

and the well-being of thousands of Medtronic employees. During his tenure with the company, Medtronic's revenue increased from \$837 million in 1989 to \$28.8 billion in 2016, a 34 times increase. Importantly, he helped oversee the growth of the company from approximately 7,000 employees in 1989 to more than 88,000 employees today. Mr. Ellis is known for his sound advice, mentorship and positive outlook, and has provided honest and insightful counsel to the Medtronic Board of Directors, the chief executive officer, his peers and his team.

Importantly, as part of Medtronic's Mission to alleviate pain, restore health and extend life for people around the world, the company's impact on people's lives grew exponentially during Mr. Ellis's leadership. In 2005, when Mr. Ellis became chief financial officer, the company proudly improved the life of someone every 6 seconds. Today, as a result of strong leadership, growth and innovation, Medtronic technology improves the lives of two people every single second, or more than 65 million people per year.

In addition, Mr. Ellis has demonstrated his commitment and passion for community through philanthropic activities and Board service, including service as Chairman of the American Heart Association Board in 2007 through 2008, as well as dedicated service on the boards of the Greater Twin Cities United Way and the Science Museum of Minnesota. He has also played an active leadership role and contributed many years of Board service to his local church.

Prior to joining Medtronic in 1989, Mr. Ellis was a senior audit manager for Price Waterhouse, where, in addition to several other responsibilities, he managed the Medtronic audit for nearly 10 years. He worked with several large corporate organizations, as well as providing audit services to numerous non-profit organizations.

Mr. Ellis grew up on a farm in Sac City, Iowa, and originally aspired to be a math teacher. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting in 1978 from the University of South Dakota. Above all, Mr. Ellis is a family man, who cherishes spending time at the lake with his wife, Sue, their two children, and five grandchildren. Though his leadership will be sincerely missed, I wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for everything he has done within the business community and within the Twin Cities community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 593 on final passage of H.R. 6393, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, I would have voted Aye, which is consistent with my position on this legislation.

ROUGH RIDGE AND ROCK MOUNTAIN FOREST FIRES

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the Rough Ridge and Rock Mountain forest fires that have recently impacted Northeast Georgia.

Over the past few months, my district has experienced a severe drought that at one point led to a rainfall deficit of more than a foot and especially affected thousands of farmers in Northeast Georgia.

This October, I had the opportunity to learn more about the drought's repercussions from the Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, Gary Black, and about 40 local farmers who have struggled with the historic drought.

Unfortunately, the effects of the drought went beyond affecting our farmers, and, as wildfires continued to burn in Rough Ridge and Rock Mountain, I was deeply concerned.

In fact, the Rough Ridge and Rock Mountain forest fires have each affected over 20,000 acres of land in Northeast Georgia.

Today, I am grateful to report that the Rough Ridge and Rock Mountain forest fires have been 95 percent contained. I would like to thank the firefighters, police, emergency management and medical teams, and many others who have worked long hours at demanding jobs to ensure the security and safety of the public during this uncertain time.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward, in the near future, to sharing the good news that the Rough Ridge and Rock Mountain forest fires have been completely contained.

IN RECOGNITION OF PACTV

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of PACTV's 20th anniversary. PACTV is a non-profit public access television station that operates six channels whose content is available to over 35,000 households in Duxbury, Kingston, Pembroke and Plymouth, Massachusetts.

This community-based television station, first established in 1996 by the cable committee and selectmen in Plymouth, was founded with the idea that community television programming could be vastly improved. Over the past 20 years, PACTV has flourished and benefitted the communities it serves. PACTV has provided a state-of-the-art community multimedia facility and encourages citizens to participate in the democratic process by providing access to local government coverage and programming. Further, PACTV provides video production classes, has meeting spaces and an art gallery open to the public and helps local non-profits and community service providers to organize and promote events.

