

mission at The Great Place and the unique culture that sustains our warriors there. He's been a steady, calming presence through times both good and bad for the thousands of brave warriors stationed at one of the world's largest military bases.

Greg's genial nature is equaled only by his hard-earned wisdom from years of ministry. He knows there are two sides to every story and that everyone deserves to have their voice heard. This has proven invaluable as he's worked tirelessly on behalf of his beloved Fort Hood and the people of Central Texas. His patient and positive attitude remains a source of strength and inspiration for both friends and colleagues.

Yet through it all, family remains the center of his life. He is married to the former Martha (Marty) E. Haley. Greg's six children know him has a devoted and loving dad to them and a proud grandfather to his seven grand children.

Greg Schannep signs all his emails with the stirring words *Pro Deo et Patria* ("Still Serving God & Country"). All who've been blessed by his presence know that to him this isn't a meaningless expression but a deep and lasting creed that has been the guiding force of his life.

Greg's been a trusted advisor, superb public servant, and vital part of Team Carter. I join my staff in wishing him a well-deserved retirement and nothing but the best in the years ahead.

HONORING DAVID JOHN GOTAAS

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David John Gotaas, a resident of Northbrook, who passed away on May 23, 2015.

Born in Chicago to Lois and David S. Gotaas on March 2, 1951, David was raised a missionary child in Venezuela until his family returned to the Chicago area where David attended New Trier High School (1968), Wheaton College (BA, Economics, 1972) and Northwestern University (MBA, 1974). Although he began his career as a Certified Public Accountant, David was an entrepreneur at heart, and gladly traded corporate pursuits for self-made ventures in real estate, which he viewed as both business and ministry.

In 1978, David married the love of his life and best friend, Sally Slingerland, who attended Winnetka Bible Church where his father pastored. David and Sally settled in Northbrook where they raised four daughters.

David's childhood on the mission field marked him with a passion to serve others around the world. An active member of the Winnetka Rotary Club, David helped initiate the first Rotary Club in the country of Kosovo in 2005. David's involvement in Kosovo also included service on the Advisory Board for the Kosovo American Education Fund and the Board of Trustees for the American Councils for International Education.

David's travels brought him not only to Kosovo, but to over 80 countries around the world. A member of the Circumnavigators Club of Chicago, David's favorite travel destinations were far from the typical tourist trail,

including recent trips to Myanmar and Bangladesh, where he purposefully sought out the humblest accommodations to connect with locals and practice simplicity. Despite the breadth of his adventures, perhaps his favorite destination was Yosemite National Park, where he enjoyed bringing anyone willing to keep up with him. Wherever he traveled, David was known to share his adventures via postcards to family, friends and acquaintances.

David will be remembered for his passionate love for Jesus Christ, love for family, integrity, thoughtfulness and generosity. He is survived by his wife, Sally, and his four daughters, Anne, Kathryn, Mary and Laura. In his final years, perhaps David's greatest joy was his grandchildren: Nathan, Nora, Kate, Silas and a fifth due in September.

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPION YVONNE CLARK

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Yvonne Clark. Yvonne, the Director of Walker's Neighborhood House in Lawrence County, has served both her family and community with excellence, leaving behind her a legacy of compassion and integrity that has impacted many.

The seventh of sixteen children, Yvonne worked for both American Cleaners and First National Bank before putting her professional ambitions on hold in order to raise her family. She has been happily married to Robert Clark for forty-seven years, and together they have three children: Robert Jr., Adella, and Aaron. Yvonne and Robert are also blessed to be the grandparents of nine grandchildren.

In 1979, Yvonne enrolled in the Pittsburgh Beauty Academy in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania and graduated with honors shortly thereafter. Under the mentorship of a respected and accomplished local salon-owner, Yvonne learned the skills of the trade and eventually opened her own salon in 1984. When health issues demanded a change of course, Yvonne worked as a family service worker and then a job coach before returning to school at Midwestern Baptist School of Ministry. Again, she graduated with honors and received her Associate's Degree in Women's Ministry in 2006. Additionally, valuing her role as mother and grandmother, Yvonne became the primary caregiver for her three grandchildren when her daughter was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

It was around this time that Walker's Neighborhood House, a division of the Gussie M. Walker Community Outreach Organization, was established. The mission of this after-school program is to empower youth and families to be the best they can be by obtaining a better education, while also learning that with God all things are possible. By providing both tutoring and structured recreational opportunities for local youth in an area where 85% of the population is considered low-income, Walker's Neighborhood House is breathing life back into the community and empowering our next generation of leaders. Under Yvonne's

devoted and impassioned leadership, over 2,500 students have walked through its doors and left changed for the better.

