

organic, fresh, and local to the Pacific Northwest. The company's success has resulted in considerable growth in recent years and generated economic activity and jobs that have benefited Washington state.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Grant Jones in receiving this year's SBA's 2015 Young Entrepreneur Award. I look forward to hearing further great things from Grant and KuKuRuZa in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER "ED"
REILLY UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Representative JOHN LARSON of Connecticut to honor the long record of service to working men and women by Peter "Ed" Reilly, retiring Business Manager and Financial Secretary of the Ironworkers Union Local 15, of Hartford, Connecticut. Ed has been a leader in Local 15 for 19 years, advocating for his members who build the infrastructure of our state—buildings, transportation, water works and mass transit—leaving a lasting legacy which will benefit Connecticut businesses and families for generations. He did so while ensuring his members receive fair wages with health benefits and pension security which are the pillars of middle class prosperity.

During Ed's tenure, he created and maintained a strong apprenticeship program providing apprenticeships to young residents of Connecticut—many from low income families who otherwise would not have had any chance to escape their circumstances. He literally has transformed the lives of thousands with his apprenticeship efforts.

Ed has also served as a leader in Connecticut's labor community, presiding over the greater Hartford Building Trade Council, Eastern Connecticut Building Trade Council, and Connecticut Building Trade Council. He was a frequent presence at the State Capitol, calling on his deep understanding and respect for the political process. Ed drew his strong political knowledge in part from his father Peter Reilly Sr., who also led Local 15 and later had a distinguished career as Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Labor. The Reilly family can be proud of a compelling and unique political and governing legacy in the State of Connecticut.

Lastly, we want to note that all of these accomplishments came with a high personal cost. Ed's workday started at the crack of dawn and ended late at night, with little or no break, even on the weekends. Ed and his family—his wife Noreen and his children Peter and Raeanne—have earned a long and fruitful retirement. We both ask the full House to join us in extending our sincerest congratulations and best wishes to Ed and his family as they begin this new chapter of their lives.

HONORING DR. PAUL HOMMERT

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great honor to recognize Dr. Paul Hommert, Director of Sandia National Laboratories and President of Sandia Corporation as he prepares for retirement.

In 1976, Paul began his career as a member of the technical staff for Sandia in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Paul stood out among his colleagues, and gradually was given increased responsibility with a broad range of programs and management assignments. He led programs supporting energy research, and from the mid- to late-1990s, Paul served as the Director of Engineering Services.

Paul went on to become the Director of Research and Applied Science at the Atomic Weapons Establishment in the United Kingdom, where he led the science and engineering division responsible for the country's nuclear deterrent. From 2003 to 2006, Paul served as the lead for the Applied Physics Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory, charged with nuclear weapon design and assessment, weapon performance code development, and weapon science support.

In 2009, Paul returned to Albuquerque to serve as the Executive Vice President and Deputy Laboratories Director for Sandia's Nuclear Weapons Program, eventually becoming the Director of Sandia National Laboratories and President of Sandia Corporation.

Paul has propelled Sandia to new heights, bolstering its reputation as the nation's premier science and engineering laboratory for national security and technology innovation. In recognition of Paul's efforts and accomplishments, the Federal Laboratory Consortium named Paul Laboratory Director of the Year in 2013 for his steadfast commitment to Sandia's technology-transfer activities.

Paul has received numerous accolades and achieved many accomplishments throughout his career. Most notably, he inspired and prepared a new generation of scientists and engineers who are making important contributions to our national security.

It is with great honor and privilege that I take this moment to thank Paul for his service on behalf of the United States of America. I wish him continued happiness and an enjoyable, well-deserved retirement. His successes and contributions will always be appreciated.

IN RECOGNITION OF CLAIRE
KNOPF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Claire Knopf as she is honored by the Monmouth County Historical Association at its 40th annual Garden Party on June 28, 2015. Claire's exemplary leadership and contributions to the Monmouth County Historical Association and the greater Monmouth County area are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

A resident of Monmouth County, New Jersey since 1986, Claire has been an active and charitable member of the community. She has been an outstanding leader of the Monmouth County Historical Association for many years, serving as a trustee, first vice president and 20th president of the Board of Trustees. In addition to her work with the Monmouth County Historical Association, Claire has volunteered on the Rumson Country Day School Executive Council, the Leon Hess Cancer Center at Monmouth Medical Center Women's Council, the Spring House, the Two River Film Festival and the Junior League of Monmouth County, among others. Her involvement with numerous local charities and organizations reflect her passion to help others and improve our communities. Her leadership and hard work have greatly benefited the Monmouth County area and her efforts are admirable.

Claire received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from Boston University. She and her husband Woody reside in Rumson and are the proud parents of three beautiful children.

For over 115 years, the Monmouth County Historical Association has provided Monmouth County residents and visitors with a vast background of our local history and heritage. Its efforts to preserve and promote our local history through programs, exhibits, and resources are valuable to our community and help to ensure that this important knowledge is available for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in thanking Claire Knopf and the Monmouth County Historical Association for their immeasurable contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING CASTRO VALLEY
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
JIM NEGRI ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Jim Negri, Castro Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) Superintendent, on the occasion of his retirement at the end of this month.

Born in Oakland and a resident of Castro Valley since 1985, Jim has devoted his career to educating students in California and, in particular, the East Bay. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in economics and teaching credential from the University of California, Berkeley, and his master of arts degree and administrative credential from Saint Mary's College.

