. Mrs. Stalks was then appointed to the Board of Directors of NACO which represented 48 states.

During her tenure in municipal government, she developed and supervised federally funded anti-poverty programs and instituted Newark's first mobile health unit program, which served as a national model. She then founded the Municipal Career Women of Newark and became a mentor for numerous women who worked in government. Mrs. Stalks spearheaded the development of 426 units of affordable housing and a shopping mall. She also chaired the Long Range Planning Advisory Budget Committee for St. Michael's Hospital.

A staunch democrat, her previous home at 41 Rector Street in Newark was affectionately referred to as "The House for Democrats." Mrs. Stalks resided in the Village of South Orange Township for the past 40 years but she always proudly said, "I am Newark first!" Mrs. Stalks had numerous awards reflecting her civic activities, professional affiliations and political involvement.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the House of Representatives agree that Mrs. Larrie West Stalks was an integral part of the growth and development of Essex County. This tribute recognizes her life's work, her stellar career and her personal commitment to improving the lives of her fellow man.

TRIBUTE TO COACH ANDREW TRENKLE AND THE MAINE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITUTION TEAM

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Coach Trenkle and the Maine South High School Constitution Team for their achievement in winning the Illinois State Title of the "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" competition.

This year's competition marks the twenty-third time the Maine South team has won the title in the last twenty-four years.

The "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" program, sponsored by the Center for Civic Education, promotes civic competence and responsibility through course study and mock Congressional hearings.

To succeed in this competition, students must demonstrate a deep understanding of Constitutional principles as well as an ability to apply critical thinking skills and to work together. The Maine South team rose to that challenge in winning this competition and I am sure they will apply those same skills to achieve success in the future.

Congratulations to all the members of the 2014-2015 Maine South Constitution team: Coach Andrew Trenkle, Lauren Acker, Anthony Alvizu, Valerie Asimacopoulos, Chris Brendza, Paul D'Ambrosio, Tomy Deeter, Cailin Devereux, Alex Ellyin, Michael Gabel, Victoria Gawedzki, Michael Harris, Dan Hopkinson, Matt Kelly, John Klages, Meghan Martin, Bjorn Olafsson, Guy Olson, Matt Pierucci, Alex Ponder, Jake Ritthamel, Julia Samulak, Mary Grace Sharp, Elizabeth Skoronski, Alex Solberg, Lucie Sullivan, Sabrina Tamas, Mark Tamvakis, Savannah Theil, Isabelle Tobolski, and Melissa Walek.

On behalf of the Ninth Congressional District of Illinois, I congratulate you on your success, and wish you the best of luck in the national competition.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. MARIE PULLIN

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman, Dr. Marie Pullin, who gave of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, her legacy of dedicated service to enrich the children and others in her community through her volunteerism, creative ability and unwavering advocacy for the youth, the elderly, the poor and the arts are present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see; and

Whereas, this remarkable, positive woman with a beautiful smile gave of herself, her heart and her talent; never asking for fame or fortune but only to uplift, expose and inspire those in need; and

Whereas, she led by example from behind the scenes, as well as front and center for the

state of Georgia, DeKalb County and the City of Atlanta, multiple ministries, homeowner associations, the Atlanta Edgewood-Kirkwood Neighborhood Center; and in her beloved church, Israel Baptist Church; and

Whereas, this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, a wife, a daughter, a friend, a warrior, a matriarch, and a woman of great integrity; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Dr. Marie Pullin for her leadership, friendship and 50 years of service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Dr. Marie Pullin of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor"—Dr. Marie Pullin, U.S. Citizen of Distinction, in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of March, 2015.

#### HONORING EVELYN KEISER

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Evelyn Keiser, co-founder of Keiser University, who will be inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame, for her dedication to improving the lives of women and all citizens of Florida.

Evelyn was born Evelyn Cahn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1924. She graduated from Temple University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology, one of only a few women in what was then a predominately male field of study. She traveled throughout the United States where her education and ambition for the medical field led to her employment in several hospitals and medical labs.

In 1977, alongside her son Dr. Arthur Keiser, she opened the Keiser School on Oakland Park Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale with one student and 2,400 square feet of classrooms. She took a chance and paved a path for educators to better serve career-motivated students, the state, and specifically the Florida communities in which her students learn, work and raise their families.

Now, 38 years later, her dream has transformed into Florida's second largest independent university. With 15 locations statewide, Keiser serves nearly 20,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees and employing 3,500 staff and faculty. Sixty-two percent of Keiser University students graduate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and healthcare fields, providing the talented workforce needed for Florida to compete globally. Over 20 percent of students are members of the armed services, veterans, or military family members.

Ms. Keiser has held positions of co-founder, instructor, program director, chairwoman of the board of advisors, and more. Throughout her career, she has received multiple accolades including "Teacher of the Year" and "Educator of the Year." In February 2004, Ms. Keiser was awarded an honorary doctorate from Beijing University citing her commitment to educational articulation agreements between China and the United States.

At 91 years young, Evelyn remains active in the university, serving as Chairwoman of the Board of Advisors. Ms. Keiser is still the first to arrive at the main campus in Fort Lauderdale each morning.

