

Rev. Lora Allen is known and respected as an accomplished speaker, motivational leader, teacher and preacher. She is the wife of the Rev. Raymond Allen, Pastor of the Bethany Baptist Church in Niagara Falls where she serves as Associate Pastor. Rev. Allen is also the Niagara County Democratic Elections Commissioner, the first African American woman to hold that position in New York State.

Richard Palladino served his country in the United States Navy and continues to serve his community as the business manager of Local 91. A laborer in the construction field for decades, his passionate commitment for all those he represents is indisputable as he strengthened the relationship with the Laborers International Union of North America, as well as local, state and federal officials to ensure Local 91 realizes its full potential. His determination to help others reach their full potential is exemplified by his implementation of training classes and initiation of the Apprentice Program.

Since 1982, Pastor Harvey Kelley has served the members and the ministry of the New Hope Baptist Church of Niagara Falls and will lead the celebration of his Church's 80 years of service in March of 2017. Adding to a distinguished list of accomplishments, Rev. Kelley is a member of the Niagara Ministerial Council and a member of the Board of Directors of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and served in the Urban Ministry Program at Niagara University. He is a former board member of Niagara Community Center, Niagara Falls Chapter of the Red Cross, Niagara Habitat for Humanity, and the Center for the Study and Stabilization of the Black Family, formerly located at Niagara University.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to acknowledge NOAH's leadership, membership and those they will recognize on October 6, 2016 on its first decade of remarkable achievements and to wish them success and support as their mission of action, empowerment and inclusiveness moves our community forward making our community a better place for all.

HONORING ASSEMBLYWOMAN
JANET DUPREY ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Assemblywoman Janet Duprey who represents New York's 115th Assembly district who will retire at the end of this year following a distinguished 40 year career in public service.

In 1976, she was the first woman elected to the Clinton County legislature, where she served for 10 years, including 2 years as chairperson. She was elected Clinton County Treasurer in 1986 and held that position until her election to the New York State Assembly in 2006, where she serves today. Throughout her career, she has been a strong advocate for the North Country with a sincere dedication to improving her community and the lives of her constituents.

In addition to her duties as Assemblywoman, Ms. Duprey holds positions

on several boards of directors, including the Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital Medical Center, Hospice, the North Country Chapter of the Red Cross, Pine Harbour Assisted Living and Memory Care Center, and both the State University of New York at Plattsburgh and Clinton Community College. She is also a member of the League of Women Voters, Business & Professional Women, and an Honorary Member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Psi Chapter.

Ms. Duprey is also a strong advocate for children and adults with autism in her community. Each year on her grandson's birthday, she sponsors a resolution honoring Asperger's Syndrome Day in the State Assembly.

In the State Assembly, Ms. Duprey is Conference Secretary of the minority leadership, and serves on both the Rules and Ways and Means Committees. The Assemblywoman also serves on the Correction, Ethics and Guidance, and Higher Education Committees, all of which are important to her district.

Ms. Duprey has earned numerous awards and distinctions for her service and accomplishments, such as the Advocacy and Resource Center Wall of Fame, the Behavioral Health Services North Community Service Award, the Girl Scout Woman of Distinction, the New York State County Finance Official of the Year, and the Clinton County Business and Professional Woman of the Year award.

On this day, I want to take a moment to thank Assemblywoman Janet Duprey for her many years of public service to our district. Janet, congratulations on your retirement, you are a true leader and the North Country thanks you for your commitment to improving our community. Your humility and tireless service will be missed by many.

HONORING ST. DANIEL THE
PROPHET SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING
THE 2016 NATIONAL BLUE
RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Daniel the Prophet School, an exemplary Catholic elementary school in Chicago, Illinois, which is receiving the prestigious U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School Award.

In 1982, the Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize public and private schools whose students display high or significantly improved achievement. The program's goal is to identify aspects of thriving American schools in order to replicate their success. This year there are 21 Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon Schools in the state of Illinois, only 5 of which are private, and I am proud that one of these exceptional schools is located in my district.

