

CELEBRATING THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. JIM AND BETTY HELD'S OWNERSHIP OF THE STONE HILL WINERY COMPANY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Golden Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Jim and Betty Held's ownership of the Stone Hill Winery Company. Stone Hill Winery continues to be one of Missouri's most pre-eminent businesses, and has received numerous accolades throughout the Helds' 50 years of ownership. Today, the winery farms seven vineyards and purchases grapes from five independent growers in the state; thus, producing more than 250,000 gallons of Missouri grown wine and contributing over \$7 million to the state's economy each year.

The story of the Stone Hill Wine Company begins in 1847, when it was founded by Mr. Michael Poeschel. The winery quickly grew in popularity and size, and soon became the second largest winery in the United States. In the 1880's, Stone Hill's thriving business allowed Missouri to become the leading wine producing state in the nation. On December 28, 1901 an ornately decorated bottle of Stone Hill Wine Company "Pearl of Missouri" Extra Dry Champagne was used to christen the first USS *Missouri*, Battleship (BB-11).

Unfortunately, prohibition would soon take a hit on the state's wine production and Stone Hill; killing the thriving industry in Missouri. This despair would not last long. In 1961, after returning home from his service in the Navy, Jim Held planted a four acre vineyard of catwaba grapes near Hermann, Missouri. Only four years later, Jim was asked by the then current owner of Stone Hill to reopen a winery on the property, and on July 5, 1965, the Helds officially reopened the Stone Hill Winery.

Since its reopening, the winery has restored the wine industry in Missouri. In 1969, Stone Hill Winery was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Several years later, the Helds traveled to Washington, D.C. in 1982 to receive the award for Missouri's Small Business of the Year, presented by President Ronald Reagan. The awards did not end there, as the Helds received Hall of Fame recognition from the Missouri Division of Tourism and the Pioneer Award from the Missouri Grape and Wine Program. Additionally, the winery has been awarded the Missouri's Governor's Cup on nine occasions for producing the best wine in Missouri and has received three C.V. Riley Awards for the Best Missouri Norton, the official state grape of Missouri. In 2014, in honor of his accomplishments and revival of the Missouri Wine Industry, Jim was conferred an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

The Helds have come a long way since first reopening the Stone Hill Winery with only \$1,500 to their name. Jim and Betty's hard work and dedication have not only afforded enjoyment for Missourians, but provided jobs across the state. Their award-winning winery has proven to be a staple to Missouri, and its wines continue to be enjoyed by individuals across the United States.

I ask you to join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Held for the accomplishments throughout the years and celebrating their 50th Anniversary as owners of the Stone Hill Winery.

RECOGNIZING ELAINE WALDROP'S 25 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ms. Elaine Waldrop, a dedicated professional with the Department of Veterans Affairs' Congressional Liaison Service on the occasion of her retirement. Elaine has been an exemplary public servant who has demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism on a daily basis. She has served for more than 25 years and her career in public service has been a testament to the importance of unselfish devotion. As Elaine embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that she may recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment the outstanding contributions she has made to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States House of Representatives and the people of the United States of America. I would like to send her my best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors, and may her life be filled with health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW C. WIKTOROWICZ

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Andrew C. Wiktorowicz, an outstanding leader and representative of the California Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). During Mr. Wiktorowicz's two terms as Chairman of California's ESGR, his extensive expertise and unwavering leadership forwarded the organization's mission of promoting supportive work environments for servicemembers through outreach, recognition, and educational opportunities.

Mr. Wiktorowicz's exceptional leadership was instrumental in combining the Northern and Southern California committees into a single California Committee for the ESGR. Mr. Wiktorowicz managed a seamless transition and successfully integrated both regions to create the largest ESGR Committee in the United States. Under Mr. Wiktorowicz's direction, the California ESGR served an estimated 63,000 members of the National Guard Reserves and additionally supported over 600 military and employer events annually. Additionally, Mr. Wiktorowicz developed and implemented the highly effective Employment Initiative Program supporting over 5,000 Citizen Warriors and resulting in over 500 successful hires.

