

Administration in the 2012 Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act. This legislation enhanced the FDA's ability to develop and implement accelerated approval programs to provide therapies to patients with rare, debilitating, and one-hundred percent fatal diseases.

Duchenne muscular dystrophy is a genetic disorder resulting in progressive muscle degeneration. This rare condition, which typically affects boys, is characterized by lung and heart complications that cause certain premature death.

Despite compelling evidence of its efficacy, the FDA recently refused to consider a New Drug Application for a therapy developed to treat a commonly diagnosed form of Duchenne.

As there are no alternative treatments for this particular form of Duchenne eligible for purchase or approval, Duchenne patients are left unable to mitigate the effects of the deadly disease.

I urge the FDA to grant a full and fair review to New Drug Applications for Duchenne therapies in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act. The timely delivery of treatments is of the utmost importance to the Duchenne community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MARLIN A. STUTZMAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 601 (H.R. 5015), Yea on Roll Call No. 602 (H.R. 6427), and Yea on Roll Call No. 603 (House Amendment to S. 1635).

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2016 FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 38th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 70 individuals, 1 K-9, and 1 team in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver and Gold Medal of Valor.

Nineteen members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It

is with great pride that I include the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

Gold Medal of Valor: Lieutenant Lawrence G. Mullin, Technician Ryland W. Chapman.

Silver Medal of Valor: Captain Carlos R. Carrillo, Lieutenant Daniel P. Gajewski, Master Technician Rolando E. Contreras, Master Technician Timothy J. Pais, Urban Search and Rescue Team.

Bronze Medal of Valor: Lieutenant Joshua T. Allison, Lieutenant Reginald L. Wadley, Master Technician Glenn W. Dressler, Master Technician Robert G. Ritchie, Master Technician Beverly L. Studds, Technician Travis L. Franks, Technician Jorge M. Martinez, Firefighter/Medic R.L. Radam III, Firefighter Delfin Reyes.

Certificate of Valor: Lieutenant David E. Myers, Lieutenant Scott F. Primrose.

Lifesaving Award: Technician Eric C. Villman.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2016 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday December 1, 2016 I had to return home to my district for a dental emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted:

ROLL CALL 594: Nay; ROLL CALL 595: Nay; ROLL CALL 596: Nay; ROLL CALL 597: Nay; ROLL CALL 598: Yea; ROLL CALL 599: Nay; ROLL CALL 600: Nay.

#### HONORING THE TOWN OF CRENSHAW

#### 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 a thriving town in the Mississippi Delta, the Town of Crenshaw.

Over the course of 20 years, men and women of the Armed Forces, law enforcement, Fire and Emergency Medical Services have been recognized for their service to our communities and country.

Mayor Oscar Barlow and First Lady Heather Barlow have put in tireless hours to get the word out about paying tribute to these very special men and women. They have gone above and beyond their call to make each program special for these men and women.

In addition, they not only get the administration involved in paying tribute, but also area churches, federal, state and county leaders all come together in unity to show support to those who put their lives on the line daily for our communities and country.

Our men and women of Armed Forces, law enforcement, Fire and EMS come out to re-

ceive a thank you from people who truly care and appreciate the sacrifice they make for us all.

The Town of Crenshaw and our country also owe a thank you to the Mayor and First Lady for putting together such a wonderful tribute program for 20 years and for the vision they have in making these programs. We owe these men and women a simple, yet huge "THANK YOU!"

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Town of Crenshaw, Mississippi for paying tribute to all Servicemen who serve and protect our communities and this great country.

#### HONORING FLARA PRESIDENT TONY FRANSETTA

#### HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Congressmen TED DEUTCH, ALCEE HASTINGS, and PATRICK MURPHY, to recognize retiring FLARA President Tony Fransetta for his leadership and public service.

FLARA, the Florida Alliance of Retired Americans, represents the best interests of retired Floridians and stands in support of working families. As President, Tony has led the organization in its fight to protect the health and economic security of seniors throughout the state of Florida. His energetic leadership of FLARA helped expand the organization, increasing membership from 37,000 to 217,000 during his tenure. Tony leaves behind an influential legacy in which future leaders of FLARA will strive to follow.