The mission of St. Daniel the Prophet School is "to create a faith community, develop moral values and integrity, provide excellent education opportunities, and respect unique educational differences." Founded in 1949, the school offers a rigorous and engaging curriculum. St. Dan's works to help develop students' moral and spiritual values, and

encourages students to improve on their standards of conduct and integrity. I am delighted that the exceptional work of everyone at St. Dan's School has been acknowledged on the national stage. I know that when I have visited the school I have always been greatly impressed by the students, teachers, and administrators. I wish to congratulate Principal Ms. Holly Gross, former Principal Mary Frances Porod, Fr. John Noga, and all the faculty, staff, family members, and parishioners who work together to make St. Dan's a highly successful institution that continues to achieve academic success and enrich the faith of those who are a part of it.

Please join me in celebrating the accomplishments of St. Daniel the Prophet School in Chicago's Garfield Ridge neighborhood. Their pursuit of academic excellence is inspiring, and I hope that their success can be replicated across the nation.

CONGRATULATING BRIANNA
HALLER OF THE FATIMA COMETS FOR HER FIRST PLACE FINISH IN THE 2016 CLASS 2 GIRLS INDIVIDUAL CROSS COUNTRY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Brianna Haller of the Fatima High School Comets for her first place win in the 2016 Missouri Class 2 Girls Individual Cross Country State Championship.

Brianna and her coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to her school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Brianna Haller of the Fatima Comets for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING GENTEX CORPORATION AS THE COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL COLLEGE'S 2016 SCHOLARSHIP GAME INNOVATION HONOREE

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege to recognize Gentex Corporation as The Commonwealth Medical College's 2016 Scholarship Gala Innovation Honoree. Each year The Commonwealth Medical College honors an outstanding individual or group for outstanding innovations in their field. Gentex Corporation's work to provide defense forces, first responders, and industrial personnel with cutting edge solutions exemplifies the pioneering spirit that this award represents.

In the late 19th century, Gentex began operations under the name "Klots Throwing Company," and on the advice of their bookkeeper, Marcus Frieder, chose Carbondale, Pennsylvania as their headquarters to employ the wives and daughters of the region's coal miners. In 1932, Marcus and his son, Leonard

Frieder, bought and renamed the company General Textile Mills. As a producer of silk cartridge bags during World War I and parachutes during World War II, General Textile Mills was awarded the Army-Navy 'E' Award for excellence in wartime production as the nation's largest manufacturer of parachutes at the time. The company's name was then shortened to Gentex in 1958. With rapid advancements in aircraft technology following World War II, the government approached Gentex to utilize the same composite-structure technology used in their parachute boxes for the production of pilot helmets. These hard shell helmets were revolutionary, and, to this day, Gentex continues to design the most technologically advanced personal protection and situational awareness solutions for defense forces, first responders, and industrial personnel.

The Frieder family was instrumental in guiding the company from its inception at the turn of the century to the global leader it is today. Staying true to their family roots, this fourth-generation company is run by Chairman L. Peter Frieder, Jr. and President L.P. Frieder III. This sense of family does not stop with the company's leadership. Gentex continues to take pride in being an active member in their community and empowering the economic stability of all that make the company so special. Many of my constituents work at Gentex, and when a company can survive both industrial and digital revolutions, it speaks to both the leadership of the employer and quality of employees. L.P. and Peter say the Carbondale facility reminds them every day of where they came from, and this spirit is the inspiration that keeps them committed to the communities they work in. Their work with area charities such as The American Red Cross, Pennsylvania Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House of Scranton, and Pennsylvania's Adopt-A-Highway Program speaks to their outstanding work, and we are all grateful that a company so committed to its community continues to stay and excel in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, as The Commonwealth Medical College's 2016 Scholarship Gala Innovation Honoree, Gentex Corporation has continually defined what it means to be a leader in their industry. On behalf of my constituents, I thank them for their support of our armed forces and first responders, and look forward to their continued innovation and involvement in our region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHEN KNIGHT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. KNIGHT. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 14th, I missed two votes due to a delayed flight. Had I been present for the day's vote series, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 575, the passage of H.R. 985, the Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education, and Promotion Act of 2015, as amended; and yea on Roll Call No. 576, the passage of H.R. 2669, the Anti-Spoofing Act of 2016.

