

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as National Community Planning Month. This year's theme, "Civic Engagement," acknowledges that thoughtful local planning cannot happen without meaningful community involvement. National Community Planning Month provides an opportunity to recognize the essential role that planning plays in creating communities of lasting value.

Planning is the formal process of envisioning, mapping, and guiding how a community will look, grow, and define itself—its characteristics, attributes, and identity. As our communities continue to change and evolve, planners work to ensure that new developments are designed and built in harmony with existing surroundings. Planners carefully balance the needs and desires of residents against the challenges presented by physical, economic, and social change.

Planners strive to give citizens choices. From the types of homes we live in to how we choose to get around, planning helps ensure that we address the needs of everyone. A diverse and vibrant community is one that offers transportation and housing choices that are equitable and sustainable.

In my home state of Oregon, our commitment to planning became an official part of our state policy structure in 1973 with the passage of Senate Bill 100. We developed a strong planning program with nineteen Statewide Planning Goals, including promoting citizen involvement, stimulating economic development, and preserving ocean resources. Over forty years later, the "Oregon Story" of economic growth, sustainability, and deliberate development is as compelling as ever. I've worked very closely with the planners that have written that story and guided our region's growth, integrating statewide policies with the needs and interests of local communities.

As founder of the Congressional Livable Communities Task Force and Co-Chair of the Congressional Bike Caucus, I've sought to bring that understanding to Congress. From rebuilding and renewing America's infrastructure, protecting natural and urban resources, to supporting programs that enhance public health, we must find ways to improve the federal partnership with those who are engaged in the day-to-day work of creating livable communities. Planners are the gatekeepers of that partnership, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting National Community Development Month.

HONORING THE CROATIAN SONS LODGE NUMBER 170

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons

Lodge Number 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union on the festive occasion of its Golden Member banquet, which will take place on Sunday, October 16, 2016.

The Croatian Fraternal Union will hold its gala at the Croatian Center in Merrillville, Indiana. Traditionally, the celebration entails a formal recognition of the Union's Golden Members, those who have achieved fifty years of membership. This year's honorees who have attained fifty years of membership include the following individuals: Lorraine Ackerman, Stephen Boskovich, Maria Cohen, Mildred Dobrinich, Pamela Ann Donlon, Carol Ann Gainey, Frank Gorski, Susan Grasham, Sally A. Kegley, Jo Anne Marzowski, Shirley Mertz, Joan Milosevich, Margaret M. Moore, Rudolph Dennis Mrak, Jeannine Barbara Pavic, Cheryl Kay Povlock, Thomas George Rykovich, Stephen Simatovich Jr., Robert Stipancic, Paul Mason Struble, John Anthony Tadey, Linda Ann Vukovich, and Louise Alice Wolotka.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Lodge President John Miksich and all members of the Croatian Fraternal Union, Lodge Number 170, for their loyalty and radiant display of passion for their ethnicity. The Croatian community has played a key role in enriching the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana. It is my hope that this year will bring renewed prosperity for all members of the Croatian community and their families.

CONGRATULATING UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Union Elementary School in Zionsville, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Union Elementary School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 329 schools were designated as 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Union Elementary School provides students with a caring environment where both teach-

ers and parents collaborate with students to meet their full potential. Through a rigorous curriculum, including early literacy intervention and the integration of technology, students achieve academic excellence. Additionally, students have the opportunity outside of the classroom to participate in extracurricular activities to enhance their knowledge and interest in foreign languages, STEM fields, the arts, and many more disciplines.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Union Elementary School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Union Elementary School. I am very proud of you.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN RICKY CRISP

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Ricky Crisp of the McDowell County Sheriff's Department. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Captain Crisp for his 24 years of service in McDowell County.

Captain Crisp began work with the McDowell County Sheriff's Department in 1992 and soon became a full-time Deputy. He went on to serve as Patrol Deputy, Patrol Sergeant, and Detective. He was part of the McDowell County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard, a member of the Multi-Jurisdictional Highway Interdiction Team, and has also given his time as the Treasurer for Region C Criminal Justice Committee. By 2007, he had risen to the rank of Patrol Lieutenant and subsequently left to work as an investigator for the McDowell County District Attorney. In 2008, Captain Crisp returned to the McDowell County Sheriff's Department and served as Patrol Captain until his retirement.

For his decades of service, Captain Crisp was awarded numerous citations of appreciation and was nominated as the Law Enforcement Executive of the Year. Captain Crisp and his wife Tracy have been married for 30 years and have one daughter. In retirement, Captain Crisp leaves behind a long legacy of dedicated service to his Department and community.

Captain Crisp is highly regarded and appreciated by the citizens of McDowell County, and by the broader Western North Carolina community. He has truly embodied the Sheriff's Department's spirit of integrity and service. I am honored to express the sincere congratulations and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his retirement.

HONORING MR. JOHN HEENAN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor John Heenan of Ivyland, Bucks County. Shortly after graduating from high school John enlisted in the Marine Corps, where he trained as an infantry assault man. From 1969 to 1972, John served in Cuba and North Carolina. He would later serve in the Marine Corps Reserve until 1975. John went on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Drexel and his Master in Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business. For over thirty years, John gained a wide-range of business experience as he managed acquisitions, transitions, and divestitures of companies, often for small or family owned businesses.

