

(AETC), Keesler AFB, MS. At MacDill AFB for the second time, she rejoined USSOCOM as a secretary with J3 (operations) then moved to SOJA. Mrs. Keesee has touched countless people in her tenure with SOJA. Notable alumni of SOJA that she has worked with include three U.S. Attorneys, several General Officers in the Army, including a former The Judge Advocate of the Army (TJAG), and numerous prominent local jurists and attorneys.

Her talent and dedication to duty were recognized with her award of one of the first Joint Civilian Service Commendation Medals to be awarded at USSOCOM. In 2008, the Air Force Judge Advocate Corps recognized her as the prestigious Harold R. Vague Award Winner (the most outstanding civilian paralegal in the Air Force). In that same year, SOJA recognized her with the Major General William Garrison Award. This award recognizes "significant contributions to advancement of the rule of law in the Special Operations community." Mrs. Keesee has been a critical part of USSOCOM from its early beginnings and has served with all USSOCOM SJAs (SOJAs) in her time with USSOCOM.

Always professional and going above and beyond, Mrs. Keesee has been an invaluable continuity in the high speed office of SOJA. Melissa has touched and helped countless SOF JAGs and legal personnel in her federal career. She truly is a "Quiet Professional". Her country and home state are thankful and proud. I wish Melissa and her husband of 25 years, Rick, along with their daughter, Jessica, Godspeed in retirement and justly deserved personal time.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR JAMIE M. GLINES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who have served this great Nation with honor, men such as Major Jamie M. Glines, United States Marine Corps.

For the past year, Major Glines, call sign "Banana", served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Major Glines is a proud Marine Corps Aviator. During his assignment, he provided senior-level guidance for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Major Glines executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of the First District and the numerous defense installations in the First District with distinction.

Furthermore, he provided exceptional support to me as my staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my roles as the Readiness Subcommittee Chairman, the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus, and the Chairman of the United States Naval Academy's Board of Visitors.

Major Glines directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion and he was able to leverage his personal and operational experience in the Marine Corps to respond to the most challenging inquiries.

In addition to his efforts on behalf of the First District, Major Glines took on projects with regional, state and national implications, demonstrating his ability to view a challenge from many angles and develop innovative solutions often requiring collaboration across many levels of government.

Major Glines's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership is without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers.

I would also like to thank Major Glines for the service and sacrifice he has made, and continues to make, for our Nation and our great Marine Corps. His keen sense of honor, impeccable integrity, boundless work ethic, humor and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of my staff and the First District of Virginia. As an UH-1Y Huey pilot with over 2,000 flight hours, Major Glines completed multiple deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and served as an instructor at the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron. Major Glines is headed to Marine Corps Aviation in the Pentagon where he will continue to work on Congressional matters. I have no doubt that Major Glines will continue to serve the Marine Corps honorably and with distinction.

I wish him, his wife Elise, and his children Arlene, Jordan, Michael, and Zoe the best of luck as they continue their journey together as a Marine family. It was an honor and a pleasure having him serve on my staff. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that men and women like Major Jamie Glines are members of our all-volunteer force and they stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies; far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America.

Major Jamie Glines, thank you. Best of luck to you and God bless you, your family, and all the Marines you are charged with leading. Semper Fi.

HONORING MRS. LINDA BERMAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Linda Berman, a dedicated volunteer for the Democratic Party and resident of Amherst, New York. Linda's tireless service is recognized today by her friends on the Amherst Democratic Committee. A member of the Committee since 2005, Linda and her son David have committed countless hours to further Democratic causes in our community.

Linda was introduced to politics in 2003, when she met Mark Poloncarz. Linda and her son David joined Mark to campaign for John Kerry's bid for the presidency. The three political volunteers established the group "Democrats for Progress" in 2005. That same year Mark Poloncarz sought the office of Erie County Comptroller, so Linda and David worked diligently to support his efforts.

In 2005, Linda joined the Amherst Democratic Committee, where she remains involved in to this day. In her capacity as a volunteer, she worked on every facet of Democratic politics: chairing events, service as a Zone Leader, running phone banks and other important service on campaigns.

Of particular note are Linda's efforts to elect Mark Poloncarz as Erie County Executive in 2011. Her experience earned her an appointment as a delegate in 2012 for the Democratic National Convention, where she traveled to North Carolina to support the nomination of incumbent President Barack Obama.

Before her involvement in politics, Linda and her husband were the owners of Masterline, a successful small business on Sheridan Drive that sold hair pieces. After selling the business, Linda worked for five years at the Buffalo Jewish Center. Next she brought her skills to the business office of the Williamsville Central School District, a position she held for fifteen years before her retirement in July of 2008.

Linda shares her passion for politics with her beloved son David, who has unwaveringly supported his mother and her efforts every step of the way. Over the years, he has walked in parades, knocked on doors, and participated in a number of Democratic campaigns. Their bond as a family and commitment to serving Democrats in Western New York is truly honorable.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Mrs. Linda Berman and her admirable dedication to Democratic politics. Linda's commitment, which she instilled in her son David, is exceptional, and she is most deserving of this recognition by the Amherst Democratic Committee.