In honor of her dedication and service to South Florida, I am pleased to recognize Evelyn Keiser's legacy of achievement and I wish her continued success.

#### SUREFIRE

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Surefire for their leadership and commitment to utilizing new and advanced technologies.

Surefire relocated and expanded its manufacturing and headquarter operations to a 20,840 square-foot facility. New to Jefferson County in Westminster, the move brought 39 high-paying jobs to the county over the next five years. New capital investment from the relocation is expected to be \$3.9 million.

Surefire's expansion consisted of relocating from the Adams county portion of Westminster to the Jefferson county portion of Westminster in 2014. This expansion was also a consolidation of operations. This took place by relocating the manufacturing operations from Florida to the new Jefferson county facility.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Surefire for their well-deserved Innovative Technology Award and their continued contribution to Jefferson County.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify my position on rollcall votes cast on March 16, 2015.

On Rollcall Vote Number 113, on consideration of H.R. 647 I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "yea."

On Rollcall Vote Number 114, on consideration of H.R. 648 I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "yea."

On Rollcall Vote Number 115, on consideration of H.R. 876 I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "yea."

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. BOGAARD

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William J. Bogaard, who is retiring from his position as Mayor of the City of Pasadena, California. Well-known and well-respected on a local, state and national level as an outstanding leader and a man of great civility, impeccable character and immense integrity, Mayor Bogaard is the city's first directly elect-

ed mayor and has skillfully led Pasadena with distinction for over two decades.

Born in 1938, William Joseph "Bill" Bogaard was born and raised in Sioux City, Iowa. He majored in English at Loyola University, now Loyola Marymount University in California, and after serving as a Captain in the United States Air Force, he graduated from Michigan Law School. In 1961, Mr. Bogaard married Claire Whalen of San Francisco, and after residing in Morocco, Michigan and Los Angeles for nearly a decade, they moved with their family in the early 1970's to Pasadena, fully immersing themselves in the community, joining their neighborhood association and the local Parent Teacher Association. In 1978, Bill ran for the Pasadena City Council where he served for eight years, including a rotation into the mayoral position for two years.

Mayor Bogaard's many accomplishments include guiding the city through a major recession, overseeing the establishment of new arts institutions, investment in new housing, and major capital improvement projects at the Rose Bowl, Pasadena City Hall and the Colorado Street Bridge, and the construction of a new convention center. Mr. Bogaard was instrumental in leading the Gold Line light rail transit project, the preservation of Old Pasadena into a national role model for redevelopment and walkable live/work urban planning, making crucial investments in city personnel and police and fire resources, and establishing partnerships with Pasadena's schools, businesses, and arts organizations. In addition, Bill represented the city in many organizations, including the California League of Cities, where he served as President. With an impressive record of past community service, Mayor Bogaard is currently a member of the Gold Line Foothill Construction Authority and the Urban Land Institute, is Chair of the Pasadena Bioscience Collaborative, and serves on the President's Advisory Council for California State University Los Angeles and the Leadership Advisory Council of the Pasadena Educational Foundation. Mr. Bogaard has received the City of Pasadena's highest honor, the Arthur Noble Award, the University of Michigan's David B. Hermelin Volunteer Fundraising Leadership Award, and Loyola Marymount University's Distinguished Alumni Award.

In his professional career, Mr. Bogaard was in private law practice, served as Executive Vice President of First Interstate Bancorp and taught law at USC Law School and the University of Michigan. Married for fifty-four years, Bill and his wife Claire have four children, Michele, Jeannine, Joseph, and Matthew, and seven grandchildren.

Mayor Bill Bogaard has been an invaluable asset to the City of Pasadena and its residents. I ask all Members to join me in thanking Bill Bogaard for over two decades of dedicated public service.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD & THE LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS MUSIC EDUCATION AWARD

### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the School District of South Or-

ange and Maplewood and the Linden Public Schools for receiving recognition as one of the Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) from the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM). This association only recognized 388 school districts around the nation this year and I am very proud of each district's achievement.

The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) gives its distinction for outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders to emphasize the importance and accessibility that every child have to music education. The BCME program evaluates districts and schools based on funding, staffing of highly qualified teachers, commitment to standards, and access to music instruction.

Music education helps develop educational, cognitive, and social skills. Listening to music strengthens the ability to perceive speech within noise, pay attention, and develop memory abilities. Music exposure reveals different aspects of brain function and addresses language and learning difficulties, such as the neural timing precision between speech syllables.

The School District of South Orange and Maplewood and the Linden Public Schools have done an excellent job in promoting music education and in successfully exceeding any challenges and barriers that may have appeared along their pathway. I hope they continue empowering the community with their leadership and enthusiasm in music education.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,064,358,207.58. We've added \$7,525,187,309,294.50 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### SENIORS' RESOURCE CENTER

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Seniors' Resource Center for being honored with the 2014 Excellence in Not-for-Profit Leadership award.

According to LeadingAge, an organization focused on education, advocacy, and applied research in the field of aging, who awarded Seniors' Resource Center, the award recognizes organizations that are models of excellence in not-for-profit leadership and exemplify to the highest degree the seven key attributes that characterize high-performing nonprofits and distinguish the sector from any other. The