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay is declaring Tuesday, December 6th as Tony Fransetta Day in Palm Beach County to recognize Tony's leadership and advocacy. We would like to join the Commissioner and our friends back in Florida in honoring, celebrating, and thanking Tony for his service protecting and advancing the interests of our communities.

Tony is a great role model for Floridians, and we are pleased to honor him today and wish him the best in his retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2016 FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 38th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put

their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 70 individuals, 1 K–9, and 1 team in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medal of Valor.

Forty-six members of the Fairfax County Police Department and one K–9 are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

Silver Medal of Valor: Second Lieutenant Nicholas Dipippa, PFC Paul J. Blasko, Jr., PFC Peter T. Liu, PFC Frederick R. Yap, Officer Jesse B. Katzman

Bronze Medal of Valor: PFC Dwayne L. Daniels, PFC Michael S. Morris, PFC Andrew H. Curtze, PFC Christopher C. Taylor, PFC Shay V. Nelson, PFC Vincent J. Pulicino, PFC Justin M. Urbaniak, Officer Sharif W. Issa

Certificate of Valor: Captain Robert A. Blakley, Jr., Lieutenant C. Matthew Owens, Jr., Detective Douglas H. Comfort, Sergeant David J. Giaccio, PFC Christopher C. Taylor, PFC Daniel N. Custer (2), PFC Ryan L. Fisher, PFC Michael P. Levis, PFC David A. Curcio, PFC Amy A. Early, PFC Luis E. Martinez, PFC Edward K. George, PFC Kyle M. Proffitt, MPO Damien E. Cichocki, Officer Joseph W. Shifflett, Officer William M. Mulhern

Lifesaving Award: Second Lieutenant Dana L. Robinson, Sergeant Robert C. Hines, PFC Eric Acevedo, PFC David A. Neil, Jr., PFC Scott J. Abram, PFC Richard L. Cash, PFC Nathan R. Vanhusen, PFC Bradley E. Chiz, PFC Gary S. Tuggle, PFC Benjamin J. McIntosh, PFC Craig R. Quattrin, PFC Lane M. Leisey, PFC Angela P. Thomas, PFC Stephen T. Vaughn, Officer Kent G. Bailey, Officer Anne C. Bosacco, Officer Brenton K. Moreau

Meritorious Award: K9 Enzo

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2016 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

#### MOURNING THE PASSING OF FATHER PAUL KWIATKOWSKI

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as Catholics worldwide celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas today, the life of Father Paul Kwiatkowski will be celebrated in a Funeral Mass at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo, Ohio. With eternally grateful hearts but deepest sadness at his passing, thousands of citizens across our community mourn the passing of Fr. Paul, a loving, gentle, and kind apostle of Christ. Fr. Paul was beloved by all who knew him. And we know him through his works. As our perceptive Aunt Esther would observe: "Now, that was a priest!"

How many of us hold unforgettable memories of Fr. Paul's selfless service and abiding kindness, always in the heart of our community. His steady and faith filled journey among

us imbued the word "faith" with real meaning. A favorite memory for me is the beautiful, annual Memorial Day Mass with appropriate observances at Mt. Carmel Cemetery for veterans and their families, at which he would officiate. A gifted musician, many times he would play his violin under the budding trees as his cassock blew gently in the spring winds. There was a sense of peace and connectedness to the awesome power of creation he brought to every occasion. A hospitable lunch always followed at the former Polish American Veterans Association Post on Lagrange Street. I too recall the moving Polish Mass at the former St. Hedwig's before the Polish Festival opened, as the church doors swung wide and the congregants filled the sidewalks. To Toledo's Polonia, those of Polish-American heritage, he was a revered touchstone and valued counselor. I similarly treasure the memories of the Central American garment workers he hosted at St. James Catholic Church, a reminder of the work that remains to be done on worker exploitation across our hemisphere. Fr. Paul's service always managed to meet the suffering edge of humanity. And his spirit gave strength to others.

