

consideration the bill (H.R. 2028) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chair, I rise to congratulate Chairman MIKE SIMPSON and Ranking Member MARCY KAPTUR for their leadership in preparing the FY 2016 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. Both of you deserve thanks for your hard work putting together a bill that supports programs critical to our nation's security, safety, and economic competitiveness. Your bill prioritizes investments in our critical nuclear security enterprise, and creates more opportunities to advance American competitiveness, and assumes the key role of the Army Corps of Engineers in resolving so many issues important to every state and Congressional District in the nation: navigation and flooding emergencies.

To my mind, the defense programs included in your bill are its single most critical responsibility. The bill funds Weapons Activities at the National Nuclear Security Administration to ensure that the Secretary of Energy has the investments he needs to certify to the President that our nuclear stockpile is reliable. It is essential that we provide the safety, security and reliability of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. These weapons are a vital part of our national defense postures and they are essential to meeting our commitments to our allies, even if they are never used. They are a deterrent.

The bill also funds Naval Reactors, which supports our U.S. Navy's nuclear-powered Fleet including the Ohio class replacement submarine and our aircraft carriers and other submarines.

The Appropriations committee has always provided vigorous support for these national defense priorities and I thank Chairman SIMPSON for his work in this area.

Additionally, scientific research at the Department of Energy strengthens American competitiveness and enables true breakthroughs in the energy sector, and the bill preserves and protects it, especially in fusion energy, nuclear and fossil energy, and areas that will bolster our nation's electric grid. The bill also protects public safety and keeps America literally open for business by providing for the Army Corps of Engineers to meet the need for navigable rivers and open and accessible ports.

Finally, a word about Yucca Mountain. Many Members of Congress have been advocates for Yucca Mountain as we consider it essential to our nation's energy independence. Decades of analysis, millions of documents, and billions of taxpayer dollars have been put towards the scientific examination of Yucca Mountain as a safe and secure geologic repository for nuclear waste. Your bill includes funding to keep the license processing for Yucca Mountain moving forward and it also prohibits the Administration from moving ahead with any other plan not authorized by Congress. This will ensure that we keep Congress in the driver's seat for nuclear waste policy.

Mr. Chair, former chairman of this subcommittee, I know the challenge that you and Ms. KAPTUR faced crafting this bill. I commend you on the fine bill that you put together. This is a fiscally conservative bill, which funds critical national security, jobs, and infrastructure priorities. This bill deserves our support.

## RECOGNIZING THE 24TH ANNUAL BEST OF RESTON AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 24th Annual Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. These awards are the result of collaboration between Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith) and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and are presented to individuals, organizations, and businesses whose extraordinary efforts make our community a better place. I am pleased to submit the names of the following recipients of the 2015 Best of Reston Awards:

Civic/Community Organization: His Hidden Treasures (Troy and Lois Hughes)—Working in partnership with organizations dedicated to ending homelessness, His Hidden Treasures transforms transitional rental housing into homes for families, personalized with lovingly restored furniture, donated store floor samples and new housewares.

Small Business Leader: Maid Bright (Maria Fedick, Yusuf and Zeynep Mehmetoglu)—Maid Bright has made a difference by providing free house cleaning services to women with cancer, catering dinners for the hypothermia shelter, performing cleaning for Cornerstones' transitional housing units, offering discounts to seniors, veterans, firefighters, and teachers, and donating funds to help the homeless and Syrian refugees.

Corporate Business Leader: Leidos (Mike Coogan, Director, Corporate Responsibility)—Since establishing its headquarters in Reston two years ago, Leidos—a worldwide leader in science and technology—immediately made broad and deep connections in the community. Leidos employees have provided more than 32,000 volunteer hours benefitting a wide range of organizations. The company also has contributed significant financial support to the community. Leidos has lent its support to meeting basic human needs, and supports training, education, and employment opportunities for returning veterans.

Corporate Business Leader: MAXIMUS (Susan Boren, Mark Andrekovich, Tom Romeo)—MAXIMUS provides health and human service programs to a diverse array of communities. MAXIMUS and its employees have supported a wide range of organizations that work locally to strengthen the safety net for homeless and at-risk families, or those with special needs.

