

Borough President Diana Reyna, who is receiving Greenpoint YMCA's Spirit of Service Award, given in recognition of her efforts to better the community in which she lives and serves. Deputy Borough President Reyna has been a dynamic and effective leader who has worked for real change.

Deputy Borough President Reyna made history as the first Dominican-American woman elected to public office in New York State when she won her seat in the New York City Council in 2001. As a Councilwoman, she garnered praise as an advocate for affordable housing and economic development, and she pushed for funding for family literacy and youth programs. Additionally, she has been a tireless supporter of women and minority owned small businesses, supported high-tech innovation, and encouraged entrepreneurs and start-up companies. She also sought to fight crime in her district. She authored a bill that increased fines for illegal conversions from industrial to residential uses, which passed the Council in 2007 and was signed into law by Mayor Bloomberg.

Ms. Reyna became Deputy Brooklyn Borough President in 2014. As Deputy Borough President, Ms. Reyna has been a champion for the BQ Green Project, which would create a park that connects communities separated by the Brooklyn Queens Expressway, allowing for new open spaces, bolstering local businesses, and improving quality of life for thousands of residents in the community. She has also fought for zoning laws that would allow for affordable industrial spaces to remain in Brooklyn in an effort to keep industry and jobs in the borough.

In every position she has held, Deputy Borough President Reyna has demonstrated dedication to families and businesses in our great city. She is a tenacious and effective public servant who has instituted great changes to the borough of Brooklyn and New York City at large.

Deputy Borough President Reyna has lived in New York her whole life, growing up in Brooklyn. She attended Pace University in Pleasantville, New York. From there, she went on to work as Chief of Staff for a New York State Assembly member. Deputy Borough President Reyna is a proud resident of Brooklyn, NY, a place she believes "holds our future, our children, our neighbors, our artists, our entrepreneurs, our schools, and our businesses."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna for her continuous commitment to improving her community, city, and country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE W.J. "BILL" USERY

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Honorable W.J. "Bill" Usery Jr., a man who left a legacy of service to our Nation and the Tenth Congressional District of Georgia, which I have the honor of representing. Mr. Usery was

a native of Baldwin County where he attended Georgia Military College. Shortly after, he proudly served in the United States Navy repairing warships as an underwater welder in the Pacific Fleet. In 1952, he started his career in labor activism when he joined the International Association of Machinists.

Following years of being the chief mediator in major labor-management disputes, President Gerald Ford appointed Mr. Usery as the United States Secretary of Labor, a post where he defined the modern era of labor-management and helped our Nation maintain its forward momentum and status as a global leader. During his tenure, our Nation witnessed better working conditions, better wages, better relations between labor and management, and an overall better way of life.

Mr. Speaker, his advice and counsel were valued by the Commander-in-Chiefs whom he served, including Presidents Gerald Ford, Richard Nixon, John F. Kennedy, and Bill Clinton. The Honorable Mr. Usery was born, raised, and spent the last years of his life in Milledgeville, Georgia, where he continued to serve, making generous donations to his alma mater.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege to meet this remarkable Georgian this spring during a ceremony that I held in my district to recognize our WWII veterans, and it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of the Honorable W.J. "Bill" Usery.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN CATSIMATIDIS JR.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. John Catsimatidis Jr. who is receiving Greenpoint YMCA's Spirit of Service Award, given in recognition of Mr. Catsimatidis's efforts to better the city of New York. Mr. Catsimatidis is a driven and hard-working New Yorker who has shown dedication both to his business endeavors and philanthropic causes.

Mr. Catsimatidis serves as an executive of the Red Apple Group, where he is involved in all areas of the business, but focuses mainly on the energy resources, investment divisions, and job creation. In August, 2016, Mr. Catsimatidis was also appointed to the board of the Gold Coast Bank in Brooklyn, NY.