RECOGNIZING NEELAM CANTO-LUGO FOR RECEIVING THE VEGA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Neelam Canto-Lugo for her extraordinary service to the people of Nepal. Through her volunteer work with the Women Development Advocacy Center, Neelam provided entrepreneurial training to Nepalese youth, women, and community organizers. Upon her return to the States, Neelam has continued her important work with the organization, supporting its digital literacy and micro-enterprise acceleration projects. To date, Neelam has raised \$9,800 and has received a donation of eleven computers, which will provide greater opportunity to economically disadvantaged women and empower rural entrepreneurs.

On behalf of the people of California's 3rd Congressional District, please accept my sincere congratulations as well as my best wishes for the future.

ARVADA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Arvada High School for their creative and unique mobile application (app) that was entered in the 2016

Congressional App Challenge. As first-time participants in the challenge, teams from Arvada HS built an app to assist students in locating their lockers, giving the school a welcoming environment for new students and incoming freshmen.

The students of Arvada High School spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn about coding, further advancing their STEM education. Each team built their app in less than three months which shows their perseverance and dedication to this challenge and exemplifies the character and determination the faculty instills in the students at the school. One of the teams at the school won the "Rookie of the Year" award which further demonstrates their hard work on this project.

I am proud of Arvada High School for their dedication and school spirit in this endeavor. I am certain the students in this school will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 601 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 5015—the Combat-Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 602 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 6427—the Creating Financial Prosperity for Businesses and Investors Act, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 603 on suspending the rules and passing House Amendment to S. 1635—the Department of State Authorities Act, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 601, yea on Roll Call No. 602, and nay on Roll Call No. 603.

NORTHGLENN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Northglenn High School for their creative and unique mobile applications (app) entered in the 2016 Congressional App Challenge.

Two student teams from Northglenn High School participated in the challenge. The win-

ning app allowed the residents of Northglenn to experience their city in virtual reality as a way to learn more about the area in which they live and its history. The other team developed an app that provided various filters to help showcase clothing. Each team spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn about coding, further advancing their STEM education. Each team built their app in less than three months which shows their perseverance and dedication to this project.

I am proud of Northglenn High School for their dedication and school spirit in this endeavor. I am certain the students in this school will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SEN- ECA HIGH SCHOOL CHEER- LEADERS ON WINNING BACK-TO- BACK STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Seneca High School cheerleaders on winning back-to-back state championships this past November.

The Seneca High School Cheerleading team competed in the 2A Large Division and added this championship to their four previous state titles (2007, 2008, 2011, and 2015). The Cheerleading State Championship took place on Sunday, November 6, 2016, at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

This state title was coached by Kristi Schlessman. Two of her cheerleaders, Rachel Wohlenhaus and Tess Hultman, were awarded All-State Cheerleader awards. The Seneca Cheerleading team has become a dynasty for Seneca High School and I would like to extend my personal congratulations for their achievement. On behalf of the 7th District of Missouri, I would like to thank them for representing our community.

HONORING WESTHAVEN MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Westhaven Funeral Home, Utica Branch.

Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home, Inc. was birthed from a partnership between Audrey B. Wiley, Freddie L. and Anthony R. Davis on February 16, 1996.

In April of 2002, the first of three additional branches came into fruition in Utica, MS. With much prayer and supplication, this branch has been opened for going on twelve years. This mix-use building has been an added asset for churches, community gatherings, family gatherings and much, much more.

This location has been beneficial to Westhaven as well as their clientele, tax base and socially. They have maintained a relationship throughout the community and have been

able to create jobs and bring about other attributes.

Westhaven continues to serve Utica and the surrounding areas offering: Traditional and Personalized Funeral Services; Special Limousine and Transport Services; Funeral Program Design and Printing; Domestic and International Shipping; Pre-Plan Funeral Arrangements; Caskets; Vaults and Urns; Notary Public; Cremations and Obituaries.

It is their prayer that they can continue to be a blessing to the town of Utica for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home, Utica Branch for its dedication to serving our great state of Mississippi.

CONGRATULATING THE 2016 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce for its ongoing dedication to local businesses and our community and to congratulate the 2016 Chairman's Award recipients.

The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce is one of the largest chambers in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region and is located in one of the largest technology corridors in the country. It actively supports the interest of its members and also supports broader initiatives including STEM education, workforce initiatives, economic development, and local non-profits.

Each year during the Annual Chairman's Awards Luncheon, the Chamber honors those extraordinary businesses, non-profit organizations, and citizens who have dedicated their talents and activities to enhancing our economy and our community.

I am pleased to include the names of the following recipients of the 2016 Chairman's Awards.

Service Award: Mr. Paul Karstetter, Stitley & Karstetter.

Committee Chair of the Year: Ms. Sharon DeBragga, Mountain View Alternative High School.

Volunteer of the Year: Ms. Andrea Savitch, Unique Travel Events.

Champion Partners: Mr. Doug Downer, HRI Associates; Ms. Anna Schneider, Volkswagen Group of America; and Mr. Jeff Dick, MainStreet Bank.

Best New Event: Mr. Matt Hurst and Mr. Greg Langweg, Hilton Washington Dulles Airport for: "Dished!"

Best New Program: Ms. Angela Inzerillo, Impact Business Solutions and Ms. Robin Suomi, Startup Growth for "Business Success."

Best Committee: Mr. Mike O'Reilly, The O'Reilly Law Firm and Mr. Vinay Patel, Fairbrook Hotels as co-chairs of the Herndon Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce for its dedication and commitment to our community and in congratulating the 2016 Chairman's Award recipients. I extend my personal thanks to these businesses