Individual Community Leader: Francis C. Steinbauer—A true Reston Pioneer, Fran Steinbauer has been an integral part of the community's history and success for five decades. In 1964, Mr. Steinbauer became the Design Engineer responsible for the creation and government approval of plans for Reston's buildings and infrastructure, and he remained professionally involved in the development of Reston until the 1980s. As a volunteer to this day, he has played a vital role in making sure Reston's economy, community, and inclusive culture were as well developed as its physical environment. At Cornerstones, he is revered as the architect of its successful affordable housing program, and he continues to work for

the ideal that anyone can live in our community.

Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award: Casey Veatch—A dedicated volunteer for many different organizations, Casey leads by example and inspires others to follow suit. He has generously supported and cultivated leadership through his work with Leadership Fairfax, Reston Bible Church, Northern Virginia Family Service, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, and numerous children's sports teams.

Individual Community Leader: Larry Butler—The Reston Association's Senior Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources, Larry's lifelong passion for the outdoors and physically active lifestyle has inspired his tireless volunteer work. In more than 30 years with Reston Association, Larry has been instrumental in the success of Reston's many outdoors and athletics activities. These events help create environmental awareness, build community spirit, promote healthy lifestyles, and raise funds for a wide variety of causes.

2015 Robert E. Simon Community Service Award: Lynn Lillenthal—A Restonian for more than forty years, Ms. Lillenthal was named a Best of Reston recipient in 1998, and has certainly not rested on that accolade. She has served on the board of directors of virtually every major nonprofit institution in Reston, including Reston Interfaith, the Embury Rucker Community Shelter Citizens Support Committee, Greater Reston Arts Center, and the Reston Historic Trust, just to name a few. Her decades of service have touched thousands of lives in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2015 Best of Reston honorees for their tremendous contributions to our community. I express my sincere gratitude to these individuals, businesses, and organizations for lending their time and energy to the betterment of our community.

## HONORING THE CITY OF CAPE MAY AS A UNITED STATES COAST GUARD COMMUNITY

**HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the County of Cape May on its designation as a "Coast Guard Community" on October 1, 2014 by the United States Coast Guard and the United States Congress.

In 1924, the Coast Guard established operations to support U.S. Customs efforts in Sewell's Point. By 1948, the Training Center, which is the only recruit training facility in the country, became the entry-level training facility for all of the East Coast and eventually the entire country. Today, the base has more than 860 military and civilian personnel, and graduates an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly.

This new designation reflects the mutually beneficial relationship between the Coast Guard and Cape May County. Over the years, the recruits and military and civilian personnel have become part of our Cape May County family. And nothing says family more than Operation Fireside. Since the program's inception

in 1981, Operation Fireside places more than 500 recruits with over 180 families each year to celebrate the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

On May 8, the people of Cape May County and the United States Coast Guard will celebrate this designation at the Training Center in Cape May. My thanks to all who helped make this designation a reality.

#### BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

### HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of the start of Building Safety Month, to recognize the importance of building safety and to recognize the leadership of the International Code Council (ICC) that develops and publishes the model building safety and energy efficiency model codes used in my home state of Vermont, and each of the other 49 states. Increasingly, these codes, developed in the United States, are being adopted in other nations where safety in construction is desired.

Over the past few years, we have had several sobering reminders about the importance of building codes. In other nations, much like the case in the U.S. before the codes were widely adopted, natural events and poor construction practices still cause catastrophic loss of life. Every year, deadly fires, tornados, windstorms, floods, earthquakes and other events remind us of the critical need for strong buildings. As Congress discusses the need for resilience and greater energy efficiency in our communities, Building Safety Month reminds us that key elements of resilience and energy efficiency are properly enforced building and energy codes.

The theme of this year's Building Safety Month is "Resilient Communities start with Building Codes." I want to congratulate the leaders of the ICC, which has sponsored Building Safety Month in May every year for over 30 years. The leaders of ICC, including President Guy Tomberlin, Branch Chief Residential/Light Commercial Inspections for Fairfax County, Virginia; Vice-President Alex Olszowy III, Building Inspection Supervisor, Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government, Kentucky; Secretary/Treasurer M. Dwayne Garriss, State Fire Marshal, State of Georgia; Past President of the Board of Directors, Stephen Jones, Construction Official, Millburn Township/Short Hills, New Jersey will join ICC's Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims in Washington the week of May 25th to discuss the critical need to support the adoption and enforcement of current building codes, to make sure Americans are safe at home, at work, at school and at play.

I also want to congratulate the leaders of the Building Safety Association of Vermont ICC, including President Glenn Moore and the other leaders of the Vermont ICC Chapter.