Over the years, PACTV has accumulated a highly qualified staff that is constantly working with the community and a dedicated board of directors from both industry and non-profit organizations to bring greater quality program-

ming to the Commonwealth. To this day, PACTV continues in the fine tradition of community access television providing a first amendment forum undiluted by commercial considerations.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor PACTV on this joyous occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing PACTV continued success in providing high quality television programming.

HONORING DEBORAH HUNT

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Deborah Hunt. With her retirement approaching, she will soon close out over twenty years of incredible service to her community and begin the next chapter of her life.

Deborah has fulfilled her duties with dedication and innovation. Her commitment to public service started in 1994 when she served as Justice of the Peace in Williamson County. Through the years, she continued to serve her community through various public positions, including her appointment to the Board of Tax Professional Examiners by Former Governor George Bush and later appointed Chair of the Board by Former Governor Rick Perry.

Deborah is well known throughout the state for paving the way to modernize her department. She led the implementation of on-line payments and simplification of tax collections. Her office has served as a test site for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles to pilot upgrades and new systems. Deborah's leadership in this arena has made a real difference in the lives of Texans.

Deborah's commitment to service and the highest standard of excellence has not gone unnoticed. Recognized by her colleagues for her devotion and hard work, she has achieved a long list of accolades, including Person of the Year as well as the Earl Luna Award, and the Marilyn Albert Achievement, the highest honor recognized by the Texas Association of Assessing Officers.

Deborah Hunt's extraordinary commitment to service reflects the best values of Central Texas. There's no doubt that Williamson County is a better place because of her. I heartily salute her work and wish her the best of luck in all her new endeavors.

12TH ANNUAL OHIO STATEWIDE TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Rosa Parks, "the Mother of the Modern Civil Rights Movement."

On December 1st, we marked the 61st anniversary of Rosa Parks' arrest for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery City Bus.

Her defiance sparked the peaceful 381-day Montgomery bus boycott, leading to the desegregation of our Nation's public transportation system.

Rosa Parks, though small in stature, embodies the enormous impact one person can make.

In recognition, 50 years later in 2005, as a member of the Ohio General Assembly, I spearheaded a bill to designate December 1st Rosa Parks Day, making Ohio the first State in the Nation to do so.

This year marks the 12th annual tribute to Rosa Parks and I look forward to joining all Ohioans in celebration tomorrow on December 8th.

In that spirit, today and every day, let us be inspired by Rosa Parks and never forget that one person can ignite change.

RECOGNIZING MS. DEEDEE
CHOWDHURY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ms. DeeDee Chowdhury on her selection as a recipient of the KinderCare Education Legacy Award.

KinderCare Education is the largest private early childhood education provider in the US, and plays a critical role in preparing young children for school. KinderCare Education serves 150,000 children in 39 states and the District of Columbia. Approximately 23 percent of their children are infants and toddlers. For over 40 years, KinderCare Learning Centers have been a place where every child can learn, explore, and discover in a safe and nurturing environment in more than 1,400 community-based centers. KinderCare leads the nation in accredited centers and is passionate about providing children a sense of discovery while preparing them for success in school and beyond.

Every year, KinderCare recognizes a select few teachers by naming them recipients of its Legacy Awards. This year, one of the honorees is my constituent: Ms. DeeDee Chowdhury. Ms. Chowdhury is an educator at the Silverbrook KinderCare Learning Center located in Lorton, Virginia. As a result of winning this prestigious award, Ms. Chowdhury will receive a \$10,000.00 prize and will also travel to the National Association for the Education of Young Children's Annual Conference.

Ms. Chowdhury is dedicated to educating the youngest members of our society. Early education has been proven to directly impact future academic performance as well as economic opportunities for children who have enrolled in Pre-K programs. Through her commitment and efforts, she is helping to ensure the future success of not only her students but of our community. As a parent and former member and Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I understand that how the success of our communities is largely dependent upon the quality of our local schools, and that the quality of our schools is inextricably linked to the professionalism and expertise of their teachers.

I have always considered public service to be one of the most noble of professions and the services provided by our educators are no exception. I commend Ms. Chowdhury for her

service to our children and the Northern Virginia community. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on receiving a 2016 Legacy Award and wishing her great success in all future endeavors.

