

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREAT FALLS PARK

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the 50th anniversary of Great Falls Park. Established in 1966, this pristine natural reserve is situated on 800 acres along the banks of the Potomac River in northern Fairfax County. Great Falls Park has been home to many relaxing hikes, peaceful picnics, and family getaways throughout the years, and it will continue to be a destination for visitors from all over.

The hard work done by the men and women of the Great Falls Park Service has helped ensure an amazing outdoor space for many of my constituents to escape the pace of metropolitan living and reconnect with nature. The hiking paths allow countless people access to an enjoyable and healthy activity. Our coexistence with nature is a vital component to a sustainable ecosystem, and I am proud to have such a remarkable park in my District. The close collaboration of the constituents of Virginia's 10th Congressional District is crucial to preserving the diverse wildlife population located in Great Falls Park.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in recognizing the 50th anniversary of Great Falls Park and thanking the many men and women who keep the park clean and enjoyable for the countless tourists who visit on a yearly basis. I know the park will continue to provide a natural escape to all who seek one.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH RANDLEMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Ruth Randleman, community leader and Mayor of Carlisle, Iowa for being named a 2016 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

For 17 years, the Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of women who have made a significant difference in business, civic and philanthropic endeavors throughout the Greater Des Moines Area. Ms. Randleman has devoted her life to confronting challenges which many others might avoid. She has spent countless hours on various boards while blazing a trail for others to follow. She was selected for the chosen field of expertise, the lasting impact on the community, involvement with civic or non-profit organization and being seen as a role model because of her lofty achievements and high ethical standards.

Ruth Randleman has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does and her exemplary work with her leadership for the city of Carlisle where she has been active on the City Council for 16 years. She serves on many area boards and commissions including past service as president of the Iowa League of Cities and the Warren County (Iowa) Economic Development Corporation. In

all aspects of her life, Ruth Randleman is an example of hard work and service who makes lowans proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ruth Randleman in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Ruth Randleman on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing Ms. Randleman a long and successful career.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF BLAKE G. KRIKORIAN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Blake G. Krikorian, a Silicon Valley icon who was taken suddenly from his family at the young age of 48, after an afternoon of surfing in the majestic Pacific Ocean south of San Francisco.

Blake and his brothers Adam and Jason grew up in the Bay area, and Blake attended UCLA where he played water polo. He was well known as the CEO of Sling Media, which he founded with his brother Jason, and he worked with many other companies. Blake's brother, Adam Krikorian, is the coach of the United States Women's Water Polo Team.

Blake Krikorian can be described in superlatives . . . savvy, ebullient, and friend to countless people. He was a mentor, a tinkerer, a supporter, an entrepreneur and an angel investor.

He's been described as a man with a near artistic capability to make unobvious connections among widely diverse things and ideas. He had a wonderful laugh, he was an amazing friend, a terrific man with child-like curiosity, brilliant, wise, creative, warm, personable, and always helpful.

Blake Krikorian adored his family and worshipped his wife Cathy and their two daughters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our most sincere condolences to the entire family of Blake Krikorian and in honoring his extraordinarily productive, generous, and all too brief life. We are a better people and a better country because he walked with us.

HONORING THE MARTINEZ BEAVER FESTIVAL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Martinez Beaver Festival, which for the past nine years has commemorated the broad public support and civic action that saved our local beaver population from trapping. This annual festival not only emphasizes the importance that beavers hold for our creeks and wildlife, but also is a celebration of our community and local government working together for this worthy cause.

The Martinez Beaver Festival is hosted by Worth a Dam, a local nonprofit dedicated to maintaining the beaver population in Martinez. Their many contributions to our community involve education, advocacy, and local events. The organization also aims to teach other cities about the importance of coexisting with this important species. Furthermore, Worth a Dam has increased public awareness on the importance of beavers to the ecological health of urban streams by providing exploration tours, promoting ecotourism in Martinez through various events, and awarding Beaver Scholarships to other cities learning to deal with their own beaver-related issues.

