

was a distinguished educator in his own right. He served as a professor at Wiley College and worked in various capacities at the Fort Worth Independent School District. Mr. Carter ended his career in education working in administration and teacher appraisal work and was later recognized for his commitment to education when he was selected as an honoree by Tarrant County Community College during the dedication of its Opportunity Center Resource.

Mr. Carter was also dedicated to serving his community outside of the classroom. He served as Deacon and Chairman of Finance and Superintendent in the Youth Sunday School at his church. Additionally, he was a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for more than 75 years and co-founded the Texas Council of Alpha chapters. He was a president of the Texan Christian University chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International Education Fraternity, co-founder of the Texas State Teacher's Association, and a Master Prince Hall Mason, where he served as Grand Treasurer and Grand Worshipful Master.

CONGRATULATING THE CULVER CITY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM

**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Culver City High School Girls Varsity Volleyball Team.

Under the leadership of Coach Tanner Siegal and Assistant Coach Eriko Gambol, for the first time in Culver City High School (CCHS) history, the Girls Varsity Volleyball team, the Lady Centaurs, has won the 2016 California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division 5 Championship.

I salute the team members for the enthusiasm and competitive play that won the team and the school this distinction: Octavia Mott-Collins, Megan Shimoda, Alyssa Hernandez, Katrina McCoy, Jessica Stewart, Carmen Reyna, Destiny Padilla, Jayli Nealy, Haien Anderson, Sonya Allen, Sarah Miller, Neusha Parsa, McKenna Stevens, Lena Johnson, Layla Grant Lauren Tishkoff, Krista Hernandez.

I would also like to recognize the many people who dedicated time and energy to the team's success: first and foremost, the team members' parents and guardians; Dr. Joshua Arnold, Culver City Superintendent of Education; Dr. Lisa Cooper, CCHS Principal; DuBois McMillan, Assistant Principal for Athletics; Tom Salter, Athletic Director; and last but not least, the Culver City High School Band and Cheerleaders, who participated in both home and away games.

No team reaches the top of its division without a passion for improving both individual skills and its strengths as a team. Becoming Division 5 Champions required that the Lady Centaurs give their best effort at every practice, demonstrate good sportsmanship, and build their teamwork from one game to the next.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Culver City High School Girls Varsity Volleyball team for its outstanding achieve-

ment in winning the 2016 CIF Division 5 Championship.

IN RECOGNITION OF BAN KI-MOON,  
8TH SECRETARY GENERAL OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS

**HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the tenure of Ban Ki-moon, the 8th Secretary General of the United Nations. His appointment and inauguration nearly ten years ago marked a historic achievement for the Republic of Korea.

In his two terms in office, Secretary General Ban has advanced the cause of global peace through his work on economic, security, and human rights issues.

He remains firmly and resolutely committed to the UN's long-term development goals and to helping those who suffer from international crises and humanitarian disasters.

His leadership on global threats, such as the spread of infectious diseases, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, has contributed to international peace and security.

And he has worked tirelessly to advance human rights around the world. Secretary General Ban has promoted women's empowerment and gender equality everywhere, and fought to improve human rights in North Korea.

Under his tenure, the UN's Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put together the most comprehensive report to date on the horrific abuses carried out by the Kim regime. As this report found, these abuses "shock the conscience of humanity," and demand that we hold the regime accountable.

Before serving as Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-Moon served as South Korean Foreign Minister, where he worked towards denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

I hope that the next Secretary General will continue Secretary General Ban's work to advance the UN's mission of peace and prosperity around the world.

As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I wish to recognize Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's service to the United Nations, to express my deep appreciation for his contributions to global peace and security, and to extend my sincere best wishes for his future endeavors. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING CHRISTINA GOSSNER

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christina Gossner, whom I have named a 2016 Public Safety Hero of the Year for Sonoma County in California's 5th Congressional District. This award is given to exceptional members of our community who perform beyond their duty as a public servant.

A paramedic with American Medical Response (AMR) Sonoma, Ms. Gossner started

her Emergency Medical Services (EMS) career with training at the Santa Rosa Junior College Fire Academy in 1992 and Paramedic Academy in 1994. For more than two decades, Ms. Gossner has been an enthusiastic and generous emergency responder.

To help others further their EMS careers, Ms. Gossner became an Adjunct Faculty for the Santa Rosa Public Training Center. During her career, Ms. Gossner has also worked as a volunteer firefighter with the Windsor Fire Protection District and as a rescue operation flight paramedic with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Helicopter. Her commitment and diverse experience exemplify the dedication and character of our community's best public servants.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. Gossner for her dedication to our community's safety. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that I honor her here today.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON S. 1632

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 7, 2016*

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters exchanged between myself and the gentleman from California, Mr. NUNES, Chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, regarding S. 1632, an Act to require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

*Washington, DC, December 8, 2016.*

Hon. DEVIN NUNES,  
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on S. 1632, a bill to require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram, and for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of that bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the Floor. I concur in your understanding that the assessment required by section 1(b) shall be conducted and provided in a manner that protects intelligence sources and methods.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your Committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future.