PAMELA GOFF

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Pamela Goff for being recognized by the West Chamber as a 2016 Celebrate Women Honoree. Celebrate Women Honorees are known for their perseverance, accomplishments, generosity, and dedication to their passions and their community.

Pamela Goff has been President and CEO of PG Construction Services, Inc. for more than 21 years. She is known for her strong community engagement, willingness to jump right in, and her ability to plan and execute major projects. Pam obtained her Bachelor's degree in Accounting from CU Denver and completed her graduate course work in Management Accounting. She has maintained a CPA license for more than 30 years and also holds a Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) certification.

Pam currently serves on the Board of Directors and on the Finance Committee for LocalWorks in Wheat Ridge, and has been involved in numerous other committees to support small businesses and the larger community. Pam was one of the founding members of the Wheat Ridge Business Association (formerly Enterprise Wheat Ridge) and served as the past president for four years. Pam has been recognized as a recipient of the 'CPAs Who Make a Difference' Award and has served as the Grande Parade Marshall for the Annual Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Pamela Goff for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE CHIEF STEPHAN M. HUDSON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the career of Prince William County Police Chief Stephan M. Hudson and to congratulate him on his retirement following 34-years of dedicated service to county residents.

Founded on July 1, 1970, the Prince William County Police Department serves as the primary form of law enforcement for the county and the towns of Dumfries, Occoquan, Haymarket, and Quantico. At the time of its founding, the Department had a staff of 52, which included police officers, commanders, dispatchers, and secretaries, and an operating budget of \$750,000. Today, the Department has grown to more than 845 individuals with

an FY16 annual operating budget of \$96.6 million. Over his three-year tenure as the head of the department, Chief Hudson has increased the number of sworn officers and increased the budget by over \$20 million to better serve the growing community.

In 2013, Stephan M. Hudson was sworn in as the third police chief of the Prince William County Police Department. Since his installation, Chief Hudson has stressed the importance of creating a diverse police force reflective of Prince William County's minority-majority makeup. Police Chief Hudson has also made increased police contact and transparency with Prince William County residents one of his top priorities. In his short tenure, Chief Hudson has done just that. The Police Department has achieved a 93 percent satisfaction rate in the community and has made significant strides to increase diversity in the police force, including in leadership positions. In the past three years, the department has promoted its first ethnic minority and first female assistant chiefs. As a strong advocate for police accountability, Chief Hudson successfully lobbied the Board of County Supervisors to equip 500 of the department's officers with body cameras. Later this year, the Prince William County Police Department will become the largest municipality with officers to don the device and utilize the technology in the Commonwealth. To preserve the quality of police services, the Department continues to work on three capital improvement programs: the Central District Station, the Animal Control Facility, and the Public Safety Training Center Rifle Range.

Chief Hudson is not only admired by the police department's rank and file but by county residents for his strong personal ties to the community. While his childhood was spent in Boston, Massachusetts, Hudson graduated from Gar-Field High School and has resided in the county ever since. As a proud resident of Prince William County for the past 40 years, Chief Hudson and his family are actively engaged in the community. His wife Roxana is the current principal at Belmont Elementary School. Together, Chief Hudson and his wife have two children and three grandchildren who were all born and raised in Prince William County. Devoted to his faith, Chief Hudson and his family worship at McLean Bible Church where they travel twice a year to participate in mission trips to rural Kenyan villages.

Over the span of his career with the Prince William County Police Department, Chief Hudson has displayed the true meaning of civil service through his commitment to the rule of law while maintaining professionalism and diligence in serving the community. His values have endured the test of time and shaped the present culture of our Police Department. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the 34-year career of Chief Stephan M. Hudson with the Prince William County Police Department and in thanking him for his tireless service to our community. As a fearless leader, Chief Hudson rose quickly through the ranks with the Department. I have full confidence he will do the same in all future endeavors. I wish Chief Stephan M. Hudson and his family continued happiness and success in all future ventures.