During Mr. Wiktorowicz's tenure, over 14,000 employers signed the ESGR Statement of Support and over 5,000 supervisors received the Employer Support Patriot Award. His selfless dedication to the committee and service members distinguished the ESGR as the premier military and employer volunteer establishment in the State of California. Mr. Wiktorowicz's efforts have been recognized nationally because of his strong Ombudsman Program, which effectively supports all California Guard and Reservists.

Mr. Wiktorowicz has been an amazing asset to both Ventura County and the State of California. Through his efforts on behalf of servicemembers and the working community, he has created an organization that for many is the backbone of their tenure in the California Guard and Reserves.

For these reasons, I would like to graciously thank Mr. Wiktorowicz for his steadfast commitment and dedication as the Chairman of the State of California's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Mr. Wiktorowicz's work with the ESGR will continue to positively shape the experience for future generations of the California Guard and Reserves.

HONORING NEWLY NATURALIZED AMERICAN CITIZENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate the individuals who took their oath of citizenship on July 4, 2015. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great Nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony took place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the League of Women Voters of the Calumet Area and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, was held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The oath ceremony was a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2015, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Guillermina Cornejo Campos, Emmanuel Thierry Mentor, Ruth Elizabeth Gallegos Pecina, Beatrice Nyambura Macharia, Geoffrey Macharia Gakuya, Javeed Ali Khan, Vika Priscilia Boentaram, Mateusz Dembowski, Srinivasa Rao Ayinampudi, Jacqueline Zumazuma, Viviana Pacheco, Fatma Dafallah Widaatallah, Dorothy Wanjiru Njiru, Emilia Robles de Navarro, Erlinda Dimaala Miranda, Juan Andres Bermudez Aguirre, Karen Yanin Hernandez, Jose Abonce Belmonte, Fayzeh Mahmoud Altaweel, Priya Phani Ayinampudi, Maria Beatriz Becerra, Aaditya Ganapathy

Chandramouli, Arieta Bongcaras Dahlstrom, Gabriela Olimpia Dordea, Maria Yolanda Eulloqui, Sumoh Fomba, Negin Hosseini Goodrich, Daniela Guilhon de Alcantara Avellar, Wendy Hurtado-Krzewski, Abdelrazeq Odeh Issa, Tamam Yousef Khater, Biljana Krljeski, Joaquin Martinez, Leoncio Larry Villavicencio Miranda, Sara L Mondragon, Jazmin Montoya, Cristina Navarrete, Aureliano Navarro, Tosin Precious Ogunfowokan, Mariceli Paz, Karla Nohemi Ramos, Xiao Bin Shao, Lama Sharif, Sook Hee Suh, Dong Yo Suh, Lily Jiyun Suh, Maria Rosario Tirado, Ekaterina Alexeevna Vostrikova, Carmen Ramona Wilber, Victor Zepeda.

Though each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country "... of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals, who became citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2015, the day of our Nation's independence. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

**HONORING MR. BILL CONSIDINE,
THE LONG-SERVING PRESIDENT
AND CEO OF AKRON CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL**

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today, I am very grateful for the opportunity to recognize the life work of Bill Considine, the long-serving President and CEO of Akron Children's Hospital.

Bill is celebrating thirty-five years as President of Akron Children's—making him the longest serving President of any children's hospital in the country and among the longest serving Presidents of any hospital in the nation. Under his leadership, Akron Children's Hospital has grown from an urban children's hospital into a pediatric health system that serves twenty-seven counties in Ohio. It is consistently ranked among the top children's hospitals in the country and that success is without question the result of Bill's vision, commitment, and leadership.

