

The Rotary Humanitarian Patriot Program was established by The Rotary Club of North Chicago in 2013 with three primary objectives: 1) recognizing individuals throughout Northeast Illinois who are the best at providing humanitarian support for our United Armed Forces Veterans and their families; 2) highlighting veteran services provided by local North Chicago institutions including the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center and its integrated relationships with the active duty component at Great Lakes Naval Training Center and Rosalind Franklin University College of Medicine and Science; and 3) supporting research, treatment, and awareness for individuals living with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

Rotary was founded on the principle of service, and The Rotary Humanitarian Patriot Program is an inspiring extension of this mission. The award recipients all demonstrate an extraordinary sense of commitment to the men and women of our armed forces. These individuals understand that veterans have sacrificed greatly for this country and deserve nothing less than our highest gratitude and respect.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate this year's recipients of The Rotary Humanitarian Patriot Award: Bryan Anderson, Joyce Campbell, Mary Carmody, Larry Crone, Jeff Harger, Gander the Service Dog, Lon Hodges, Robert Kauffman, Don Long, Rob Paddor, Judge John Philips, Anthony Sarpe, Craig Steichen, Matt Steichen, Angela Walker, Scott Watkins, Bill Wolff, Michael Woods, and Frank Yurasek.

Even more so, I thank these outstanding individuals and canine for the incredible work they continue to do. Their service strengthens our communities and our country, and I am grateful for the work of The Rotary Club of North Chicago and all of this year's honorees.

CONGRATULATING MR. D. EDWARD SMYTH ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor D. Edward ("Ted") Smyth on his retirement from McGraw Hill Financial, following a distinguished career at the highest levels of government and business.

In 2009, Ted joined the company as its Executive Vice President for Corporate Affairs, overseeing worldwide marketing, communications, government affairs and corporate responsibility. During his tenure, Ted helped lead the company's transformation into a focused provider of credit ratings, benchmarks and analytics to the financial marketplace, with marquee brands that include Standard & Poor's, Platts and J.D. Power. He also lent his expertise in corporate governance to the company's Board of Directors and served as a trusted counselor to two chief executive officers: Harold W. ("Terry") McGraw, III, and more recently, Douglas L. Peterson.

Ted came to McGraw Hill Financial after more than two decades at H.J. Heinz Company, where he held the dual roles of Senior Vice President for Corporate and Government Affairs and Chief Administrative Officer. In his time at Heinz, Ted created world-class com-

munications and government relations functions and chaired both the Heinz Global Communications Committee and the Heinz Crisis and Issues Committee, reporting directly to Bill Johnson, Heinz's former chairman, president and CEO. Ted also built and sustained the company's talent management process, designed to attract and retain the best minds in the food industry.

Prior to joining Heinz in 1988, Ted spent 15 years as a senior diplomat for Ireland, serving in embassies and offices in Geneva, Portugal, Washington, D.C. and London. Among the many highlights of his diplomatic career, Ted served as a delegate to the 36-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) in Switzerland and was a special advisor to the Irish Prime Minister in seeking a peaceful resolution to the Northern Ireland conflict. Ted also was a member of the Secretariat of the New Ireland Forum and was Press Secretary for the Irish government in the United Kingdom.

A talented writer and sought-after speaker, Ted has authored numerous articles on public policy, has participated in leading conferences worldwide and has contributed thoughtful bylines to several leading newspapers. He lends his considerable leadership skills to a number of organizations, currently serving as a Director of Glucksman Ireland House at New York University, a member of the Global Studies Program of the Center for International Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, a trustee of the Clinton Institute in University College, Dublin, and a trustee of Marlboro College, Vermont. He also is a former Director of the Hain Celestial Company, the Africa America Institute and the Ireland Funds. Ted graduated with honors in History and Political Science from Trinity College in Dublin.

Mr. Speaker, apart from his countless accomplishments, Ted Smyth is a true gentleman and a friend to all who know him. I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ted for his many contributions and congratulating him on his remarkable career.

