

IN HONOR OF VINZ KOLLER

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable public service of Vinz Koller, who has worked tirelessly to strengthen and improve the American democratic process, both nationally and in Monterey County, California. As an immigrant who chose to be an American, Vinz embodies the core civic values of our nation's citizenship. Those of us who have had the great good fortune to have known Vinz over the years have all been touched by his tremendous integrity and boundless determination. So it is my pleasure to join with my Monterey County Democratic Party friends in recognizing Vinz for his invaluable support for strengthening democracy.

Vinz came to Monterey County to study at the Monterey Institute of International Studies after earning a BA in political science and English from the University of Zurich in Switzerland. Professionally, he is Director of Training and Technical Assistance at Social Policy Research Associates and is in frequent demand as trainer and facilitator on a wide range of workforce development related topics for the U.S. Department of Labor and state and local agencies. Vinz likes to hike the Big Sur coastline, paddle on the bay in his kayak, climb Sierra peaks on skis or ride the bike trails at the former Fort Ord. He is a passionate bread baker and for ten seasons has been singing in the Carmel Bach Festival chorus.

Vinz played an active role in the 2004 presidential campaign at the Democratic National Committee in Washington, DC, as well as Arizona and Oregon. This experience energized Vinz to improve the community level Democratic Party infrastructure in his home community. In 2004 and 2005, he was a vital member of the "Boots Camp" team that designed an ambitious new strategy that would establish the Monterey County Democrats as one of most effective central committees in California.

Later, Vinz set up a countywide precinct program for the Monterey County Democrats, managed the 2008 presidential and 2012 special election campaigns, and is currently working the 2016 campaign. Vinz chaired the Monterey County Democratic Central Committee from 2006 to 2016. In that capacity he led the way in executing and refining strategy as the local Democratic party helped elect a list of great Democratic candidates, train hundreds of volunteers, and establish a culture of excellence and integrity, which in turn has been instrumental in attracting many new members. He is currently the Campaign Coordinator for the Monterey County Democrats and Chair of the Democratic 27th Assembly District Committee and is on the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in thanking Vinz for his dedicated civic involvement. The strength of our Republic depends on the tireless efforts of the women and men like Vinz who make our democracy vibrant and representative.

RECOGNIZING DEB NEYMAN FOR RECEIVING A PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE HEALTHSOUTH REHABILITATION HOSPITAL OF ALTOONA

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deb Neyman, one of the winners of the 23rd annual Personal Achievement Award from the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Altoona. This award is given to encourage and recognize those who have made an outstanding effort to deal with or overcome a disability. This year, Deb has earned that distinction.

Deb suffered a stroke in June of 2015 that affected her speech and body. It wasn't long after, in July of 2015, that she then suffered a second stroke. In August of 2015 she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and underwent surgery for a Hysterectomy in September of the same year. At only 47-years-old and working as an educator, with two school-age children living at home, Deb faced a tragic sequence of events that would have stunned even the bravest among us. Yet, through all of these troubles, Deb, with the boundless support of her husband, has approached her situation with a positive and cheerful attitude.

Today, she has made an amazing recovery with the strong support of her friends and family, and has regained much of her previous routine, even managing to return to educating for the Glendale School District.

I am humbled to recognize the truly impressive recovery Deb has made. Her strength and positivity in the face of such adversity is remarkable. As such, it is my pleasure to wish Deb the best as she continues to reclaim her health and life.

CONGRATULATING BOB MARIANO  
ON RETIREMENT

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor an innovator, entrepreneur, and business leader from the 6th District of Illinois. Bob Mariano has dedicated the last 49 years of his life to the grocery industry and on September 1st, he retired. After an iconic run as a leader in grocery retailing in Chicagoland, Bob has earned his rest and relaxation.

Bob started his career in the grocery industry in 1967. At the ripe age of 17, he worked as a part-time deli clerk at Dominick's Finer Foods. He rose through the ranks, holding various roles including Senior Vice President, before being named President and CEO of Dominick's in 1995. Bob led Dominick's through an initial public offering in 1996 and its eventual sale in 1998.