But John Heenan never forgot the military. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation. Founded in 1962, The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is the nation's oldest and largest provider of need-based scholarships to military children. For 54 years, they've been providing access to affordable education for the children of Marine and Navy Corpsmen attending post-high school, under-graduate and career technical education programs. In that time, they have provided more than 37,000 scholarships worth nearly \$110 million.

In a world where Marines have sacrificed so much, it is my honor to commend John Heenan for his efforts in providing children with more affordable access to critical education. When John is not helping the children of his fellow Marines, he can be found at Washington Crossing National Cemetery in Newtown, where he serves as a rifleman in the honor guard. John, thank you for your service and your enduring commitment to the families of our veterans.

LAUREN CHAPPELL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Lauren Chappell of Charleston, Illinois, for winning her third IHSA Class 1A individual golf title. The three individual titles is a record for girls' high school golf, and I am very proud of her achievement. Hers was a hard-fought match, and what was most impressive was the way she had to battle back from some early difficulties to win the day. How Lauren responded after encountering trouble on the first and fourth hole was the defining moment of the match. Her mental toughness shone through as she weathered that storm, and then birdied the ninth hole. She then closed the door on her competition with a birdie on seventeen, which was sandwiched between two pars.

I know she is pleased with her victory, but I also know she is equally pleased that her high school team, the Charleston Trojans, won the team state golf championship as well.

Lauren leaves behind a legacy of excellence and good sportsmanship. I would like to ex-

tend my best wishes to her, both in the classroom and on the links, as next year she begins her studies at Southern Methodist University.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JIM KOLBE FOR HIS SERVICE AND INDUCTION INTO THE ARIZONA VETERANS HALL OF FAME

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the contributions of a great Arizonan and a former member of this House: Congressman Jim Kolbe.

On October 28th, 2016, Congressman Kolbe will be inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. This is a well-deserved and appropriate honor for a man who has done so much for our state and country.

Jim Kolbe joined the United States Navy in 1967 and was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his service in Vietnam. He retired from service in 1977 as a Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserves.

For 22 years, Jim Kolbe served the 8th district of Arizona in the House of Representatives. First elected to Congress in 1985, he consistently put the needs of his constituents first, ahead of party or partisanship.

During his time in Congress, Congressman Kolbe worked on the federal budget and was responsible for deciding the budget that funds most U.S. foreign aid programs and counterterrorism activities. Members of Congress have long admired Congressman Kolbe's determination to work across the aisle to create solutions and promote Arizona issues.

I am thankful that Jim has been a friend to me during my time in public service. I appreciate his determination and his willingness to work with me and many others to make Arizona a place of opportunity for all its citizens.

Please join me in recognizing the years of exemplary service of Congressman Jim Kolbe.

RECOGNIZING POLA BERLIN
DICKSTEIN, DORA BERLIN
PODZIBA, AND LUBA BERLIN
MARCUS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pola Berlin Dickstein, Dora Berlin Podziba, and Luba Berlin Marcus, three sisters who are celebrating their 85th birthdays on October 8th. I would like to take this opportunity to extend to them an extraordinary happy birthday and congratulations on this very special milestone.

Born in Cuba to a Jewish Soviet refugee mother, their family was forced to leave as anti-Jewish sentiment spread. They arrived at Ellis Island on September 21, 1940 and settled in New York City. All three sisters eventually married veterans, and Pola settled in Boca Raton, where they are celebrating this special occasion.

With their unique background and heritage, these sisters have never forgotten their roots. I wish all three of them a joyous and healthy year ahead surrounded by their loved ones. On behalf of my entire district and the United States Congress, mazel tov and happy birthday.

HONORING MAUDE FORD LEE ON
HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maude Ford Lee on her 80th birthday. After a grassroots groundswell of support for her fearless leadership at the helm of Palm Beach County's Community Action Agency, Maude Ford Lee answered the call and made history in 1990 as the first African American elected to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners. However, that is not the only reason why she is a trailblazer.

During her time on the Commission, from 1990 to 2000, she demanded to review everything within the County's jurisdiction, its programs and services, hiring and contracting, and all matters pertaining to the health, safety, and welfare of the people. Commissioner Lee's undaunted advocacy for inclusionary policies and programs often drew criticism, as it was disruptive to the systems put in place over the previous 80 years. However, her persistence yielded tremendous results and achievement against the odds.

As Commissioner, she organized a coalition of local and national black business advocacy organizations, even walking out of a log jammed Commission meeting until securing the adoption of the Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Ordinance, which established policy and best practices of goals and timetables to ensure racial equity and diversity in procurement. She also created the County's Economic Development Office, providing programs and funding to create jobs for people who live in lagging regions. Her work provided access to capital and disbursement of millions in funding for loans and grants for small business and community development projects, particularly African American, Latino, and women-owned enterprises not served by traditional banks.

She successfully implemented the equitable allocation of funding to build recreational and park facilities such as pools and community centers in overlooked urban areas, including West Palm Beach, Riviera Beach, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach and Lake Worth. Through her housing initiatives, hundreds of families, most notably working poor families, became homeowners and thousands of children and families in need were connected with community-based organizations providing valuable services through her fiscal sponsorship.

After retiring, Commissioner Lee continued serving the community as President of the West Palm Beach Branch of the NAACP from 2002–2008. She is an active and devoted member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Florida A&M Alumni Association, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and a Life Member of NAACP. Maude Ford Lee is a trailblazer and living legend for her daughters Debra and Vanessa,