

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

and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING RAMSAY HIGH SCHOOL IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA ON ITS FIRST STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Ramsay High School Rams 2016 Football Team for winning the Alabama High School Athletic Association's Class 6A state football championship on Friday, December 2, 2016.

The Rams defeated the Opelika Bulldogs 21–16, which gave Ramsay its first state football championship ever and the first for a Birmingham City School since another area high school won back to back state titles in 1972 and 1973.

Mr. Speaker, what makes this victory even more special is that Ramsay discontinued its football program after the 1976 season, and didn't resume the sport for 36 years until hiring its current coach, Rueben Nelson Jr., in the Spring of 2011.

The Rams officially returned to the field in 2012, suffering through a one-win season and two wins the following season. The program is without football lockers, a football stadium, and many of the amenities that often lead to success. Yet, the players and coaches have persevered, and have now reached the pinnacle of success.

Speaking to their accomplishment following the game, Coach Nelson stated, "God allowed me to put my hands in His hands and He would lead the way. It's not like I'm the head coach. He's the head coach and I'm just the servant. He allows me to work with kids."

The Rams were 13–2 this season, and were led by their left-handed, Senior quarterback Baniko Harley, who rushed for 158 yards on 21 carries and completed 8 of 18 passes for 132 yards and two scores in the winning effort.

I want to extend heartfelt congratulations to these outstanding players and Coach Nelson. We are very proud of the team, and I am confident these young men have bright futures ahead for them, and will look back proudly on their achievement.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of this team's outstanding achievement. May their efforts continue to yield great success in the years ahead.

CONGRATULATIONS ATTORNEY GENERAL SCOTT PRUITT

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, President-elect Donald Trump selected Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt to serve as administrator of the Environment Protection Agency—yet another positive choice for the American people.

A recent article in the Wall Street Journal notes, "As the chief legal officer of a major oil and natural-gas producing state, Mr. Pruitt, a

Republican, has led legal fights against some of President Barack Obama's most significant environmental rules, and one of his major roles as EPA administrator would likely be to roll back those regulations."

President-elect Trump stated that Attorney General Pruitt will, "restore the EPA's essential mission of keeping our air and our water clean and safe."

As the grateful father of South Carolina's Attorney General Alan Wilson, I know firsthand the tenacity and dedication to upholding the Constitution and protecting American families that state Attorneys General have. I look forward to Attorney General Pruitt's success in his new role, promoting limited government and expanded freedom.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MAYWOOD SENIORS CLUB

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Village of Maywood and the 250 seniors who with the Honorable Mayor Edwina Perkins, Board of Trustees and the Honorable Village Clerk Viola Mims, and other dignitaries as they gather on Wednesday, December 14th at their 9th Annual Christmas Party and Dinner at Mariella's Banquet Hall. This event climaxes another year of engagement, fellowship, activities, information and healthy meals for the 250 members. During 2016, these 250 members had exercise sessions, visited Brookfield Zoo and the DuSable Museum of African American History, interacted with Promise East High School during Black History Month and benefitted from programs sponsored by the Secretary of State of Illinois and participated in a power of attorney workshop.

They also held weekly meetings, had a senior prom, outdoor jazz night and an R & B night.

I commend the Maywood Seniors Club and urge them to keep their spirits high.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ VALLE

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Rafael Rodriguez Valle, a World War II veteran, entrepreneur, pastor, and late grandfather of my staff member Jose Rafael Rodriguez.

Rafael was a product of America's greatest generation. He grew up during the Great Depression in Puerto Rico and moved to New York City after his service in the U.S. Army during World War II. There he married the love of his life, Josefa, with whom he spent the rest of his life. He eventually returned to his beloved Puerto Rico to raise his family and open a flower shop. On his time off, Rafael volunteered as a neighborhood watchman and

a pastor in his church. His hard work allowed him to provide a safe and happy home for his family, put his children through college, and enjoy a peaceful retirement with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Before his passing in 2011, he would reflect on his life's work saying that he was grateful because God allowed him to spend his life working around roses.

Jose describes his grandfather as his best friend and role model. Rafael taught Jose the values of hard work and service to God, family, and community. These are the values that inspire Jose to dedicate his life to public service and are the legacy he passes on to his children.

I am honored to recognize Rafael Rodriguez Valle for dedication to his family and service to the country.

RECOGNIZING THE SOUTHERN LITERACY TOURISM INITIATIVE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to challenge my colleagues to help promote the local economy of their districts in a new way: through the power of a story set in a real place. Our greatest resource in this nation has always been our people and their ability to unleash their talents in innovative ways that promote progress and prosperity. I recently witnessed one such innovation when I was invited to present a tourism fiction award in my district through the Southeastern Literary Tourism Initiative.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with tourism fiction, the concept is simple: write stories set in real places, stories that capture the imaginations and hearts of readers, and then invite those same readers to visit the places.

As my colleagues may know from their own districts, tourism is an economic driver that attracts welcomed spending on local attractions, hotels, restaurants, and other places that help drive local economies and provide jobs. If writers are already producing books and short stories, then why not ask them to set those stories in real places that their readers would love to visit?

That is exactly what an innovative writing contest did in my home district. The Southeastern Literary Tourism Initiative or SELTI, teamed up with the Selma Chamber of Commerce to challenge writers to compose a short story aimed at encouraging readers to visit the area. The 2016 winner of the contest, Charisa Hagel, wrote a powerful story that brought a local historical attraction to life through her fictional characters. At the end of the story, readers were invited to visit the real place, Kenan's Mill in Selma, Alabama, and literally step into the setting of Charisa's story. While there, they can also visit the National Voting Rights Museum and many other unique local attractions.

I will soon be honored to present Ms. Charisa Hagel, a student at Faulkner University in Montgomery, Alabama, with the 2016