CONGRATULATING THE D.C. CHAPTER OF THE BLACK DATA PROCESSING ASSOCIATES ON ITS 37TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the District of Columbia chapter of the Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) on its 37th anniversary of service to the residents of the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Founded in May 1978 by Norman Mays, the D.C. chapter is the second chapter of BDPA formed, preceded only by the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania chapter, 1977. In 1979, BDPA was restructured as a national organization, and has 45 active chapters across the United States.

As the oldest and largest African American information technology (IT) organization, comprised of over 2,000 African-American IT professionals, as well as science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) college students,

BDPA's vision is to be a powerful advocate for their interests within the global technology industry. Its mission is to be a global, member-focused technology organization that delivers programs and services for the professional well-being of its members.

BDPA continues to promote professional growth and technical development for young people and those entering into information and communication technology (ICT) in academia and corporate America. We also appreciate BDPA and its 45 chapters for continuing to provide ICT opportunities for STEM students and professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 37th anniversary of the D.C. chapter of the Black Data Processing Associates, in congratulating BDPA for its outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the residents of the District of Columbia and around the country, and in welcoming those attending the BDPA Annual National Technology Conference and Career Fair, titled "Evolution of IT—Embracing the Digital Future," on August 18–22, 2015, at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

HONORING NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY WRESTLER, NICK GWIAZDOWSKI

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nick Gwiazdowski, a member of the North Carolina State University wrestling team, on winning his second straight NCAA Division I Individual Championship.

Mr. Gwiazdowski is the first Wolfpack wrestler to ever win multiple NCAA titles and one of the most successful student-athletes in NC State's history. He finished this season with a perfect 35–0 record and holds a record of 55 straight wins since last year—the nation's longest current winning streak.

North Carolina State has a long history of success in wrestling, with seven national championships. Gwiazdowski's remarkable victory—17 seconds into the championship match—adds yet another chapter to that storied tradition.

Congratulations to Nick Gwiazdowski. Wolfpack fans everywhere are proud of your championship and look forward to your senior season next year and the promise of a threepeat.

OUR SHREDDED FLAG

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, recently, I was contacted by a constituent, Colonel Paul Dudley, United States Air Force, Retired. He wrote to express his patriotic feelings for our country and the treatment of our flag. Attached to his letter was a poem he wrote titled, "Our Shredded Flag." Since this Sunday, June 14th, is Flag Day, I thought it appropriate to submit his poem.

I am a United States of America shredded flag.
 I fly from the roof of many typical American homes.
 Some time ago, I was new and radiant when they placed me there,
 But the wind and rain have reduced me to strings of red, white, and blue.
 Sometimes I fly from vehicles until I am torn to shreds;
 Though I still wave proudly, and can be recognized, I need replaced,
 And here's why:
 Brave military have carried me into battles in many wars
 To save and preserve our nation, and restore peace.
 I fly proudly above our military bases and naval vessels
 To show that we are, yet today, a nation of strength and honor.
 Our Veterans, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guard
 Still honor me, care for me, protect me, and rescue me when torn;
 With them, I am in good hands.
 When they see that I am weathering from the elements,
 They take me down and honorably, ceremonially give me final rest,
 And as a service to those citizens who do not seem to know, or do the same,
 They do it for them, with great respect and understanding.
 I am called "Old Glory", "The Star Spangled Banner", and other respected names,
 Which make me flow and flutter proudly in the wind,
 For I am the true vision of our great nation.
 I represent a people who have achieved their freedom;
 I remind a people of the sacrifices that we have made to keep it;
 I go off to war with the greatest warriors, many who die defending it;
 And I grieve when draped over their coffins when they are returned.
 I am placed into the hands of their greatest loved ones
 To honor them and remember them forevermore.
 Those who dishonor me, stomp on me, and burn me, only destroy my cloth.
 My meaning, my purpose, my honor and representation still live on;
 These cannot be taken away so long as there remains a United States of America.
 So, fellow citizens, protect what I stand for, not for me, but for you;
 For I am merely dye on cloth with a God blessed meaning.
 Honor me; respect me for what I represent,
 And I will fly over you wherever, and forever.
 I am the "Stars and Stripes Forever".

Written by Paul Frederick Dudley, Colonel, USAF (Ret) USMC (WWII) USAF (Vietnam) March 6, 2011.

