

state, and local elections; administers the Michigan Campaign Finance Reporting Act; and maintains all government records for the county.

Having known Pattie for many years, I can attest to the fact that no one is better suited for such a position. Throughout the years, she has faithfully served the people of St. Joseph County, fairly and competently executing her duties. Personally, I have come to rely on her extensive institutional knowledge and good judgment. There is no doubt that the citizens of St. Joseph County, having reelected her to the office of county clerk six times, share my good opinion.

In January, Pattie announced that she will retire in June of this year, planning to travel and spend time with her family. As she embarks on the next chapter of her life, I would like to congratulate her on a well-deserved retirement and thank her for her many years of public service to the citizens of St. Joseph County.

It has been an honor to work with Pattie and to count her as a true friend. She will be greatly missed in her capacity as county clerk, but I am confident she will continue to serve as a source of wisdom in Southwest Michigan for years to come.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MENDOTA HEIGHTS OFFICER SCOTT PATRICK

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women serving this nation as law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. This week is Police Week where we reflect upon the service and sacrifice of the thousands of women and men who keep our communities safe and put their lives on the line on our behalf. For their courage, commitment and bravery, these women and men have my greatest respect.

Last year, the Twin Cities East Metro lost an officer in the line of duty when Officer Scott Patrick was gunned down in the line of duty during a traffic stop in St. Paul. Whenever an act of violence this senseless and tragic takes place, it shakes a community deeply. Officer Patrick's loss is still felt each day by his family and his fellow officers on the Mendota Heights Police force. This week we join them in mourning the loss of their loved one and friend. On Wednesday, Officer Scott's name will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Wall in Washington, DC.

The work that police officers and law enforcement officials do to keep our communities safe is often thankless and dangerous. As a society, we place an enormous amount of trust in those officers and they play a critical role in shaping the world we live in. Those who serve in law enforcement have my greatest respect for the work that they do to live up to and earn that trust in their communities.

As a member of Congress, one of my jobs is to make sure police officers have the tools they need to keep their communities safe while returning home to their families safely

each night. Whether this means personal safety protection, body cameras or computer systems that they need we must consider doing more for law enforcement agencies. I am proud to say that I have been a champion for more effective communication between law enforcement officers and first responders throughout my time in Congress and I look forward to continuing that partnership with the police community.

This week, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring police week by remembering those officers who have given their lives in service of their communities.

#### HONORING THE NOMINEES FOR KANE COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION'S 2014 LOUIS SPUHLER OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR KANE COUNTY AWARD

#### HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nominees for the 2014 Kane County Chiefs of Police Association's Louis Spuhler Officer of the Year for Kane County Award.

The award, presented by the Batavia Moose Lodge #682 and the Kane County Chiefs of Police Association, recognizes the outstanding achievements of police officers who protect our community. The men and women who wear the badge provide our families with security while putting their own lives on the line and deserve our admiration and thanks.

I would like to congratulate the winner of the 2014 Louis Spuhler Officer of the Year for Kane County Officer Samuel G. Aguirre of the Aurora Police Department, as well as his fellow nominees: Officer David M. Berner of the Aurora Police Department, Officer Roger Isham of the South Elgin Police Department, Deputy Raul Salinas and Chief Deputy Thomas Bumgarner of the Kane County Sheriffs Office, Sergeant Gregory Sullivan of the Montgomery Police Department, Officer Timothy Beam of the St. Charles Police Department, Officer Michael Gallagher and Officer KC Brox of the Sleepy Hollow Police Department, Detective Miguel Pantoja of the Elgin Police Department, and Sergeant Mike Frieders, Detective Matt Dean, Detective Brad Jerdee, Detective Bob Pech, Detective Sarah Sullivan, and Officer Matt Hann of the Geneva Police Department.

Congratulations to the nominees for the 2014 Louis Spuhler Officer of the Year for Kane County Award and thank you for your continued dedication to the safety and security of our community.

#### IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SAMANTHA MEINEN ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT- TEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

#### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an out-

standing student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Samantha Meinen of Toledo, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Samantha's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Samantha brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Whitmer Senior High School in Toledo, Ohio, Samantha was a member of the National Honor Society, German club, DECA and earned awards in science, English and social studies.

Throughout high school, Samantha was a member of her school's volleyball, basketball and track teams. I am confident that Samantha will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Samantha Meinen on the offer of her appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Samantha will excel during her career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to the Nation.

#### SUGAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH 40TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sugar Creek Baptist Church for celebrating 40 years of prayer and worship.

This 9,600-member church is a local and global leader. The church contributes upwards of \$2 million annually to local and international mission and church development programs. Over the last 12 years, Sugar Creek Baptist Church has directly supported 93 new churches. Just last year, the church led the development of the Freedom Church Alliance, an organization that works with local churches and organizations to fight human trafficking. Its members are constant volunteers in local refugee and prison communities, too. Throughout its 40 years, Sugar Creek Baptist Church has been a model of faith and a leader in our community.

Thank you to Sugar Creek Baptist Church and its members for all they do in Sugar Land and throughout the world. We are excited to see what the next 40 years hold for you.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONOR-  
ABLE DAVID L. HUGHES

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service of the Honorable David L. Hughes, who retired earlier this year after 41 years as the City Clerk and Secretary to the Mayor and Common Council of Summit, New Jersey. During his record tenure, David achieved a number of significant accomplishments in service to the City of Summit.