Mr. Catsimatidis has always been involved in various philanthropic activities. Mr. Catsimatidis supports the Catsimatidis Family Foundation, which makes generous donations to organizations including the Police Athletic League and the Alzheimer's Association. Mr. Catsimatidis also serves on the Emerging Leaders Council for the Federal Enforcement Homeland Security Foundation, which provides financial aid, scholarships, grants, and critical support to Federal Law Enforcement officers and their families in times of need. Mr. Catsimatidis's steadfast support of these families throughout New York City exemplifies his dedication to our community.

Mr. Catsimatidis graduated from New York University's Leonard Stern School of Business in 2015. While at NYU, Mr. Catsimatidis served as President of the NYU College Re-

publicans, a premier political organization on campus. This position gave Mr. Catsimatidis the opportunity to hold debates, host speakers, and cultivate informational political dialogues for the student body. Additionally, Mr. Catsimatidis was elected Chairman of the New York State Federation of College Republicans. In both of these positions, Mr. Catsimatidis sought not only to contribute to politically active student groups on campus, but more importantly to foster healthy, respectful, and bilateral political discussion. For his contributions to the NYU community, Mr. Catsimatidis was named one of NYU's Ten Most Influential Students of 2015, and received the Presidential Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. John Catsimatidis Jr. for his contributions to New York's vibrant business community and dedication to local philanthropic causes.

CONGRATULATING THE KOREAN LANGUAGE NEWS SERVICE, WEEKLY FOCUS ON ITS 10TH AN- NIVERSARY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Korean Language news service, Weekly Focus, on its 10th Anniversary, and by extension President Hyun Joo Kim, and her entire staff. I am proud to represent the largest Korean community in Colorado in my Congressional District. Throughout the ten years that Weekly Focus has been running, the service has worked tirelessly to not only represent their community, but to also connect Coloradans by offering a way to communicate and learn from each other.

Since its founding in 2006, Weekly Focus has grown to be the biggest and most influential Korean language newspaper in Colorado. Thanks to this tremendous news service, Korean-Americans and Coloradans have a dependable source of news that features a weekly publication of 128 pages.

Hyun Joo Kim's passion and diligence, as well as that of her staff, has allowed Weekly Focus to develop and become an important part of our community. By creating a reliable newspaper with quality articles, Weekly Focus has undoubtedly improved Korean-American representation within the media of Colorado as well as residents living in the 6th Congressional District.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the Weekly Focus newspaper and its entire staff for their hard work and dedication these past 10 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEMOPHILIA FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN FOR ITS SUPPORT OF INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY BLEEDING DISORDERS

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan for its efforts to provide services and support to individuals affected by bleeding disorders. HFM has played a key role in improving care and helping drive advancements in care for these diseases.

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan was founded in 1956 to promote awareness and improve the welfare of individuals afflicted with bleeding disorders. The organization has expanded substantially from the original group of volunteers and now features a full-time staff that handles federal funding for treatment centers in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. HFM also offers a multitude of support services to help improve the quality of life of those suffering from bleeding disorders. HFM hosts camping programs and retreats for children and adults that educate individuals about their bleeding conditions and help provide a support network for individuals in need. The organization also provides subsidized dental insurance and financial assistance to help patients afford treatment for their diseases.

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan plays a key role in bringing together researchers, patients and providers to facilitate effective and affordable care for those affected by bleeding disorders. This integrated care can have significant effects in improving quality of life and providing support that allows patients to better cope with these diseases. The commitment of the staff and volunteers for HFM has helped build a world-class organization that continues to effectively serve the Midwest and ensure that individuals with bleeding diseases receive the support they need. I am inspired by the activism and dedication of HFM to advocate on behalf of individuals with these diseases. Their work has impacted countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan for its outstanding work on behalf of the people of Michigan. It has been key to providing care and support services to individuals with bleeding disorders.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT SANCHO

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Sancho, an experienced Urban Affairs Specialist and cultural activist who has dedicated his career to serving his community.

For the past forty-five years, Mr. Sancho has fought to improve the quality of education in New York City's public schools, and to make healthcare services more accessible in

New York City neighborhoods. Today, Mr. Sancho continues his fight as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Center of Educational Innovation, Icahn Charter Schools, and the Multicultural Committee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Mr. Sancho was born and raised in the South Bronx. After completing his primary and secondary education in the New York City public schools, Mr. Sancho went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and Political Science at the Inter-American University in San German, Puerto Rico, where he was also offered a teaching fellowship. Later, Mr. Sancho was granted a scholarship to the reputable Graduate School of Urban Affairs at Hunter College, where he earned his Master of Science Degree.