In serving her family and community, Yvonne has shown herself to be a leader in the truest sense of the word and a role model for the many who are privileged to know her. Furthermore, her dedication to directing the St John United Holy Church Choir for thirty-five years gives evidence to the core Christian values that inform her experiences. On behalf of the Third District of Pennsylvania, I would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. Yvonne Clark, a true Community Champion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NJROTC AWARD WINNERS

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, it's with a profound sense of pride that I rise today in recognition of our nation's Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) program, its cadets and the excellent cadre of leadership that instructs and guides these future naval officers. Our nation is defended by a military that is second-to-none, but it's no mistake that the quality and pedigree of our nation's armed forces is beyond comparison. Training is only part of what makes a good military leader. The principles of commitment, organization, teamwork and respect are not always learned—in many ways, they are innate, and those who serve in the NJROTC program show a level of talent and dedication that consistently demonstrates why our military—and our Navy, especially—possesses so many first-rate leaders.

Most recently, a national competition was launched to determine the 2015 Navy League Most Improved Unit and the 2015 Most Outstanding Unit. Most improved honors went to the Pearl River Central High School in Carriere, Mississippi. The Most Outstanding Unit award was given to the Allen D. Nease High School in Ponte Vedra, Florida. Two impressive units, Mr. Speaker, and both showed strong attributes in their respective award areas. There was plenty of competition, and every unit gave their best—and for that, both the award winners and the entire field of competitors can take great pride in their accomplishments.

Receiving a top award is really quite an honor, Mr. Speaker. In fact, awards often reflect years of hard work and development, even though awards are given yearly. The award criteria is exhaustive—evaluating participation in the classroom, physical fitness and extracurricular activities. Cadets even participate in community service projects—with one unit, Pearl River, completing more than 5,000 hours of community service alone. However, Mr. Speaker, as we extend our congratulations to the cadets, I would be remiss if we didn't recognize the amazing work of the many program instructors. In particular, I want to recognize Naval Science Instructors Col. Todd Ryder and Chief Ron Hazlewood, whose leadership, professionalism and knowledge have been integral to successful mentorship in the NJROTC program at Pearl River. And I know

their commitment to the cadets has translated into the development of community leaders and positive influences within the school system. A special thank you to Todd and Ron, for all you do to encourage future patriots with the same tenacity and work ethic that defined your own service careers.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I ask that this body join me in recognizing this fine group of Americans for all they have accomplished—and their continued and future service to this great nation.

**HONORING ED ZABROCKI FOR HIS
34 YEARS OF SERVICE AS
MAYOR OF TINLEY PARK, ILLI-
NOIS**

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ed Zabrocki who recently retired after serving 34 years as Mayor of Tinley Park, Illinois. Throughout his time in office, Mayor Zabrocki demonstrated tremendous dedication to his community and its residents.

Ed Zabrocki began his career in public service by serving on the Tinley Park Human Resources Commission and became a Village Trustee in 1979. Two years later he was elected Mayor of Tinley Park.

Throughout his tenure in office, Mayor Zabrocki maintained a strong commitment to Tinley Park's residents. Under his leadership, the village became one of the fastest growing municipalities in the nation. In 2005 he was named as a finalist for the World Mayor Award. In 2006, the Commerce Department recognized Mayor Zabrocki with the Excellence in Economic Development Award for "recognizing commitment to sound, research-based, market driven economic development in helping to grow the local economy." In addition to his service to Tinley Park, Ed Zabrocki was elected to be the 37th District's State Representative in the 89th Illinois General Assembly.

Ed Zabrocki has also been dedicated to education. After two years as a teacher at Bishop Noll, he was hired to teach at Brother Rice High School in Chicago in 1965. Forty years later he retired as Director of Guidance. Over the years he had a great influence on his students, with five of them going on to be elected to public office in the Chicago area.

Mayor Zabrocki and his wife Emily are the parents of two children and the grandparents of seven. In retirement he plans to spend more time with his family as well as his Lionel train sets and his baritone sax.

RECOGNIZING BOBBY WALTERS

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today is the official start of Hurricane Season. As a lifelong resident of a coastal area and a representative of a coastal district, hurricane preparedness is a priority of mine.