I will seek to place our letters on S. 1632 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with your Committee as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

*December 7, 2016.*

Hon. ED ROYCE,  
Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: On September 24, 2015, S. 1632, "A bill to require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram," was referred to the Committee on

Foreign Affairs, and in addition, to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

In order to expedite the House's consideration of the bill, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence will forego consideration of the measure. This courtesy is, however, conditioned on our mutual understanding and agreement that it will in no way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Permanent Select Committee with respect to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill or any similar measure. It is also conditioned on our mutual understanding and agreement that the Director of National Intelligence shall carry out the assessment required by Subsection 1(b) of the bill consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding and would request that you include a copy of this letter in the Congressional Record during its floor consideration. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

DEVIN NUNES,  
*Chairman.*

HONORING MICHAEL SEITZ FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED LEADERSHIP OF THE GREATER LA PORTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Seitz, who will retire December 8th as president of the La Porte, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Seitz has spent decades working to keep the Northern Indiana economy growing, including 15 years as the Greater La Porte Chamber president, and our community will miss his invaluable contributions.

Mr. Seitz began his path of public service while attending Indiana University, where he received an undergraduate degree in Public Administration and graduated from the United States Chamber of Commerce Institute. He furthered his commitment to economic development by attending the Certified Economic Developers program at the University of Kentucky.

After school, Mr. Seitz began a long career dedicated to the economic success of the Hoosier State. Before serving as president of the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Seitz worked for the South Bend Chamber of Commerce and in twelve years rose from manager to vice president of Existing Business Development and Membership Services at the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce. He later served as president of the Logansport Chamber of Commerce, finally joining the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce.

With this background of dedicated service, clear passion for helping Indiana, and true commitment to economic prosperity, it is not surprising that Mr. Seitz oversaw a range of advancements and improvements for La Porte's business community during his tenure. The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce has accomplished much through the work of Mr. Seitz, his staff, and Chamber and LEAF

board members. It has gone through three accreditation processes, received two four-star ratings, and most recently, a five-star rating. The five-star rating elevated the Chamber into the highest class possible and defined it as an outstanding organization and facilitator of local commerce.

Mr. Seitz's work both as president of the Chamber and in his other public service exemplifies his dedication to Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Michael Seitz upon his retirement after nearly three decades of hard work and dedication to improving the business environment of Northern Indiana. I am grateful for his public service and wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARINE  
CORPS GENERAL JOHN KELLY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, reports indicate that President-elect Donald Trump plans to select former Marine Corps General John Kelly to run the Department of Homeland Security—yet another excellent appointment which will protect American families.

The Washington Times announced, "General Kelly caught the eye of Mr. Trump's top advisers with a forceful appearance before Congress in 2014 and 2015, where he said he was shocked at how easily smugglers were able to penetrate the U.S.-Mexico border, and said it represented a major hole in national security."

General Kelly embodies the highest ideals of military service. He served with distinction in the Marine Corps, rising through the ranks to run U.S. Southern Command. As Commander, he has been critical in disrupting how organized crime networks run drugs, weapons, etc., through networks in the Western Hemisphere.

As the grateful father of four sons who have all served overseas in the Global War on Terrorism, I appreciate General Kelly's dedication and leadership. I am confident in his future success.

Congratulations again to General Kelly and his entire family on this exciting new role.

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

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR BISHOP  
SPARKS

**HON. STEVE CHABOT**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Major Bishop Sparks, of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our nation. Major Sparks distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service from January 6, 2014 to December 15, 2016, while serving as a Legislative Liaison for the Army House Liaison Division.

Major Sparks was instrumental in developing strategic relationships with Members of Congress and their staffs throughout the 114th Congress as a Legislative Liaison to the House of Representatives. His expertise proved critical in providing requisite support for Army and DoD initiatives. Through these relationships he ensured Congressional decision makers had accurate and timely information on Army programs, policies and priorities; his hard work directly impacted future defense legislation and built upon the Army's equities.

Major Bishop Sparks is a native of West Palm Beach, Florida. Bishop enlisted in the Wisconsin Army National Guard in 2003 as the Fire Direction Specialist (13P). Bishop graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin with a degree in Justice and Public Policy and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 2006.

After completion of the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Major Sparks was assigned to the 2-2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. While assigned to 2-2nd Infantry Regiment, Major Sparks served as a Company Fire Support Officer. Major Sparks was later assigned to 1-6th Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division. While assigned to 1-6th Field Artillery, Major Sparks served as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer deploying in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM from July 2008 through July 2009.

In 2009, Major Sparks attended the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course (FACCC). After graduating the FACCC, Major Sparks was assigned to 1-12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division where he served as a Battalion Fire Support Officer and deployed in support of OPERATION NEW DAWN in January 2011. While deployed, Major Sparks assumed command of Bravo Battery, 2-82nd Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division.

Following battery command, Captain Sparks attended George Washington University earning a master's degree in Legislative Affairs and served as a Congressional Fellow for Congressman HANK JOHNSON (GA-4). Bishop currently serves as a Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison (OCLL).

Bishop's military education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Ranger School, Joint Fire Power Course, Tactical Information Officer Course, the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course, and Airborne School. Bishop also graduated from Liberty University with a master's degree in Business Management and Leadership.

Major Sparks' awards include the Bronze Star Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal Army Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Afghan Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal (Expeditionary), Global War on Terrorism Medal (Service), Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Major Sparks' professionalism and high standards of duty improved relations between the Army and the House of Representatives. Major Sparks' leadership, initiative and truly outstanding performance contributed immeasurably to maintaining the Army's enduring, positive relationship with Congress and advancing the Army's top priorities, bringing distinct credit upon him, the Office of the Chief of