Bill graduated from Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Akron and a master's degree in health science administration from The Ohio State University. In 1979, Bill assumed the role as president of Akron Children's Hospital reaffirming his devo-

tion to his community. Under his leadership, Akron Children's has expanded the scope of children's healthcare services and is now the largest pediatric healthcare provider in northern Ohio serving more than 800,000 children each year. Today, the scope of pediatric healthcare services offered by Akron Children's Hospital are exceptional, including advanced cardiac care, intensive neonatal care, behavioral health, and even Ohio's first pediatric sports medicine center. Bill has been consistently recognized by numerous organizations for his visionary leadership at Akron Children's Hospital. Two special awards include his 2009 induction into the Northeast Ohio Business Hall of Fame and the 2011 Bert A. Polsky Humanitarian Award for his years of dedication to humanitarian causes in the greater Akron community.

Bill is a true public servant and a visionary leader. Our community is a better place to call home due to his years of service and commitment to helping children and their families. With sincerest gratitude, I honor Bill Considine for his selfless dedication to Akron Children's Hospital as well as his humanitarian efforts throughout Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in extending a heartfelt thank you to an inspiring leader, Bill Considine.

**RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF
BEN ZION COLB**

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a true hero, Ben Zion Colb, and to thank him for his heroic efforts and great sacrifice in saving Jews in Poland during World War II. Ben Zion Colb went to great lengths to save his fellow Jews from extermination by the Nazis.

Ben Zion's brave endeavor began when he sent a courier to escort his then-fiancée, Clara Lieber, from Poland to Slovakia, where the deportation of Jews had been temporarily halted. After succeeding in bringing Clara to safety, he realized he could use the same method he used to smuggle Clara across the border to help other Jews escape from Poland. With the help of his friend Rabbi Michael Weissmandl and a network of couriers, he succeeded in bringing most likely over one thousand Jews across the border. Ben Zion largely focused on the rescue of children, who came to be known as "Ben Zion's Kinder." After the war, Ben Zion and Clara eventually made their way to New York, where they raised three children. Ben Zion passed away in 1973, but his inspiring legacy still lives on.

I was fascinated to learn of the many documents that still exist, which detail the history of Ben Zion Colb's heroism. There are hand-written and typed papers with names of people who were rescued. Sometimes these papers include dates of birth, where these individuals were from, where they crossed the border and in some cases the actual day they crossed. I hope these documents will continue to assist in locating those individuals who were rescued by Ben Zion Colb and help bring together families and their diverse histories.

I want to properly recognize Ben Zion Colb's sacrifices and truly heroic efforts and to re-

mind my colleagues that individuals such as Ben Zion serve as a reminder as to how one person can make a difference in the lives of many. Ben Zion Colb took it upon himself to save as many lives as possible during a time of great need and it is important that we strive to live by his example.

**RECOGNIZING LOUIS "MILKMAN"
PATTERSON FOR HIS OUT-
STANDING COMMITMENT TO THE
BUFFALO COMMUNITY**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mr. Louis Patterson for his engagement with the Buffalo community. Mr. Patterson has been a committed, well-loved and respected community member for over 50 years.

Born in Birmingham Alabama in 1945, Mr. Patterson moved to the Buffalo area in 1960 where he has remained ever since. Before retiring in 2013, Mr. Patterson worked for Upstate Dairy for 36 years where he would earn his affectionate nickname, "Milkman."

A constant presence in the Buffalo swing dance community, Mr. Patterson was and is admired by many as both a great man and a great dancer. He brings joy to those around him not only through his own dancing but also through his ardent support of other dancers and organizations in the community. He is a man who lives up to the adage that one should give more than one receives in its fullest sense.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Mr. Patterson. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Patterson on an accomplished history of community engagement, and to commend him for the exemplary work he has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

**IS ACADEMIC FREEDOM THREAT-
ENED BY CHINA'S INFLUENCE ON
U.S. UNIVERSITIES?**

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I recently held a hearing that was the second in a series probing the question of whether maintaining access to China's lucrative education market undermines the very values that make American universities great, including academic freedom. The hearing was timely for three reasons: the growing number of satellite or branch campuses started by U.S. universities in China; the record numbers of Chinese students enrolling in U.S. universities and colleges in China each year, bringing with them nearly \$10 million a year in tuition and other spending; and the recent efforts by the Communist Party of China to regain ideological control over universities and academic research.

Official Chinese government decrees prohibit teaching and research in seven areas—