I would also like to thank the thousands of men and women who work every day to make sure our buildings comply with building and fire codes. Their work, largely unseen and often unnoticed, is critical to keeping Americans safe. The model building codes, developed by ICC members from all 50 states,

allow every community to share the advantage of adopting building codes that are adaptable to local conditions, but at the same time incorporate the very latest research, materials, and building practices. This is achieved in a private-public partnership, saving local jurisdictions from bearing the large expense of code revision, updating and coordination. These model codes are produced through the cooperation of thousands of local U.S. code officials working with the building industry to produce codes that represent a consensus on what the minimum safety requirements are for various building types, all without a dime of Federal taxpayer money.

Congratulations to the hard working members and leadership of the International Code Council.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on April 30, 2015, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote number 193, On Passage of Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

Should I have been present I would have voted No.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM C. PHELON FOR HIS SERVICE

### HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal William C. Phelon, Jr. and his distinguished contributions to the United States Air Force. Mr. Phelon enlisted in the United States Air Force immediately after graduating from Mineola High School in June of 1943 and entered active service August 16, 1943, at the height of American involvement in World War Two. Mr. Phelon served valiantly until he left the service in March of 1946. Corporal Phelon flew as part of the illustrious 96th Bombardment Group, serving as a Radio Operator Mechanic and Waist Gunner in a B-17 Flying Fortress. He was responsible for all radio equipment aboard the B-17 while in flight.

In his position as Airman, Corporal Phelon participated in Operation Chowhound, a humanitarian mission which delivered over 11,000 tons of food to Nazi-occupied Holland during the Dutch Famine. This mission was so appreciated by the Dutch people that commemorative ceremonies have been held every five years in Holland to remember the men who helped feed their starving people. The Third Air Division of the 8th Air Force was responsible for delivering 4,103 tons of food, of which the 96th Bombardment Group dropped 366 tons. For his efforts, Corporal Phelon was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross by Governor Thomas Dewey on behalf of the people of New York.

Sadly, Mr. Phelon passed away in December of 2014. I rise today in memory of a brave man who was an exemplary member of the Armed Forces and the community at large, and to posthumously thank him for his years of dedication and service. I hope we all remember the courage and dedication shown by Mr. Phelon in everything he did.

#### RECOGNIZING THE BURKE VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT'S 67TH ANNUAL BANQUET

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, which is hosting its 67th Annual Installation of Officers Banquet, and in thanking its volunteers for filling an essential role in keeping the community safe.

The Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department was founded in January 1948, and for more than 6 decades it has provided life-saving fire suppression/prevention and emergency medical/rescue services to the residents of Burke, Fairfax County, and the surrounding communities. It also provides, houses, and maintains firefighting and emergency medical equipment; provides opportunities for professional growth and development for the membership; and maintains and fosters a strong viable organization.

I am honored to recognize several of the dedicated men and women of the Burke Volunteer Fire Department who have volunteered for extra duty as officers or as members of the board of directors or who are receiving awards for their superlative service to the department and the community. It gives me great pleasure to submit the names of these individuals:

#### Board of Directors:

President Rich Guarrasi, Vice President John Powers, Treasurer Patrick Owens, Secretary Greg Fedor, Board Members-at-Large Larry Barnett, Larry Bocknek, and Alisha Sunde

#### Line Officers:

Chief Thomas Warnock, Deputy Chief John Hudak, Deputy Chief Tina Godfrey, Administrative Member Manager Catherine Owens, Captain II Melissa Ashby, Captain II Larry Bockneck, Captain II Keith O'Connor, Lieutenant Kevin Grottle, Sergeant Jennifer Babic, Sergeant Emily Fincher, Team Leader Peter Hamilton, Team Leader James Reyes, Team Leader Paul Stracke, Team Leader Harry Chelpon, Staffing Coordinator Shaun Kurry, Chaplain Harry Chelpon

#### Length of Service Awards:

5 Years: Richard Guarrasi  
10 Years: Harry Chelpon, Ed Gilhooly  
15 Years: Tina Godfrey  
Life Member: Harry Chelpon

#### Department Awards:

Founders Award: John Hudak

Rookies of the Year: Caitlin Curran, Megan Bush, Barry Brown

Firefighter of the Year: Peter Hamilton

EMS Provider of the Year: James Reyes

Officer of the Year: Tina Godfrey

Admin. Member of the Year: Becky Dobbs

Career Members of the Year: Tim Barb, David "Happy" Gilmore