Fr. Paul was a learned man, but he possessed a rare gift for communicating with people of all persuasions. He was an educator and Latin teacher as well as a fine musician, and people naturally drew to him. His wonderful sense of humor and twinkling eyes had their own way of communicating "you are welcome." He dedicated his life to ministering to congregations in the heart of our city, always including some of the poorest precincts in Toledo. His rare leadership and tutelage of the Lagrange Stickney and Broadway neighborhoods sparked and immeasurably contributed to the neighborhoods' ongoing revitalization. His work at St. James and Immaculate Conception Catholic parishes made newcomers feel welcome. He consistently engaged with the people of the broader neighborhood, extending beyond the walls of the churches he pastored. Fr. Paul defined evangelization by embracing community.

I cannot even imagine nor count the number of individuals he counseled and comforted over a half century of his service. I do know our Toledo community remains grateful forever that he gave his life for us. He was a people's priest, a diocesan priest. He lived his vows.

May the angels lift him high, ushering him to paradise where there will always be music, joy and peace.

#### SUPPORTING THE GENERATION OF TOMORROW

#### HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2016*

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Wallin Education Partners for the work they are doing to ensure that Minnesotans from all walks of life receive a college education.

Since 1992, Wallin Education Partners has provided scholarships to Twin Cities high school students who excelled in academics but are from low-income families. This year alone, Wallin Education Partners has awarded

a scholarship to twenty students in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District so that they may receive the education they deserve.

Along with the financial assistance, Wallin Education Partners also helps students utilize all of the resources available to them during their college experience, often assisting them until they graduate.

Due to the support that Wallin Education Partners provides annually, it is anticipated that we will be seeing more students from low-income families graduate from college. All students deserve access to quality education, regardless of their means and upbringing, and this organization is a great tool for students across this great state.

I am incredibly thankful to Wallin Education Partners for giving worthy students the chance to gain an education and fulfill their dreams. By providing some of the best and brightest in our state with the key to an education, you are not just ensuring the success of our students, but the success of our nation as a whole. Your contributions have not gone unnoticed and they are enormously appreciated.

Congratulations to: Yana Aleksandrova, Issraa El-khatib, Carissa Gillispie, John Hilst, Kevin Huynh, Emily Johnson, Jenna Kallestad, Elias Kinfu, Baker LaMott, Gentry Musgrove, Taylor O'Neill, Jeremy Schipper, Eryn Schlotfeldt, Thomas Shoegren, Randall Skeate, Tenzin Sonam, Kayla Tanner, Emily Vang, Madeline Walker, and Joseph Zuleger.

We look forward to seeing what the future brings for this year's recipients.

#### HONORING SPIRIT XPLOSION

#### 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 a remarkable professional minority business Spirit Xplosion Home of CE All Stars of Cleveland, Mississippi.

Mrs. Kimetria Parks, owner/coach is a native of Holly Springs, Mississippi. She moved to Cleveland, Mississippi in 1999 while attending Delta State University. She's married to Mr. Christopher Parks, Co-Owner/Coach and they have two beautiful daughters named Paris Kaitlyn Parks and Layken Parks. Mrs. Parks earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2003 and a Masters of Business Administration in 2013 from Delta State University. She is the Finance Officer of Mississippi United to End Homelessness and owner/coach of Spirit Xplosion Home of CE All Stars. Her fellowships with St. Peter MB Church in Sunflower, Mississippi. Mr. Parks graduated from Delta State University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in General Studies and Minor in Family Consumer Science and Criminal Justice and 2012 with a Masters in Physical Education with an Emphasis on Human Performance.

She has a great love and compassion for young people. Her ministry is to inspire young people to excel in all things with God's leading and to encourage women. Everything she does is done with the spirit of excellency. Her motto is: "If I can help somebody then her living is not in vain." She loves God wholeheartedly and thrives to live according to his will and his way; not just on Sunday, but every