In 2010, equipped with years of expertise, Bob started a new venture—he opened his own grocery store. The first Mariano's opened in 2010 in Arlington Heights, bringing a new model of affordable, upscale groceries with a focus on in-store restaurants, sushi offerings,

and other freshly prepared amenities. Since then Mariano's has had a mercurial rise, adding another 36 stores in just six short years. None of that would have been possible without Bob's expertise and vision. It is no surprise that other leaders in the grocery field praise his work. Chairman and CEO of the Kroger Co., Rodney McMullen, which recently bought Mariano's, stated, "Bob is an innovator and his legacy in the grocery industry will be celebrated for many years to come. More importantly, Bob is a great friend to all of us here".

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues please join me in congratulating Bob Mariano on an accomplished career and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

## CALEB JAMES KOKER REMARKS

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Sergeant Caleb James Koker for his many accomplishments in his service to the U.S. Army National Guard in Marion, IL. Caleb is a Fairfield, IL native who attends Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Caleb has a remarkable service record. He finished at the top of his class in all of his military training, and he also proved to be a proficient marksman by passing his M4 rifle training with a perfect score of 40/40. Caleb then joined Unit HHC2-130 INF of the U.S. Army National Guard in Marion, where he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant at only 20 years old. That made Caleb the youngest soldier to be promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the history of his unit. Since then, Caleb has gone on to earn three Army Achievement Medals while serving in his unit.

The fact that Caleb has balanced a distinguished service career with a stellar academic career makes his accomplishments even more impressive. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout his undergraduate education at SIUC, and he will travel to Pennsylvania to train as a Multitran System Operator in the next few weeks. Caleb will earn a degree in Criminal Justice when he graduates from SIUC this December, and he will enlist as an active duty member of the U.S. Army upon graduation. After that, Caleb plans to continue to serve our country by pursuing a career in Federal Law Enforcement.

I offer my congratulations to Sergeant Caleb Koker for his accomplishments while serving in the U.S. Army National Guard and while pursuing his college degree, and I wish him the best of luck as he continues to serve our country with pride.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Vote Number 492 through 504, I am not recorded because I was absent from the U.S. House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner.

On Roll Call Number 492 had I been present, I would have voted NO.  
 On Roll Call Number 493 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 494 had I been present, I would have voted NO.  
 On Roll Call Number 495 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 496 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 497 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 498 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 499 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 500 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 501 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 502 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 503 had I been present, I would have voted YES.  
 On Roll Call Number 504 had I been present, I would have voted YES.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT  
 OF SMITHS STATION MAYOR  
 LAFAYE DELLINGER

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Mayor LaFaye Dellinger, who is retiring as Smiths Station Mayor after 15 years of service.

LaFaye Dellinger graduated from Smiths Station High School and has proudly served as the first mayor of Smiths Station for the past 15 years.

During her tenure, she established strong relationships with the surrounding municipalities including Fort Henning, Georgia and pioneered the partnership between the City of Smiths Station and Lee County to make the Smiths Station Sports Complex a reality.

She was instrumental in obtaining the current City Hall and is past President of the Ruritan Community Club. Mrs. Dellinger is a loving wife and mother.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing my friend Mayor Dellinger and wishing her well in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO CHELSEY JEAN HOOD  
 RUSSELL

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the tragic passing of Chelsey Jean Hood Russell from Denver, Colorado. I've been fortunate to know Chelsey and her family for many years, and had a close relationship with her late father Don Hood, a Vietnam War hero who passed away in 2012. Chelsey Jean Hood Russell, 35, passed away on August 23, 2016, on Lake Powell in Utah.

She was born on February 24, 1981, in Denver, Colorado to Trisha and Donald Hood. She was soon joined by her younger brother, Cayman, who was her best friend and confidant for life. Chelsey earned both her B.S.B.A. and her law degree from the University of Denver.