David oversaw the transformation of the City Clerk position, bringing community services into the 21st century and instituting greater accessibility and transparency. To the benefit of residents, downtown merchants and taxpayers, public information is readily available and put to good use for City projects.

David was an integral part of the coordination of City business, reviewing all matters before the Council's consideration, securing legal and background information from stakeholders and forming advisory opinions so that elected officials could make the most informed decisions. He also managed the municipal elections—a major undertaking including the oversight of 25 election districts, numerous polling machines and poll workers and thousands of ballots cast in each election.

Due to his years of service and trusted counsel, David and his office became an encyclopedia of City history, local ordinances and best practices. I join elected officials from both parties and countless Summit residents in considering David a very thoughtful public servant.

I wish David many years of enjoyment in his retirement spent with, his wife, Maria, and his children. I thank him for his dedicated public service.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMENDATION  
FOR THE LIFE OF CHARLES  
DAUGHTRY TOWERS, JR.

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we are deeply and profoundly saddened by the loss of our friend, Charles Towers, Jr. This man of prominence and bearing was the epitome of a gentleman and a scholar. We were moved by his passion, emboldened by his commitments, honored by his friendship and made all the better by his innate wisdom and his belief in the integrity of the human experience. We came to know him as a husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, World War II veteran, Silver Star Recipient, and dedicated servant to people and causes, a humanitarian, a civic leader and businessman without comparison.

As a member of the Jacksonville community for more than ninety years, Charlie Towers, presence will be missed by many. In 1949, he began his career as an attorney, with Rogers Towers & Bailey Law Firm and continued until

his retirement in 2000. He served on many community boards in positions of leadership up to and including, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, Salvation Army, Jacksonville Tocqueville Society, long time member and devoted Deacon, Elder and Trustee of First Presbyterian Church and many other organizations.

Though our hearts ache, our tears of pain are mixed with loving memories of his smile, his touch and that gleam in his eyes telling all who knew him, that he loved you and always will. And in his remembrance, we are drawn to the words of Paul, in the book of 2nd Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept my faith". May the Lord bless and keep you now and forevermore and may the memory of our dear friend, Charles Daughtry Towers, Jr., remain with us for all times.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF AN-  
DREW WEISS ON HIS OFFER OF  
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE  
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Andrew Weiss of Findlay, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Andrew's offer of appointment poses him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Andrew brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Findlay High School in Findlay, Ohio, Andrew was a member of the National Honor Society and Honor Roll. He earned his Eagle Scout award with the Boy Scouts of America and was selected for Buckeye Boys State. In addition, he earned his private pilot's license.

Throughout high school, Andrew was a member of his school's track team where he served as team captain and earned his varsity letter. I am confident that Andrew will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Andrew Weiss on the offer of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Andrew will excel during his career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING MS. SHERRI STRAUSSER

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Ms. Sherri Strauser. She will be retiring from the Windsor C-1 School District on July 1, 2015. Ms. Strauser has contributed to the educational system for 37 years.

Ms. Strauser has worked in various capacities: 3rd Grade Teacher, Intermediate Center Assistant Principal, Intermediate Principal, and Assistant Superintendent. She has worked in the Dunklin R-V School District and is ending her career in the Windsor C-1 School District. Her current title of Assistant Superintendent has allowed her the opportunity to connect personally with students, staff, parents, and the community. This Assistant Superintendent position has given her the opportunity to direct Curriculum and Instruction, Special Services, Team Leaders, Professional Development, and serve as the Compliance Officer for the District. During her time in each position, she was committed to making a difference in the lives of students. Ms. Strauser has received the Dunklin R-V Teacher of the Year award, Dunklin National Education Association Award, and the 'Who's Who Among American Educators' award. These awards showcase her ability to make a positive impact on anyone she comes into contact with.

Over the years, Ms. Strauser has been an active member of her community, and the state, through memberships with the Rotary Club, Missouri Association of School Administrators, Missouri Association of School Business Officials, and the Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals. From her time giving back to the community, it has enabled her to nourish productive relationships and witness success for thousands of individuals.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Ms. Sherri Strauser on her retirement after 37 years of commitment to students.

HONORING THE MARTIN'S MILL  
LADY MUSTANGS

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2015*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Martin's Mill Lady Mustangs basketball team who won the Texas 2A High School Basketball Championship on March 7, 2015 at the Alamodome in San Antonio. This victory marked the third time since 2008 the Lady Mustangs captured the title.

I would like to recognize teammates Jocie Bennett, Cheyenne Brown, Calli Camacho, Hailey Celsur, Hannah Celsur, Madi Daniel, Jacee Greenlee, Hailey Hawes, Briley Moon, Hannah Munns, Sarah Munns and Alyssa Pate. I would also like to recognize Head Coach Luran Jenkins, Assistant Coach Melissa Camacho and Managers Lydia Burns, Mollie Daniel, Hannah Manry, Abbie Orrick and Taylor Sparks.

As the congressional representative of the families, coaches, and supporters of the Lady