Jim has played a major role in educating East Bay students for many years. He held a variety of positions in the Pleasanton Unified School District and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District as well as worked as a superintendent of the Acalanes Union High School District. Since 2009, Jim has been the CVUSD Superintendent.

Jim also has been active in the field of education administration. He served in many roles in the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), such as co-chair of the State Curriculum, Instruction, and Evaluation Committee and President of ACSA Region VI (Alameda and Contra Costa counties).

For his excellent work in education, Jim has received numerous awards. These include ACSA's Outstanding Central Office Administrator (2002) and St. Mary's College School of Education Alumnus of the Year (2001).

Jim's commitment to education is truly extraordinary. I want to thank him for his years of dedicated service and to wish him well in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 370 on H. Con. Res. 55, I mistakenly recorded my vote as No when I should have voted Yes.

FORT BEND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fort Bend Christian Academy softball team for their amazing 4-A district winning streak this past season.

After more than 100 games, the Lady Eagles maintained a remarkable winning streak and ended the year tied for first place. They were led on and off the field by an outstanding young player, Claire McKissick, who was selected for the 4A all-state first team as a sophomore. Additionally, the women had a trio of young players selected for the all-state second team including Tessa Cantrell, Emily Ferguson, and Kati Ray Brown. The Lady Eagles further packed the all-district team selections with the achievements of senior Morgan Kornegay, sophomore Kendall Bohny, and senior Madelyn Hill. These prestigious awards are achieved through both athletic and academic vigor and are highly competitive throughout the state of Texas. We are extremely proud of all the women of the Fort Bend Christian Academy softball team and look forward to their future accomplishments.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the entire Lady Eagle softball team on an incredible season.

RECOGNIZING MR. KYLE
WEDEKIND

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize one of my constituents, Mr. Kyle Wedekind of Winter Garden, Florida, for his acceptance to the People to People World Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C. Mr. Wedekind was selected for his academic excellence, leadership potential and exemplary citizenship.

The mission of People to People Leadership Ambassador Programs is to bridge cultural and political borders through education and exchange. To this end, People to People offers domestic and international educational programs that promote cooperation, cross-cultural understanding and leadership. It is my hope that Mr. Wedekind benefitted greatly from his participation in the World Leadership Forum, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

THE RAINS IN THE REPUBLIC OF
GEORGIA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, heavy rains poured down hammering the ground and streets of Georgia the Republic of Georgia.

The River Vere, a small stream that cuts through the center of the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, was transformed into a raging torrent. It caused flooding of an unprecedented scale.

So far, 13 people have been killed. The flooding allowed animals to escape from the local zoo. Lions, bears, tigers, and jaguars remain on the loose.

Homes, cars and roadways are destroyed. There are over 1 million residents in the capital, and it will take a long time before things get back to normal.

I've been to Georgia—twice. Texans and Georgians are likeminded people; they know the spirit and importance of Independence.

Still occupied by the Russians, Georgia sent troops to fight alongside ours in Afghanistan.

They have been a strong and steadfast U.S. ally in an important and often turbulent part of the world.

Americans must help our friends and allies; the Georgians, as they begin to rebuild their capital city after this historic flooding.

From across the globe we keep the Georgians in our thoughts and prayers.

We know our Georgian friends are resilient and will face this natural disaster with courage. We should stand by them in this effort.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, on June 15, 2015, due to the weather, I was unavoidably detained while traveling to Washington, D.C. and missed recorded votes number 364 and 365. Had I been present, on rollcall vote number 364, H. Res. 233—"Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders," I would have voted "yea"; and on rollcall vote number 365, H.R. 2559—"To designate the 'PFC Milton A. Lee Medal of Honor

Memorial Highway' in the State of Texas," I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF CATHEDRAL
INTERNATIONAL "STOP THE FUNERAL WEEKEND"

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cathedral International's upcoming "Stop the Funeral Weekend" hosted by Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. from June 18–21, 2015. The "Stop the Funeral Weekend" aims to highlight the issue of violence in our communities and I would like to join with Bishop Hilliard in bringing attention to this important issue.

Throughout his 32 years as Senior Pastor of Cathedral International, Bishop Hilliard has advocated for the end of violent behavior and injustice through improved community relations and engagement. He has seen the consequences of violence and the persistence of its existence in our communities. The "Stop the Funeral Weekend" will bring together community leaders, families and individuals to encourage open dialogue and the sharing of concerns, objectives and ideas. It will highlight Bishop Hilliard's mission to promote safe environments for our youth to live and grow. I commend Bishop Hilliard's leadership and his ongoing efforts to address the challenges facing our communities today.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing the importance of addressing the issue of violence in our communities and thanking Bishop Hilliard and Cathedral International for its efforts to bring awareness to this critical issue and creating a better environment for our youth.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAREDO BEAUTY COLLEGE, INC.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a noteworthy occasion: the fiftieth anniversary of Laredo Beauty College, Inc. For five decades, this school has served the community by providing thousands of aspiring stylists with the training they need to succeed, as well as providing affordably priced salon services to the general public.

Upon its opening in 1965, Laredo Beauty College was the first cosmetology school in the Laredo area. The vision behind this significant contribution to the community was Peggy Dietrick, commonly known as Ms. Peggy. At the time of its founding, the school only offered courses in cosmetology. It has since expanded to include manicuring and cosmetology instructor courses as well.

Today, Laredo Beauty College has 102 students and 17 staff members. The school is exceptional in the dedication it inspires in both students and staff, with many of the staff having worked for the school for over twenty