

developers and researchers to answer key questions in disease diagnostics, prognosis and disease therapy. I applaud the work of founder Dr. Norma Nowak, and all those at Empire Genomics and congratulate them on their Sponsor's Award presented by First Niagara Bank.

Tony Martin Awards, Inc. provides high quality services for all customers throughout Western New York. Tony Martin Awards has been serving the Western New York community for over 50 years with extraordinary contributions to the regional economy and professional expertise. I am pleased to recognize Tony Martin Awards, Inc. as the recipient of the Small Business of the Year Award.

Santora's Pizza Pub and Grill has been a staple in Western New York, since 1927. They have been dedicated members of the community since their inception and it is my honor to commend this year's Family Owned Business Award recipient, Paul Santora of Santora's Pizza Pub & Grill.

This impressive list of Small Businesses being honored at this year's Luncheon and Showcase deserve the extra recognition and I thank the Amherst Chamber of Commerce for bringing these distinguished business leaders together. I ask my colleagues to join me and wish the award recipients continued success in the years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. OMICRON CHI OMEGA CHAPTER

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 30th anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Chi Omega Chapter.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was founded on the campus of Howard University January 15, 1908, as the first Greek-letter organization established by collegiate black women. Inaugurated with the founding principle, "To be supreme in service to all mankind," Chapters today continue to be conscientious members of their communities, sensitive to the needs and struggles of underserved populations.

Prince William County's Omicron Chi Omega Chapter was founded August 26, 1984, and chartered May 19, 1985, by five exceptional women: Roslyn Dunn, Venus Miller, Jannette Smithson, Alice Taylor and Mary Williams. During its 30-year history, the Chapter has received many local community awards and recognition from the Commonwealth of Virginia and Alpha Kappa Alpha for its involvement in the Back to School/Stay in School Program, its support of SAVAS (Sexual Assault Victim's Advocacy Services), and its contributions to ACTS and the American Heart Association.

The 2014–2018 International Program focuses on five areas of engagement: Educational Enrichment, Health Promotion, Family Strengthening, Environmental Ownership, and Global Impact. Working under the banner of Environmental Ownership, Omicron Chi Omega recently restored the Dumfries Elementary School playground. In addition to the

global program, Omicron Chi Omega provides \$10,000 annually in scholastic scholarships to graduating high school seniors, sponsors food drives for the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center and SERVE Family Shelter, provides school supplies and coats to Prince William County Public Schools students, sponsors programs on physical and mental awareness for senior citizens and their caregivers, and established a drive to deliver black dolls to the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., to reflect the diverse cultures of children in need. In 2014, I had the honor of participating in the Chapter's Restoration of Voting Rights forum.

One of the Chapter's longest standing initiatives, the Little Miss AKA Scholarship Pageant, is now in its sixteenth year. The pageant highlights the Chapter's dedication to the young women of our community. The six-month long program allows for young girls between the ages of five and seventeen to enhance their personal development, build self-esteem, increase social skills, and meet women of diverse professions and positive role models.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Chi Omega Chapter. The Chapter continues the legacy of Alpha Kappa Alpha's founders and continues to be an invaluable force for good in our community.

#### DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CONTEST WINNER ANNE CHRISTIONO

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anne Christiono of Sugar Land's Cornerstone Elementary for being one of only thirteen winning students of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

Anne, who is currently in the third grade, is one of the thirteen winners selected from the 8,228 elementary school students from across Texas who entered the contest. Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation selected the contest winners who displayed tremendous artistic talent, dedication, and creativity. Anne's submission will appear in the 2016 Don't Mess with Texas Calendar and will be displayed on the Keep Texas Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas websites. Her work will even be showcased at the Keep Texas Beautiful's 2015 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Anne for being selected as one of the winners of the Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, every October Breast Cancer Awareness Month is recognized—acknowledging the toll the disease takes on individuals and families, and the importance of continued research and awareness efforts. Since 1989, thanks to earlier detection, increased understanding, and improved treatment, the death rates for breast cancer have continued to decrease. Yet breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death in women, with one in 36 women dying from the disease. Just this year, it is estimated that 231,840 women will be diagnosed with and 40,290 women will die of cancer of the breast in the United States. In addition, it is estimated that 2,350 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer and 440 men will die from breast cancer in 2015 in the United States.

We need to do more to combat this disease. In 2014 alone it is estimated that \$17.2 billion will be spent on breast cancer care in the United States. While the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program remain the largest funders of breast cancer research in the United States, the National Cancer Institute funding was reduced by nearly \$66 million from 2011 to 2013. The funding level for the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program has remained consistent since 2012; however this amount represents a 20 percent decrease from 2011 funding levels.

Additional private sector support will help us find cures for breast cancer even faster. That is why my colleague Representative PETE SESSIONS and I are introducing the Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act. Proceeds from the sale of the coins will benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. These two organizations have raised more than \$500 million and \$847 million, respectively, for research funding. By leveraging the proceeds of the coins we will be able to increase the much needed support for breast cancer research and awareness.

Clearly, more needs to be done to find better treatments and cures for breast cancer. Our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, cannot afford to wait. I encourage you to support this bipartisan legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa Water Environment Association (IAWEA) on their 100th year anniversary. This is an important milestone in their history of service to the state of Iowa through their efforts to advance water quality and water pollution control techniques.

On June 3, 1915, the first formal training for wastewater operators in the United States was held at Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa. This meeting was an effort to address water quality problems with a personal touch, in order to explain the best practices for the successful operation of the state's water treatment facilities. The association was formally founded in 1927 and except for brief interruptions during times our nation was at war, has continued their legacy of improving the quality of our state's water to this day.

