

over 65 million individuals displaced from their homes by conflict and persecution in 2015.

I thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his service, spending his days advocating on behalf of the least among us. His tenure as Secretary-General of the United Nations has delivered significant advances in peace and human rights around the world.

CONGRESSMAN JIM McDERMOTT

## HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, Representative JIM McDERMOTT, from Washington's 7th District.

I have had the honor and privilege of working alongside Representative McDERMOTT for the past 17 years. As co-chairs of the Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus, Congressman McDERMOTT has led the charge to wipe out HIV/AIDS around the world.

Congressman McDERMOTT and I also sat on the Budget Committee together where he was a continual guiding voice for our committee. From health care to education, he ensured that our budget reflected our moral values as a nation.

During his time representing the people of Washington's 7th District, Congressman McDERMOTT has dedicated his efforts towards finding solutions to our nation's most pressing issues, as well as remaining deeply connected to his district.

He has helped lead the fight on this very floor to guarantee all Americans comprehensive and affordable health care coverage and has supported me in pushing for peaceful solutions to conflicts around the world.

Congressman McDERMOTT has never stopped working to ensure that the American Dream is in reach for all.

I want to thank Representative McDERMOTT for his dedication to serving the people of Washington and our nation.

I am so honored and thankful to have had his friendship and his support throughout the years.

He leaves behind an incredible legacy and I wish him the very best and continued success.

IN MEMORIAM: RICK LAVIS, FEBRUARY 1, 1940–NOVEMBER 26, 2016

## HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Rick Lavis, a tireless and respected voice for Arizona agriculture.

Rick, a native Arizonan who grew up in downtown Phoenix, was called to public service early in his life. He served as an aide to U.S. Senator Paul Fannin (R-AZ) before working at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Rick returned to Phoenix in 1980 to advocate for Arizona's cotton growers and the broader agricultural community. As the Arizona Cotton Growers Association's top staffer,

Rick worked tirelessly to pass the Groundwater Management Act of 1980, landmark legislation that still governs Arizona water today. Rick served Arizona as an expert in water, air quality, the environment, and the cotton industry.

Rick is survived by his wife, Marti, two sons, Danny and Ben, and two grandchildren, Addison and Nicholas. I was fortunate to have worked with Rick both during my time in the Arizona Legislature and when I came to Congress, and I am honored to call him a friend. I am thankful for Rick's dedication to service and appreciate his determination and willingness to make our state and country a better place for all Arizonans.

Please join me in honoring his memory.

IN HONOR OF THE WINGATE  
UNIVERSITY MEN'S SOCCER TEAM

## HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wingate University men's soccer team and congratulate them on their first ever national championship. The Bulldogs earned their first national title in school history by defeating the University of Charleston in the NCAA Division II national title game on December 3, 2016.

Led by head coach Gary Hamill, Wingate finished the regular season with a perfect 14–0 record. After suffering a minor setback in the South Atlantic Conference tournament, the team rebounded by storming through the NCAA tournament on the way to the title. Through the five games of the tournament, the Bulldogs did not concede a single goal, which included denying both the first and second ranked offenses in the country anything more than a few attempts on goal. The team finished the year with a nation's best 0.40 goals-against average, proving that defense really does win championships.

Wingate had a total of five players named to the All-Tournament team including Jon Ander and Alex Nelson who were named Most Outstanding Offensive Player and Most Outstanding Defensive Player respectively. It brings me great pride to be able to recognize these extraordinary young men as well as all of the coaches and support staff that made this accomplishment possible. The hard work and dedication exhibited by each member of the team during the season will continue to serve them well in life. They are a source of pride to both the university as well as the surrounding community. I wish them well in all of their endeavors and look forward to hearing of their continued success in the future.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating the Wingate University men's soccer team on their well-deserved national title.

IN HONOR OF OUR FALLEN LAW  
ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

## HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay trib-

ute to the fallen law enforcement officers of Georgia's Second Congressional District. The last few weeks have been especially difficult in Middle and Southwest Georgia as we have lost four officers to senseless violence.

On Wednesday, December 7, 2016, Officer Nicholas Smarr of the Americus Police Department responded to a domestic disturbance at an apartment home in Americus, Georgia. While Officer Smarr was awaiting backup from another Americus officer, his friend Officer Jody Smith of the Georgia Southwestern State University Department of Public Safety heard the radio call and responded to assist. As the officers attempted to pursue the suspect, who had fled, the suspect opened fire on the officers.