I would like to recognize a young man in my district who is committed to hurricane safety, Bobby Walters. Bobby is a resident of Georgetown County, South Carolina, and has spent the last three years marking 861 street signs with their corresponding hurricane evacuation zone.

Now, Georgetown residents can easily determine which evacuation zone they are in, and should inclement weather occur, proceed to the nearest evacuation route.

Bobby is a member of Boy Scout Troop 360 in Pawleys Island and completed this project to earn his Eagle Scout rank.

On behalf of the Seventh Congressional District, thank you Bobby and Troop 360 for all of your hard work to keep our community safe.

**THE PHOENIX MERCURY, 2014
WNBA CHAMPIONS**

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Phoenix Mercury, our 2014 WNBA Champions, who on Friday June 5, 2015 begin their nineteenth season. During the opening game, the team will receive their third championship ring in seven years and the 2014 Championship Banner will be unveiled before thousands of fans. The enthusiastic crowds that have supported the players for almost two decades will be there to cheer them on as they play the San Antonio Stars. As the team begins their new season, I proudly recognize the exceptional team members, captains and managers who have built the most successful professional women's basketball team in the world—our Phoenix Mercury.

In addition to their talent on the court, Phoenix Mercury team members are an integral part of the Valley of the Sun. The team dedicates a great deal of their free time engaging children, neighborhoods and schools, serving as mentors and role models to the young people who look up to them.

Our Phoenix Mercury has the strongest fan base and attendance in the WNBA and the team credits their success as a team to this "X-Factor"—the power of their fans. Congratulations to the Phoenix Mercury as they begin their nineteenth season and thank you for demonstrating to young girls, boys and the world, the heart and strength of women athletes.

**HONORING RABBI MELVIN AND
LENORE SIRNER**

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, religious institutions and the men and women who lead them have the power to shape and bind communities in many incredible ways. For over forty years in New Rochelle, Rabbi Melvin Sirner and his wife, Lenore, have led Beth El Synagogue Center in New Rochelle with incredible grace, and as a result have left an indelible mark on the entire community.

A native of Chicago and a graduate of the University of Michigan, Rabbi Sirner came to New Rochelle in August 1972 following his ordination at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Scheduled only to stay at Beth El for two years, Rabbi Sirner extended his stay several years and, upon the retirement of Rabbi Golovensky, was elected Senior Rabbi of the Center.

Lenore Richman Sirner was born and raised in Boro Park, Brooklyn, and received a wonderful early Jewish education at Shulamith School for Girls, and later at Yeshiva of Flatbush High School. A graduate of George Washington University, Lenore earned her Master's degree in social work from New York University, before serving for many years as Director of Social Work Case management at the Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, and later as Administrator of Clinical Services.

As Lenore volunteered at Beth El, she met Rabbi Sirner, and the rest as they say is history.

Together, Rabbi Sirner and Lenore have led Beth El by emphasizing high quality and meaningful Jewish experiences. Under their stewardship, Beth El went from a community that did not permit participation of women in religious ritual, to a fully egalitarian synagogue. The establishment of the Keruv Committee, which works to ensure that all feel fully embraced and welcomed by the Beth El community, has helped shaped the synagogue under Rabbi Sirner's watch, and the Sylvia and Robert Scher Chesed Committee, which works to help shape the larger New Rochelle community as a whole, has become a great beacon of light for the entire neighborhood due to its fine work.

But Rabbi and Lenore Sirner's greatest joy and accomplishment is their family. They are the proud parents of Gabrielle, her husband Morris, Abby, and Ari. They are also adoring grandparents to Lev, who I'm told is currently on the verge of mastering the sippy cup.

This year, the Beth El Synagogue Center is honoring Rabbi Sirner and Lenore for their decades of dedicated service to the Beth El, as well as the entire New Rochelle, communities. It is my pleasure to offer congratulations to Rabbi Sirner and Lenore on this wonderful occasion, and thank them for all they have done to better our community.

**WELCOMING AKHAN SEMICON-
DUCTOR INCORPORATED TO
GURNEE, IL**

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of AKHAN Semiconductor Incorporated and its founder and Chief Executive Officer, Adam Khan. AKHAN Semiconductor has become the most advanced diamond semiconductor platform in the world due to the hard work and meticulous training of Mr. Khan and his team.

AKHAN will begin operations in Gurnee, Illinois this June. Mr. Speaker, the 10th District of Illinois that I represent is a manufacturing hub, and a fantastic place for industry to form and grow. In fact, Gurnee was the perfect choice for AKHAN because it is rich with