

a ranch from one of his old Italian neighbors, beginning his long and successful independent career in viticulture.

In 1955, Charlie purchased the 175-acre Redwood Valley Vineyards located at the headwaters of the Russian River. At the time, most growers were farming "standard" grapes that were used by the major wine producers to make basic table wines. Charlie worked with pioneers of the industry and began moving to a varietal-focused vineyard. He was one of the first growers on the North Coast to plant Chardonnay, Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Pinot Noir.

As a true steward of the land, Charlie converted all his vineyards to organic grapes in 1989. In 1997, after a downturn in the grape market, Charlie and his wife Martha began BARRA of Mendocino Winery, specializing in premium wines. He was honored by Slow Foods San Francisco as a pioneer for organic farming in the United States in 2011. To this day, Charlie Barra prides himself on never having missed a harvest.

Throughout his life, Charlie Barra has been an active member of the community. He was a founding member of the California North Coast Grape Growers association and served on its board for 41 years. Charlie was appointed to the Mendocino County Planning commission in 1965 and again in 1975, and Governor Ronald Reagan appointed him to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors in 1968.

Charlie Barra's legacy is one of stewardship of the land, economic development and community service to Mendocino County. Please join us in congratulating him on his 90th birthday and expressing our deep appreciation for his long and exceptional life and outstanding contributions to our local economy.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF ERIC SPIEGEL

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Youngstown, Ohio, native Eric Spiegel, CEO of Siemens USA, and congratulate him on his retirement. Mr. Spiegel has worked at Siemens for seven years, where he has been able to grow the company and further its reputation within the United States. As CEO he has shown tremendous leadership as he contributed to our country's economic, manufacturing, and innovation engines.

While serving as President and CEO of Siemens USA, Mr. Spiegel focused on electrification, automation, and digitalization. Siemens USA is represented in all 50 states.

Before joining the Siemens USA team, Mr. Spiegel gained 25 years of experience working with many complex organizations during his time in the consulting field and served as the Managing Director of Booz Allen Hamilton International from 1999–2003, while living in Tokyo. Mr. Spiegel managed the firm's business in Asia, Latin America, and in the Middle East in his role as Managing Director. Mr. Spiegel was a member of the Board of Directors for Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. and remained a senior partner of Booz & Company's Global Energy, Chemicals and Power until taking on his position at Siemens USA.

Before Mr. Spiegel began his successful career, he earned an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and an A.B. with Honors in Economics from Harvard University. He remains a member of The Board of Overseers at Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business.

Mr. Spiegel has given back to the Washington, DC communities in many ways, one being his dedication to Ford's Theatre as a member of its Executive Committee. Mr. Spiegel's accomplishments are many; including his position as a member of the Business Roundtable, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the Electrification Coalition.

I wish Mr. Spiegel a happy retirement, and will continue to admire his accomplished career.

REMEMBERING JOHN LIGNELLI'S LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a dedicated public servant, John Lignelli. "Chummy," as his friends knew him, passed away on Thursday, December 1st at the age of 95.

John was known best as the longtime hard working mayor of Donora, Pennsylvania, but John was no stranger to hard work and public service before being elected mayor. He attended Monongahela High School before he joined the Navy to serve his country during World War II. After the war, he returned to Western Pennsylvania to work in a steel mill. Before being elected to his first term as mayor of Donora in 1993, John served on the city's council and was a 50-year member of the Donora Fire Department.

In 2013, the citizens of Donora elected John Lignelli to his sixth term as their mayor. As mayor, John was a true public servant to his beloved Donora. He organized an annual cashew sale to raise money for a new local library. He sold raffle tickets to purchase a new police cruiser after the only one they had broke down. Countless times he would open his own wallet if it meant improving the quality of life for Donora residents. He was chairman of the Washington County Housing Authority, where he fought to construct a senior citizen high-rise in Monongahela. Into his 90s, he still volunteered for Meals on Wheels and helped transport residents with special needs to services in nearby Charleroi. John was always searching for new opportunities to help his neighbors. In September of 2014, Mayor Lignelli decided to retire at the age of 93, capping off his four decades of service to the people of Donora and the Monongahela Valley.

Those who knew Chummy know his true passion was helping his community. I want to honor Mayor Lignelli for his decades of dedication to public service, doing everything in his power to help his community. Mr. Speaker, Donora, Pennsylvania is known as the City of Champions, and they have lost a true champion of public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on December 5, 2016, I missed two recorded votes on the House floor due to a family illness. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 602 and YEA on Roll Call 603.

IN RECOGNITION OF MEGAN JACKSON'S SERVICE TO KENTUCKY'S SECOND DISTRICT

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my sincere thanks to Megan Spindel Jackson, my Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director, who will be moving on from my office at the end of this year. Megan has been an essential part of my office since I came to Congress, and she will be missed.

Megan grew up in Hawesville, Kentucky, where her parents are still active in the community. Her mother was a public school teacher and principal in Hawesville for more than 40 years. Inspired by a call to serve her community, Megan moved to Washington, D.C. after graduating from Centre College in 2002 to serve my predecessor. She has been dedicated to the Second District of Kentucky ever since then.

I first met Megan in 2008, when she moved back to Kentucky to help me with my first campaign. Even though she had never met me before, she was dedicated to the campaign from day one. When I won, she was one of the first people I hired to work in my D.C. office.

Megan has been an integral part of my legislative operation since I was elected, and has selflessly worked to better the lives of countless Kentuckians. I cannot thank her enough for her years of service. Though I will miss her, I wish her, her husband Kyle, and their son Henry the best of luck as they start the next chapter of their lives.

HONORING ROGER AND SUE FOX

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Roger and Sue Fox and their retirement from the Oswego County Pioneer Search and Rescue Team. Roger and Sue became members of the Oswego County Pioneer Search and Rescue Team in 1994; Roger went on to serve as Director for more than ten years.