During its history, Worth a Dam and the Martinez Beaver Festival have provided exhibits and presentations to wildlife groups across our state, as well as in Utah and Oregon. Thanks to Worth a Dam's website dedicated to beaver information, people across our nation have access to data and resources needed to solve wild beaver issues and to develop a stronger appreciation for the importance of beavers to their local ecosystems. Worth a Dam has recently worked internationally with beaver advocates in Canada and Scotland to educate stakeholders and their communities to help resolve various beaver-related issues.

Mr. Speaker, the Martinez Beaver Festival is of tremendous value to our community, and its success has brought awareness to our community's wildlife conservation efforts. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor the Martinez Beaver Festival here today.

THE TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS NORTH CAROLINA JOINING THE NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the Town and Town Council of Granite Falls, North Carolina, to express their support of observance of the 15th Anniversary of September 11th.

The Town Council of the Town of Granite Falls passed a resolution that affirms that, together as a Nation, ceasing all work or other activity for a moment of remembrance beginning at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on September 11, 2016, in honor of the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks committed against the United States on September 11, 2001.

Nearly 3,000 innocent civilians were killed in the heinous attacks of September 11, 2001. Tens of thousands of individuals narrowly escaped the attacks at the Pentagon and World Trade Center and, as witnesses to this tragedy, are forever changed. Countless fire departments, police departments, first responders, governmental officials, workers, emergency medical personnel, and volunteers responded immediately and heroically to those horrific events.

Fifteen years later, the people of the United States and people around the world continue to mourn the tremendous loss of innocent life on that fateful day; and, thousands of men and women in the United States Armed

Forces remain in harm's way defending the United States against those who seek to threaten the United States. On the 15th anniversary of this tragic day, the thoughts of the people of the United States are with all of the victims of the events of September 11, 2001, and their families. September 11 will never, and should never, be just another day in the hearts and minds of all people of the United States.

Therefore, the Town of Granite Falls would like to recognize the observance of this important anniversary and encourages the observance of the moment of remembrance marking the moment in an appropriate manner.

I would like to submit a resolution passed by the Town of Granite Falls remembering the Anniversary of September 11th.

RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING PATRIOT DAY, THE NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE, AND THE NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Granite Falls expresses their support of the citizens of the United States coming together as a Nation and ceasing all work or other activity for a moment of remembrance beginning at 8:46 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on September 11, 2016, in honor of the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks committed against the United States on September 11, 2001; and

Whereas, at 8:46 a.m., on September 11, 2001, hijacked American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the upper portion of the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, New York; and

Whereas, 17 minutes later, at 9:03 a.m., hijacked United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center; and

Whereas, at 9:37 a.m., the west wall of the Pentagon was hit by hijacked American Airlines Flight 77, the impact of which caused immediate and catastrophic damage to the headquarters of the Department of Defense; and

Whereas, at approximately 10:03 a.m., the passengers and crew of hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 acted heroically to retake control of the airplane and thwart the taking of additional American lives by crashing the airliner in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and, in doing so, gave their lives to save countless others; and

Whereas, nearly 3,000 innocent civilians were killed in the heinous attacks of September 11, 2001; and

Whereas, tens of thousands of individuals narrowly escaped the attacks at the Pentagon and World Trade Center and, as witnesses to this tragedy, are forever changed; and

Whereas, countless fire departments, police departments, first responders, governmental officials, workers, emergency medical personnel, and volunteers responded immediately and heroically to those horrific events; and

Whereas, the Fire Department of New York suffered 343 fatalities on September 11, 2001, the largest loss of life of any emergency response agency in United States history; and

Whereas, the Port Authority Police Department suffered 37 fatalities in the attacks, the largest loss of life of any police force in United States history in a single day; and

Whereas, the New York Police Department suffered 23 fatalities as a result of the terrorist attacks; and

Whereas, the impact of that day on public health continues through 2016, as nearly 90,000 people are at risk of or suffering from

negative health effects as a result of the events of September 11, 2001, including 14,000 workers and 2,400 community residents who are sick, and tens of thousands of others whose health is being monitored; and