RECOGNIZING DR. STEVEN A. LOOMIS

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Dr. Steven A. Loomis of Littleton, Colorado. Dr. Loomis will soon be elected the 93rd president of the American Optometric Association (AOA) during their 118th annual meeting on June 27, 2015, in Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Loomis is a graduate of Pacific University College of Optometry and owns Mountain Vista EyeCare and Dry Eye Center in Littleton, Colorado. He was first elected to the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees in 2007, and elected President-Elect at the 117th Annual AOA Congress & 44th Annual AOSA Conference: Optometry's Meeting in June 2014. Dr. Loomis has continuously proven to be a leader in his profession at the local, state, and national levels. In addition to his duties as President-Elect, Dr. Loomis is chair of the AOA Building Committee and serves as a member of the AOA Agenda, Executive, and Personnel Committees.

Dr. Loomis' enthusiasm for optometry and commitment to excellence in eye and vision care has earned him this prestigious national office. I take great pride representing Dr. Loomis in Colorado's Sixth Congressional District and I join his family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him on this achievement. I am confident that he will have a very successful term as president of the AOA and I wish him the very best of luck.

MAYOR KURT D. DYKSTRA

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Kurt D. Dykstra and his commendable service to the City of Holland as its 40th Mayor.

Mayor Dykstra was the first of his family to attend college, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree, Magna Cum Laude, at Northwestern College, in Orange City, Iowa, and his Juris Doctor at Marquette University Law School, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, graduating first in class, Summa Cum Laude.

Mayor Dykstra has been a member of the City Council since 2005 and represented Holland's fifth ward until his election to Mayor. As Holland's mayor since 2009, he has provided strong leadership for this thriving and successful lakefront city. Today, Holland is a bright, vibrant city thanks to his vision and leadership.

During his tenure, Holland was named the 2013 winner of Outstanding Achievement in Heritage Preservation, the 2012 winner of Environmental Efforts, named in Forbes list of America's Prettiest Towns, a Top Five Safest Cities in the U.S., and the 3rd Best Place for Families in the U.S.

Mayor Dykstra's record of successful leadership has enabled the City of Holland to continue to be recognized as a place to live, work and play. Under Mayor Dykstra, the city has become a place where businesses are able to grow, strong and safe neighborhoods flourish, and visitors are warmly welcomed. The City of Holland has been well served by his tenure.

I wish Mayor Dykstra the best of luck as he leaves West Michigan to become President of Trinity Christian College.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mayor Kurt Dykstra for his service to the City of Holland.

HONORING THE GLEN MOORE FIRE COMPANY

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Glen Moore Fire Company on its 100th anniversary of serving and protecting families in Chester County.

Glen Moore's first apparatus was horse-drawn. It was bought for \$100 in 1915 after local residents saw the need for fire protection in the community. Since then, the Company has grown and thrived and the Glen Moore area now benefits from the protection of a highly-trained team of expert officers and members, modern apparatus and equipment.

Mr. Speaker, in 2014 alone, the Glen Moore Fire Company responded to more than 300 incidents—one every 29 hours. We are grateful to the fine firefighters of the Glen Moore Fire Company and I wish them another 100 years of success in serving the community.

HONORING COUNCILMAN THOMAS D. MISERENDINO

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Navy and Vietnam veteran Thomas Miserendino of New Jersey's Third Congressional District, who passed away last week, and express my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Councilman Miserendino served our country valiantly during the Vietnam War and in his position as Senior Chief of the U.S. Navy. Councilman Miserendino continued his service to the country after his time in the Navy by actively serving his community.

Among his many volunteer services he was a Councilman to the Borough of Beachwood, the longest serving Chief of Beachwood Volunteer Fire Company, Ocean County manager for the NJ Firemen's Home, Secretary of the Beachwood Fire Relief Association, Life member of Ocean County Firemen's Association and past board member for Toms River Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker, South Jersey is tremendously grateful for Councilman Thomas Miserendino's service to our nation and its communities. It is my honor to recognize his service and achievements before the United States House of Representatives.

YOUNG AMERICA'S NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2015

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate all of the students who will take part in the Young America's National High School Leadership Conference from July 8th to 11th. At this conference, the students will learn leadership