CONGRATULATING THE FATIMA COMETS FOR THEIR FIRST PLACE FINISH IN THE 2016 CLASS 2 GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Fatima High School Comets Cross Country team for their first place win in the 2016 Missouri Class 2 Girls Cross Country State Championship.

This team and their coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Fatima Comets Cross Country team for a job well done.

IN HONOR OF RON DICARLO

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army Veteran Ron DiCarlo for his achievements, contributions, and service in the United States Army whilst overseas in Korea.

Ron DiCarlo was drafted into the United States Army on August 4, 1967 and volunteered for Vietnam, but since he was highly skilled with generators he was transferred to Korea. After serving overseas for eighteen months Ron was honorably discharged as an SPA 4 from the Signal Battalion in Seoul, Korea, in February of 1969.

After his service, Ron worked for 30 years as a machinist in Westmont, New Jersey. Ron served as Senior Vice-Commander of Barrington VFW Post 7247 for several years. Along with this, he is also a steady contributor to the Wounded Warrior program.

Ron has been married for the past forty-seven years to his wife Nancy and together they have 2 daughters, 4 granddaughters, and a great grandson.

Mr. Speaker, Ron DiCarlo is a great American and family man whose service to our country in the United States Army is invaluable, and serves as an inspiration to his community. I join with his family, friends, and all of New Jersey in honoring the selfless service of this extraordinary man.

NATIONAL DIABETES CLINICAL CARE COMMISSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1192, the "National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission Act," which amends the Public Health Service Act to es-

tablish the National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission.

This bill directs the Commission to evaluate and recommend solutions regarding better coordination and leverage of federal programs that relate to supporting appropriate clinical care for people afflicted with pre-diabetes, diabetes, and the resulting chronic diseases and conditions arising from these diseases.

As a member of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus, I understand the importance of diabetes prevention and care of patients.

We must address the devastating impact of diabetes as the seventh leading cause of death in the United States, affecting nearly 29,000,000 Americans.

Since 2011, 3 million Americans have been diagnosed with the disease and more than twice that, 7 million Americans, have been diagnosed as pre-diabetic.

In my home state of Texas, the numbers are even more worrisome.

According to a study performed by the Texas Department of State Health Services in 2013, 11 percent of adults in Texas suffer from diabetes and 8.1 percent of adults have pre-diabetes.

Of these percentages, minorities had the highest level of diabetes and pre-diabetes occurrences:

In Black adults, 12.9 percent had diabetes and 9.6 percent had pre-diabetes.

In Hispanic adults, 12.7 percent had diabetes and 6.2 percent had pre-diabetes.

In 2014 in Harris county, 8.5 percent of adults were diagnosed with diabetes.

A 2012 Centers for Disease Control study estimated diabetic medical treatments cost patients throughout the country an estimated \$245 billion.

The direct medical costs associated with diabetes diagnoses totaled \$176 billion.

These numbers are incredibly high, but I am encouraged by the commendable efforts of the National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission Act.

H.R. 1192 takes a critical step in the direction of preventive medicine, shifting the focus of diabetes management from reactive to proactive by encouraging prevention.

Additionally, the establishment of the National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission within the Department of Health and Human Services would allow greater collaboration in research in the area of diabetes, pre-diabetes, and the health outcomes.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1192, the "National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission Act."

CONGRATULATING THE FESTUS TIGERS FOR THEIR FIRST PLACE FINISH IN THE 2016 CLASS 3 BOYS CROSS COUNTRY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Festus High School Tigers Cross Country team for their first place win in the 2016 Missouri Class 3 Boys Cross Country State Championship.