Mr. Sancho was appointed to serve as Deputy Superintendent of Schools in Community School District 4 in East Harlem, which is responsible for roughly 24,000 students. During his time in office, the district rose from 32nd place in reading and math achievements among New York City public school districts, the lowest ranking at the time, to 13th place. This unprecedented rise is considered one of the most successful educational turnarounds in our nation. Thanks to Mr. Sancho's bold success, Community School District 4 was awarded national competitive grants under his leadership.

Mr. Sancho became a community activist in the late 1960s, when then-New York City Mayor John Lindsay tried to shut down the Metropolitan Hospital Center, a public hospital which provided low cost vital health services to the community in East Harlem. Mr. Sancho helped organize the East Harlem community to reject the proposed closure. After a two-year struggle, the city decided to keep the hospital open.

In 1981, Mr. Sancho was appointed Vice President of Development and External Affairs at the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, which is located in the poorest Congressional District in the nation. As Vice President, Mr. Sancho helped the hospital secure over \$240 million in funding, which helped to finance three new hospital buildings and repair existing buildings. Additionally, Mr. Sancho's department helped raise almost \$15 million in the past few years for various hospital programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary work of Robert Sancho has done for the great city of New York.

ROSS COUNTY COMMISSIONER JIM CALDWELL

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Ross County Commissioner Jim Caldwell on a distinguished career serving the residents of Ross County and southern Ohio.

Jim has served as Ross County Commissioner since 1977, making him the longest serving County Commissioner in the State of Ohio. During his 39 year tenure of serving our community, he has made an incredibly positive impact, serving in nearly every capacity imaginable.

From teaching our youth, to guiding our communities' finances, to leading the efforts of redevelopment and revitalization, Ross County is a better place because of Jim Caldwell.

We are certainly lucky to have had Jim's commitment and service in our community, and I wish him a very happy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANDREA P. THAU

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Dr. Andrea P. Thau, President-Elect of the American Optometric Association (AOA), who will be installed as its 95th President during the 119th Congress of the AOA's House of Delegates.

Dr. Thau, a native of the 12th Congressional District in New York, was first elected to the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees in 2007, and has served as its vice president, Speaker of the House Pro Tem, and Chair of the AOA Investment Committee. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, a Fellow of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, a Distinguished Practitioner on the National Academies of Practice, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Optometry. Dr. Thau is also a faculty member, associate clinical professor, and former chair of the Admissions Committee at SUNY College of Optometry, where she received her doctorate.

Prior to her election to the AOA Board, Dr. Thau broke new ground as the first woman president of the New York State Optometric Association, the New York Academy of Optometry, and the Optometric Society of the City of New York. She has continually used her expertise and success in her field to serve the public, especially children. She is a founding member of the New York Children's Vision Coalition as well as the AOA's InfantSEE committee, a national program that provides vision assessments to babies at no cost. She has advocated for children's vision at both the state and national level. Dr. Thau is also the owner of a private practice in Manhattan, Dr. Andrea P. Thau and Associates, which serves as a full-scope primary care practice with a special emphasis on children's vision and vision therapy.

Dr. Thau has been lauded by her peers for her excellence in optometry and has received numerous awards for her outstanding work, including the 2005 New York State Optometrist of the Year and SUNY Optometry Alumna of the Year. She has also been recognized twice as Vision Monday's 20 Most Influential Women in Optical.

Dr. Thau has long stood out as an example of extraordinary dedication and brilliance in her field. She was a stellar student at the Bronx High School of Science and completed her undergraduate studies at SUNY Albany before attending the SUNY College of Optometry. Since then, Dr. Thau has practiced optometry for nearly three decades, consistently providing first-rate eye care to her clients.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Andrea P. Thau for her outstanding work in the field of optometry and her