Oswego County Pioneer Search and Rescue is a first tier response agency that works with law enforcement to seek out those that are lost or stuck in hazardous conditions. Together, Sue and Roger have generously volunteered their time over the years to search

for missing persons in Oswego County and throughout New York State. Roger and Sue Fox are fully trained in search and rescue techniques, land navigation, first aid, as well as survival methods. Roger and Sue are both trained in National Incident Management Systems procedures and are certified Wild Land Search Crew Bosses. Roger and Sue have dedicated many years to the Oswego County Pioneer Search and Rescue team and have served their community honorably.

Outside of the Oswego County Pioneer Search and Rescue Team, Roger and Sue have served their country and their community faithfully. Roger is a 1974 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and served ten years in the Navy as a helicopter pilot, specializing in search and rescue and anti-submarine warfare. Roger and Sue were both members of the Parish Fire Department; Roger served as Chief, and Sue as a volunteer EMT. Roger served as Chairman of the New York State Federation of Search and Rescue and was an instructor for the National Association for Search and Rescue. Sue taught at the Town of Parish elementary school and was a local Girl Scout Council Leader.

I am honored to recognize Roger and Sue Fox for their lifelong commitment to public service and their dedication to our local community. On behalf of the entire Central New York community, I would like to thank Roger and Sue for their dedication to serving our local community and I wish them the very best in their retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF DALE E.
KIMBLE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dale E. Kimble, Chief Executive Officer of DATCU, as he retires after nearly forty years in the financial services sector and also for his tireless community service in Denton County.

Since joining DATCU in 2001, Mr. Kimble has dynamically led the Credit Union to double digit growth, increasing the assets of the institution from \$180 million to \$868 million and more than doubling the membership of the Credit Union from 40,000 to over 88,000 members. Under his leadership, DATCU recently completed their construction and relocation of its core operations to the new 52,000 square foot Corinth headquarters, providing much needed support for their growing assets and membership. During his tenure, DATCU has expanded the number of Denton County branch locations from four to ten.

Through this tremendous growth, Mr. Kimble has ensured the financial stability of the organization, recently ranked 7th best performing large credit union in 2012 by SNL Financial. DATCU has had consistent recognition as a five-star rated institution by Bauer Financial and recognition by IDC Financial Publishing as one of the few credit unions to achieve a perfect score of 300, accomplished in both 2010 and 2011. In addition, Deposit Accounts.com has named DATCU a "Top 200" of the approximate 6,500 credit unions in the country.

Mr. Kimble's effective leadership has also ensured that the growing number of members has been served by a strong and loyal employee base, evidenced by DATCU's ranking by Texas Monthly as the 2nd Best Place to Work in Texas in 2009 and 2010, as 4th best place in 2013 and 2014 and 17th in 2015. This recognition resulted from nominations by the credit union's own employees.

Service to his community has also been a hallmark for Mr. Kimble and his wife, Pamela. In 2007, he and his wife were named as joint recipients of the Boy Scouts of America-Denton Distinguished Citizens Award. In 2009, they were again jointly honored by Health Services of North Texas' Hearts and Heroes with the "Founders Award." Mr. Kimble has also served in multiple North Texas community organizations, including his role as the inaugural Chairman of the Board for Serve Denton, Board Chairman of Denton Regional Medical Center, Health Services of North Texas, and the Denton Rotary Club.

I am pleased to honor Mr. Kimble for his years of dedicated work and service to his profession and community and wish him as much success in his retirement as he has had in his career. It is privilege to represent Mr. Kimble, his family and DATCU in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING JOHN KIMPEL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause on Pearl Harbor Day to recognize John Kimpel, a native of the Kansas City area and a veteran of World War II.

Mr. Kimpel served in the 44th Armored Infantry Division in the European theater, where he received the Purple Heart after being wounded by a German shell on March 3, 1945. Mr. Kimpel received shrapnel wounds in his arm and both legs, which required almost two years' worth of therapy and rehabilitation to recover from. After receiving his discharge, Mr. Kimpel worked for a short time at the General Motors plant in Fairfax, Kansas, followed by a long career maintaining buses and equipment for the Shawnee Mission School District and the Kenneth Smith Golf Company. When many would have sought out a quiet retirement, Mr. Kimpel continued to volunteer at the Johnson County Christmas Bureau for 25 years, crafting many pieces for their Christmas displays.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, his friends, and his family in recognizing John Kimpel for his accomplishments and his service to his country and his community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF JULIE HARWOOD

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Julie Harwood. Julie has dedicated her career to public serv-

ice, serving constituents in Idaho for 23 years, 3 months and 2 days.

Julie began her career with Senator James McClure, a man who served our great state well and one whom I've always admired. She has worked for Senator Dirk Kempthorne, before I was lucky enough to have her join my team on August 1, 2003.

There are people who call our office and will only talk to Julie. She treats people with kindness, respect and always helps them find the answer they are seeking—which is often not an easy task.

Over the years, Julie has touched so many lives, it is impossible to name them all. However, Kathy, myself, and my entire staff will miss her greatly.

Congratulations Julie. I have a feeling you will be busy, but I hope you are not a stranger and please know you will always be part of Team SIMPSON.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call 608. I would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call 608 had I been there.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote Number 613 on H.R. 5143, the Transparent Insurance Standards Act of 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING ASHER WEINBAUM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Asher Weinbaum. Asher is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Asher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Asher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Asher has led his troop as the Patrol Leader and Quartermaster. Asher has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Asher constructed a 160 foot path for Immacolata Manor in Liberty, Missouri, providing a safe walkway for the home for women with developmental disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Asher Weinbaum for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America