Whereas, 15 years later, the people of the United States and people around the world continue to mourn the tremendous loss of innocent life on that fateful day; and

Whereas, 15 years later, thousands of men and women in the United States Armed Forces remain in harm's way defending the United States against those who seek to threaten the United States; and

Whereas, on the 15th anniversary of this tragic day, the thoughts of the people of the Town of Granite Falls are with all of the victims of the events of September 11, 2001 and their families; and

Whereas, the lives of Americans were changed forever on September 11, 2001, when events threatened the American way of life; and

Whereas, September 11 will never, and should never, be just another day in the hearts and minds of all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Granite Falls:

(1) recognizes September 11, 2016, as a day of solemn commemoration of the events of September 11, 2001, and a day to come together as a Nation; and

(2) offers its deepest and most sincere condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks; and

(3) honors the heroic service, actions, and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and countless others who aided the innocent victims of those attacks and, in doing so, bravely risked and often gave their own lives; and

(4) recognizes the valiant service, actions, and sacrifices of United States personnel, including members of the United States Armed Forces, the United States intelligence agencies, the United States diplomatic service, homeland security and law enforcement personnel, and their families, who have given so much, including their lives and well-being, to support the cause of freedom and defend the security of the United States; and

(5) reaffirms that the people of the Town of Granite Falls will never forget the challenges our country endured on and since September 11, 2001, and will work tirelessly to defeat those who attacked the United States; and be it further

Resolved that on the 15th anniversary of this tragic day in United States history the Town Council of the Town of Granite Falls requests that citizens observe a moment of remembrance on September 11, 2016, and be it further

Resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Granite Falls requests the observance of the moment of remembrance to last for 1 minute beginning at 8:46 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time by, to the maximum extent practicable ceasing all work or other activity; and marking the moment in an appropriate manner, including by ringing bells, blowing whistles, or sounding sirens.

THE CENTENNIAL OF THE CREATION OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial of the

creation of the United States International Trade Commission and to congratulate the Commission and its exceptional staff on their distinguished service.

One hundred years ago, Congress directed the President to establish what was then known as the United States Tariff Commission. Congress authorized the Commission to gather expert and impartial information on the "administrative, fiscal, and industrial effects of U.S. customs laws" for the President and Congress. In 1974, Congress renamed the Commission as the U.S. International Trade Commission, through the Trade Act of 1974, and expanded its investigatory and quasi-judicial role.

Today, the nonpartisan independent Commission continues its invaluable work as mandated by Congress to administer U.S. trade remedy laws in a fair and objective manner and to provide Congress and the President with independent analysis and information concerning international trade, tariffs, and U.S. competitiveness.

We have depended on the Commission's commitment to excellence in performing these important functions and serving a vital role for Congress, the Executive Branch, and the American public. Therefore I ask my colleagues to join me in offering my sincerest thanks to the U.S. International Trade Commission and its staff for their commendable work over the last one hundred years. We look forward to continuing to rely on the professionalism, objectivity, and neutrality of this vitally important agency in providing us with independent and sound advice, which allows us to effectively carry out our Constitutional duties in establishing U.S. trade policy.

TRIBUTE TO BARB KNIFF-MCCULLA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Barb Kniff-McCulla, owner and CEO of KLK Construction, Inc. for being named a 2016 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

For 17 years, the Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of women who have made a significant difference in business, civic and philanthropic endeavors throughout the Greater Des Moines Area. Ms. Kniff-McCulla has devoted her life to confronting challenges which many others might avoid. She has spent countless hours on various boards while blazing a trail for others to follow. She was selected for the chosen field of expertise, the lasting impact on the community, involvement with civic or non-profit organization and being seen as a role model because of her lofty achievements and high ethical standards.

Barb Kniff-McCulla has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does, and her exemplary work with KLK Construction, a leader in cable placement within the utility construction market which serves a seven-state region. In all aspects of her life, Barb Kniff-McCulla is an example of hard work and service who makes Iowans proud.