Both officers were struck by bullets. In spite of being wounded, Officer Smarr ran to Officer Smith, turned him over from his face-down position, and began to perform CPR. While trying to save Officer Smith's life, Officer Smarr died from his injuries. When backup officers arrived, they found Officer Smarr slumped over Officer Smith. Nick Smarr and Jody Smith were lifelong best friends.

On Thursday, December 8, 2016, Officer Smith succumbed to his injuries and passed away. The Americus Police Department and the Georgia Southwestern State University Department of Public Safety are each mourning the loss of one of their own. The Americus community as a whole is grieving over this terrible tragedy.

This incident brings to mind another senseless tragedy that happened in the Second Congressional District not long ago. On Sunday, November 6, 2016, Sergeant Patrick Sondon and Deputy Daryl Smallwood of the Peach County Sheriff's Office were responding to a dispute between neighbors when a suspect opened fire on them. Deputy Sondon was killed and Deputy Smallwood passed away from his injuries two days later.

Each of these four brave men loved, and in return, were deeply loved. They were sons, brothers, husbands, fathers, significant others, and friends. What is more important, they were law enforcement officers and they put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

Sergeant Patrick Sondon served our nation in the U.S. Air Force. He had been with the Peach County Sheriff's Office for 13 years, after having served the Fort Valley and Byron Police Departments. He had a pilot's license and enjoyed flying and driving charter buses.

Deputy Daryl Smallwood served our nation in the U.S. Marine Corps. He worked as a jailer before becoming a mandated officer in 2005 and served the Crisp County Sheriff's Department before joining the Peach County Sheriff's Office. He enjoyed listening to music and riding his Harley motorcycle.

Officer Nicholas "Nick" Ryan Smarr graduated from the Police Academy in Forsyth, Georgia. He served as a Corrections Officer in Telfair County, a Police Officer in McRae and Vienna, and a Deputy with the Sumter County Sheriff's Department before joining the Americus Police Department. He was an Atlanta Falcons fan and loved watching movies and spending time with his friends, which included Officer Jody Smith.

Public Safety Officer Jody Smith graduated from Americus-Sumter County High School in 2009, along with his friend, Officer Nick Smarr. In 2012, he graduated from the Georgia Public

Safety Training Center and served with the Sumter County Sheriff's Office and Plains Police Department. In addition to serving with Georgia Southwestern's Department of Public Safety, he was a student at the University. He was known for being friendly and energetic and was a huge fan of the Atlanta Braves.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District honor these four brave officers for their dedicated service and for making the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to their families, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

CONGRESSMAN SAM FARR

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor a truly dedicated public servant and friend, Congressman SAM FARR.

I have had the honor of working alongside Congressman FARR for 17 wonderful years. Throughout these many years, I have personally seen his passionate advocacy for the beautiful central coast, the great state of California, and our nation.

As many of us know, Congressman FARR joined the Peace Corps in 1964 and brought his passion for social and economic justice and world peace with him to Congress. Since then, he has never shied away from fighting for what is right and what is just.

As our Ranking Member of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, Congressman FARR is a fierce and strong advocate for programs serving low-income populations, rural infrastructure and development, and food safety and nutrition.

As longtime advocates to normalize relations with Cuba, we had the pleasure of witnessing history together as President Obama met with President Raul Castro and became the first president to visit Cuba in the last 81 years.

Representative FARR has supported me—and so many of our colleagues—in this very chamber and outside of our offices.

He has been a true friend and I will miss him dearly.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman FARR has encouraged all Americans to reach higher, dream bigger, and to never give up. His commitment to our country and California's 20th district has been a joy to witness and I look forward to watching as those he has inspired continue his work.

Thank you, Congressman FARR, for all that you've done for your district and for our nation.

I look forward to continuing our friendship and preserving your work in the upcoming years.