Chelsey was an associate attorney at the law firm Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, specializing in mineral title examination and oil and gas regulatory matters. Chelsey was an outstanding legal talent gifted with a creative mind, was instrumental in building the firm's highly successful oil and gas regulatory practice, and possessed an exceptional ability to make her clients feel respected and appreciated. She was recently elected Secretary of the Colorado Bar Association's Natural Resources and Energy Law Executive Council and spoke regularly on oil and gas regulatory matters.

Those who knew her best characterized Chelsey by her extraordinary strength of both willpower and athleticism. She gave birth to her daughter just three days before taking—and aching—the Colorado bar exam. Her lifelong goal was to run a marathon in every state, and she recently achieved her personal record in the Revel Run marathon in Morrison, Colorado. Last summer, she ran both the Leadville 50 and the Leadville 100, running 50 and then 100 miles (for good measure) from elevations of 9,200 to 12,600 feet. In addition to a lifelong love of running, Chelsey passionately pursued climbing, cycling, and swimming, and was an avid backpacker and camper.

Even more notable than Chelsey's athletic achievements was her compassionate heart. Chelsey was dedicated to her many friendships and always thought of others before herself. She gave back through numerous charitable causes, and in particular supported the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Chelsey attended Mile Hi Church and had a deep and abiding spiritual practice that carried her through many difficult times.

In spite of her countless achievements and staggering moral strength, Chelsey was truly defined by a singular role: she was the most loving mother in the world to her two children, Hayden Elaine, 5, and Harvey Donald, 2. Leading by example, she instilled in her children a love for outdoor adventures; a commitment to hard work; the importance of family and friendship above all else; and a strong sense of passion, fearlessness, and love of life. Chelsey's life was cut tragically short when she displayed the ultimate act of motherly love: at the end of a wonderful family vacation on Lake Powell she suffered an acute cardiac event while helping her young son, who had fallen in the water. She will always be remembered as a true hero.

Chelsey is survived by her mother, Trisha; her brother, Cayman; her children, Hayden and Harvey; her niece, Zoi; and countless friends who loved her dearly.

It is a true honor to have the opportunity to memorialize Chelsey Jean Hood Russell on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives today. She lived fully and died courageously, and it is my hope that we can all learn from the beautiful example she set in her 35 years of life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STERLING  
 MCPHERSON

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sterling McPherson who passed away on Sunday, September 4, 2016 at the age of 82. Sterling was born on January 24, 1934 in Cairo, Illinois, the son of John and Rose Courtney McPherson.

While living in Cairo, Sterling played baseball in the Negro leagues. After moving to Warren, Ohio Sterling managed Danny's Bar, Delmar Lounge, and Mac's A.C. Club baseball teams, as well as the Escapades baseball team. He worked as a foreman for Albee Homes for 20 years and the City of Niles Water Department for 20 years. I was lucky to have Sterling as a member of my Congressional staff for 10 years where he proved to be a dedicated public servant.

Sterling will be deeply missed by his family. He leaves behind his loving wife of nearly 59 years, Reaby Bowling. They raised several children together including their daughters Roslyn (William) Williams of Warren, Darlene McPherson of Warren, Charlene (Eddie) Roberson of Warren; his sons, Sterling (Tracy) McPherson of Las Vegas, Londell McPherson of Las Vegas, Robert McPherson of Warren; and his stepson, Fred (Michelle) Bowling of Harrisburg, Pa.; and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Sterling was preceded in death by his parents, his son Richard, his stepson James, his brothers Robert and John and his sister, Ella.

Losses like these are never easy, but we can all take solace in the fact that Sterling touched the hearts of many whether it was through baseball or public service. I miss him and I know that his memory will live on through all of us that knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call Number 501 NAY  
 Roll Call Number 502 NAY  
 Roll Call Number 503 YEA  
 Roll Call Number 504 YEA

TRIBUTE TO MIKE BROWN

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, a long-time friend of mine and my family, County Commissioner Mike Brown, has recently left office after two-terms on the Knox County Commission.

Not only did Commissioner Brown serve with great honor and distinction on the County