Throughout the many years the IAWEA has thrived to meet the needs of the people in the area by providing excellent information on many aspects of water pollution control, water quality, and protection of the environment. I congratulate the Iowa Water Environment Association on this historic anniversary. It is an honor to represent IAWEA members in the United States Congress, and I wish the Iowa Water Environment Association continued success well into the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF IRA GOLDSTEIN

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Ira Goldstein, National Director, U.S. Federal Practice at Deloitte LLP. Ira will soon retire after 13 years with Deloitte and a distinguished career serving the public and private sector spanning four decades.

Since joining Deloitte in 2003, Ira created and developed Deloitte's Federal client service capabilities. He has served a broad range of Federal clients, including Cabinet agencies, and has been a member of Deloitte's Federal leadership team—most recently as its Civilian Sector Leader bringing innovative and leading edge solutions to the Federal government.

Ira's roots are embedded in public service where he spent 17 years working for the Federal government, including as U.S. Assistant Comptroller General and Chief Operating Officer at the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO)—now renamed the Government Accountability Office. In this capacity, Ira was responsible for GAO operations, including performance management, strategic planning, financial management, quality assurance, workforce development and information systems. Previously, he served as Acting Associate Commissioner of Social Security and Director of Policy for Family Assistance, with oversight of the \$14 billion Aid to Families with Dependent Children (cash welfare) Program. Ira began his Federal career in the Office of Planning and Evaluation at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (now Health and Human Services) and served as Director of the HEW Secretary's Policy Statement Staff.

Prior to entering government, Ira was Deputy Program Manager for Infiltration Surveillance services at Hazeltine Corporation serving the Naval Air Systems Command during the Vietnam War.

Ira received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his Masters of Business Administration with Distinction from Harvard Business School. He has served on various boards and community organizations and is currently a Fellow at the National Academy of Public Administration, a Director at the National College Access Network, and a Washington Regional Board Member at the Anti-Defamation League.

Ira's passion for improving the way the government works and operates, ultimately to service the citizen, has been a theme throughout his professional career. He is currently working on a book focused on the keys to managing success in the federal government. Ira's federal management experience and private sector insights will help professionals and students better understand how to be effective in the federal environment.

On behalf of the people of the 8th Congressional District in Maryland, I would like to thank Ira for his years of service and wish him, his wife Linda and his family all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE BUFFALO CHAPTER OF THE LINKS FOR ITS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO THE BUFFALO COMMUNITY FOR 65 YEARS

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor the Buffalo Chapter of the Links for its work in the Buffalo community. The Buffalo Chapter of the Links has dedicated their time to aiding the Buffalo area through individual and collective volunteerism, as well as charitable giving and scholarship awards.

The Buffalo Chapter of the Links is one of 281 chapters in the United States that encompasses national and area initiatives while addressing the needs of the local community through 6 main facets: Services to the Youth, the Arts, National Trends and Services, International Trends and Services, Health and Human Services, and Women's Issues. Several members of the Buffalo Chapter have held area and national offices, including Link Thelma Hardiman, who served as National Vice President and Eastern Area Director, and Link Cecilia Henderson, who served as Eastern Area Vice Director, Eastern Area Director, and National Secretary. Being the 14th chapter chartered in the East and the 20th chapter chartered nationally, the Buffalo Chapter has a long history of service to the community, now celebrating 65 years.

Throughout the Chapter's 65 years, they have collected over \$600,000 in money for scholarships and have performed 150,200 hours, collectively, of service to the community. The Buffalo Chapter of the Links has worked on various projects in the Western New York region. They have supported local school districts through projects including but not limited to after school book clubs. As well, the Buffalo Chapter has also volunteered with the Buffalo Philharmonic Fund Drive for mem-

bership, with an emphasis on enrolling people of color; built 2 schools in South Africa, and have assisted women transitioning from service to their county to reentering the community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize the Buffalo Chapter of the Links. I ask that my colleagues join me congratulating the Buffalo Chapter of the Links on an accomplished history of charitable giving, and to commend them for the exemplary work they have done to enrich the communities of Western New York for the last 65 years.

RECOGNIZING THE KOREA TIMES 10,000TH ISSUE AND 46TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Korea Times as the newspaper celebrates its 10,000th edition and its 46th anniversary of providing news to the Korean-American community. It is the Korean-American community's largest and oldest newspaper.

In my congressional district, across Northern Virginia and the Washington region, and across the nation, the Korea Times fills an invaluable role in providing the community with a daily mix of news and features highlighting local, regional, national, and international issues of interest to Korean-Americans.

Here in the United States, the Korea Times provides its readers with insightful coverage of the latest news and events from the Korean Peninsula. When 304 people, many of them secondary school students, perished in the tragic sinking of the ferry MV Sewol in April of 2014, the Korea Times served as a lifeline to those Korean-Americans seeking information about family and friends involved in the disaster.

During my more than 20 years of elected office as a district supervisor and Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and as the current Congressman for the 11th District of Virginia, I've had considerable interaction with the professional staff of the Korea Times, based in my district and in Washington, D.C.

On issues I have worked on as co-chair of the Congressional Korea Caucus and as a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee ranging from Korean family reunification and North Korea sanctions to the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, Korea Times' journalists have diligently reported on the importance of these matters to their readers.

In print, on the Internet, and via social media, the Korea Times is an important asset to the Korean-American community in my Northern Virginia district and across the nation. I join my Korean-American constituents and community leaders in congratulating the Korea Times on its 46 years of service and wish the newspaper many more years of success.