STATES AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING  
ACT OF 2016

**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, on May 31st, 2015, two 17 year old girls from Tennessee's 8th District, Maddie Kruse and Rachel Lynch, were killed when struck by a drunk driver. The man behind the wheel was out on bond for his sixth DUI charge when he struck the van carrying Maddie and Rachel. Each of the five local courts where the driver had pleaded guilty for DUI failed to report his conviction to State or Federal criminal databases. Had they reported his convictions to the National Crime Information Center ("NCIC"), a database accessible by law enforcement officers all over the country, the driver would have faced much stiffer penalties for his additional offenses.

To address some of the inherently mobile and cross-jurisdictional nature of driving, I have introduced the States against Drunk Driving Act of 2016. The SADD Act of 2016 would incentivize states to require all court clerks to report convictions for offenses involving driving under the influence to the NCIC and any applicable state-run crime information database. The benefits of information sharing are apparent in this particular case. A court prepared with a complete record of a repeat criminal offender would be better prepared to keep those drivers off the road.

As my term comes to an end with the 114th Congress, I have shared this story and the legislative language with my successor, Representative-Elect David Kustoff. It is my hope that Mr. Kustoff will continue to work on this important issue so that tragic events like this are less likely to happen in the future.

HONORING TOMMY GAGE

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if ever a public servant deserved a peaceful, happy retirement, it is our sheriff and my dear friend, Tommy Gage. Tommy may have been born across the border in Arkansas, but we are glad he got to Texas as quickly as he could.

In the more than half-century since graduating from Galena Park High School, Tommy Gage has been about service. After serving aboard the Heavy Cruiser USS *St. Paul* during the Vietnam War, seeing both the world and action, my friend signed up for a different kind of service.

After graduating from the Houston Police Academy in 1970, Tommy Gage began serving in this Fifth Ward on the Northeast side. His assignments included patrol, recruiting, investigator, and as a solo motorcycle unit.

In 1982, the Montgomery County Sheriffs Office welcomed Tommy Gage as a jail deputy. Over the years, he worked a variety of assignments including patrol, academy instructor, SWAT, detectives, detective sergeant, and academy commander. In 1996 Sheriff Gage went to work and served in that capacity until his election as Sheriff

When Sheriff Gage was sworn in on New Years' Day in 2005, there were just over 450 employees at the sheriff's office. Today, that number has nearly doubled in an all-out effort to protect and serve. From starting the county's first motorcycle traffic unit, which now includes seven motorcycles, a canine unit now with seven canines, to an aviation unit that includes a Cessna 210 aircraft and two Aeryon Sky Ranger unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) fully licensed by the FAA, Sheriff Gage's MCSO has set a high bar. I know our local events are the safest, friendliest congressional gatherings in the country in no small part due to our sheriff.

For a sheriff known for his white hat and colorful Texas neckties, his changes to the local uniforms led to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office being named a best dressed agency in United States.

While our sheriff is quick to give credit to his stellar team, numerous awards and personal honors would not have been possible without his servant leadership. Sheriff Gage has often said "there is no greater honor than to finish my law enforcement career as a Texas sheriff." In making his mark here in Montgomery County, he has honored all of us.

A life member of the Montgomery County Fair Association, East Montgomery County Fair Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4709, Texas Jail Association, the National Rifle Association, 100 Club, and Sheriffs Association of Texas, our beloved sheriff is a Chartered Member of Montgomery County Search and Rescue and a valued member of the Texas Police Association, Fraternal Order of Police, National Association of Chiefs of Police, the American Legion Post Number 618, local civic groups and chambers, and the Harley Owners Group—Cut & Shoot Chapter.

In their more than three decades of marriage, Tommy and Ollie Nell Gage have been blessed with 3 children, 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild—all who have an amazing role model of how to be a servant leader.

On December 31, 2016, Sheriff Gage is retiring after finishing his third term. I know Ollie Nell is going to be glad to have him home safely from over 46 years of law enforcement service.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY CAMELI, CHIEF, MESA FIRE AND MEDICAL DEPARTMENT; PAST PRESIDENT, PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS OF ARIZONA; EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, UNITED PHOENIX FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2016*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Mary Cameli of the Mesa Fire and Medical Department. Mary was one of the first women to join the department in 1983 and is now the first woman to lead as fire chief. She has dedicated her career to serving our state and championing the needs of Arizona's firefighting community.

Prior to Mary's selection as chief, she was an assistant fire chief overseeing the Emergency Medical Services Division, Planning and