

discimus,” or “Not for school but for life we learn.” Clara Spence preached virtue and care to her students and children around her to inspire them to grow up and affect change. Her care and careful planning still live in the actions of the school to this day. That is why the school’s mission statement aims for a “lifelong transformation of self and the world with purpose, passion and perspective.”

During its 125 years, The Spence School developed a reputation for excellence in education. It has shown a commitment to helping all women by continually educating those of diverse backgrounds. The school’s commitment to helping women of all backgrounds can be seen in both the 5 million dollar tuition assistance it annually gives, which allows for 20% of the student body to receive aid, as well as its many partnerships with non-profit organizations to recruit girls from all over New York City.

Over the years, The Spence School has become an intrinsic part of the Upper East Side community in New York City. Many local parents, including me, have had their daughters educated at this top institution. We have seen amazing success from the students of Spence, including frequent admission to top universities such as the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, Northwestern University, the University of Chicago and many more.

As a former educator, I understand just how far a strong education can go to help young women succeed and grow. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that women made up 57% of college students in 2013. This is thanks to the work of passionate educators and schools such as The Spence School, which are working to give women the equal chance in life that Clara Spence sought after for her first class of girls more than a century ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the amazing contributions to academic and civil life that The Spence School provides to the young girls of the Greater New York City area on its 125th anniversary.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF REGINALD “JAKE” GUTIERREZ

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of Officer Reginald “Jake” Gutierrez of the Tacoma Police Department, who was killed in the line of duty on Wednesday, November 30, 2016. My heart goes out to Jake’s fiancée, children, and grandchild, who lost him in service to his community and his country. This is a tragedy.

Officer Gutierrez lost his life in a senseless act of violence. Those who witnessed the shooting of Officer Gutierrez stated that his sacrifice saved the lives of those around him. His last action was to shout a warning to those in and around the house—his partner, the suspect’s family, and their landlord—to leave the house to safety. His final moments are a testament to his selflessness, his bravery, and his commitment to helping others.

Mr. Speaker, Jake was a well-respected member of the Tacoma Police Department. A

resident of Kitsap County, he had served on the Tacoma force for 17 years. Officer Gutierrez was a 45-year-old father of three, a grandfather of one, and was engaged to be married. These dreams have been cut short by his death, and remind us that life is precious and uncertain.

Fellow officers and residents of Tacoma remember him for his quick wit and his easy-going manner. They point to the fact that he always had a smile on his face, and cared about the community he served. Leaders in the neighborhood in which he was killed have remarked on the stand-up character of Officer Gutierrez. He was truly a hero.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Jake Gutierrez was a person who, like so many in the law enforcement community, put service above self.

I join with those who gather in remembrance of this fine man. Jake gave the ultimate sacrifice as a public servant and protector of our community’s safety. I am honored and humbled to recognize him today in the United States Congress.

IN HONOR OF THE YORK THEATRE COMPANY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the York Theatre Company as they celebrate the inauguration of their new theatre seats. Founded by Janet Hayes Walker in 1969, the York Theatre Company produces nearly 200 musical theatre performances each year, reaching over 37,000 patrons. The York Theatre is an incredible company that makes musical theatre accessible to New Yorkers of all ages and backgrounds.

The unique mission of the York Theatre Company is two-fold as it aspires to produce new musical works, as well as rediscover musicals of the past. The York Theatre hosts several programs and activities that encourage musical theatre students to engage in Off-Broadway productions, greatly impacting the Off-Broadway scene. With programs such as the Mainstage Series, Musicals in Mufti Series, Developmental Reading Series, internship offerings, and a volunteer program, the York Theatre has made its mark on New York City’s vibrant theatre community.

Since 2015, the York Theatre Company has offered its Musical Theatre Training Program that brings together working professionals and dedicated theatre students. This program offers training in singing, acting, and movements, as well as master classes with New York’s top theatre artists. The York Theatre’s intensive sessions are offered to students from middle school to college. Many of these intensives offer students an opportunity to perform on the York Theatre’s Off-Broadway stage at the conclusion of the program.

In the fall of 2014, the York Theatre celebrated its 100th Musical in Mufti with the production of Stephen Sondheim’s *Saturday Night*. The York Theatre’s Musical in Mufti ensures that lesser known musicals of the past are performed and brought into new light for the enjoyment of modern audiences.

The York Theatre was able to expand its seating capacity thanks to more than 100 gen-

erous supporters, as well as the \$112,000 grant issued by Sei Young Kim of New York City’s Department of Cultural Affairs. Because of this expanded seating section, the theatre will be better able to reach its goal of providing free and low-cost performances to its audiences. With the ribbon cutting celebrating the company’s new theatre seats, the York Theatre’s patronage will expand to even broader audiences of New York theatregoers.

Off-Broadway theatre has played a pivotal role in making New York City the theatre capital of the world. In its 47th year of productions, the York Theatre Company has had a substantial impact on this great city’s history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise in recognition of the York Theatre Company, a principal in shaping New York City’s theatre culture, as they celebrate the inauguration of their new theatre seats.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF LINDA COLON

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the public service of Linda Colon, National President of the Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary, and her upcoming visit to the organization’s chapter in my home state of Florida.

Linda has spent her career dedicated to improving the lives of our nation’s hospitalized veterans. She served at the VA Hospital and the Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton, and where she boosted morale among patients and their families. For her admirable efforts, she has been the recipient of numerous awards from U.S. presidents, admirals, and naval hospital commanders.

In honor of her service with one of the oldest veterans’ organizations in the country, I am pleased to recognize Linda Colon and welcome her to Florida.

HONORING SENATOR BARBARA BOXER ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Senator BARBARA BOXER on her retirement after 34 years in Congress. Her dedication to her constituents and her legislative achievements are an inspiration. The lives of her constituents are better because of her hard work and public service on their behalf. I am honored to call her my friend, mentor, and constituent. She is a fearless trailblazer, and I want to recognize her lifelong advocacy for Californians and all Americans.

Senator BOXER’s time in public office began in 1976, when she was elected to the Marin County Board of Supervisors, where she later became the Board’s first woman president. After serving for six years, she was elected to the United States House of Representatives to serve California’s 6th Congressional District.

Her first campaign slogan, “Barbara Boxer Gives a Damn,” would exemplify the passion with which she has fought through these years.

In 1992, known as “The Year of the Woman”, she was elected to the United States Senate to fight for the people of California. As a forceful fighter for equality and social justice, and an astounding protector of the environment, Senator BOXER demonstrated time after time her ferocity, effectiveness, and willingness to go to bat for the people and the principles she believed in.

Her legislative achievements are too many to list. As the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, Senator BOXER has led bipartisan efforts to protect the environment and address climate change. She has spent her life defending women’s rights, including the importance of gender equality and the protection of a woman’s right to choose. Throughout her career, she has identified matters of concern and has reached across the aisle to find solutions.

Senator BOXER’s tireless work has influenced the lives of millions of Americans. I have often taken her counsel, and I am proud of the work we have done together to protect the Salton Sea. Her distinguished career in Congress is an example of what can be accomplished through hard work, dedication, and service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize and honor Senator BARBARA BOXER. I will certainly miss our inspiring conversations on the flights to DC together, but I know this is the beginning of her many more successful battles for the common good. On behalf of California’s 36th Congressional District, I offer my sincerest thanks and congratulate her for her exceptional commitment to public service. I wish her and her husband Stu all the best on her well-deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF THE SENECA FALLS
DIALOGUES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Seneca Falls Dialogues, a conference that fosters a dialogue regarding women and gender studies issues, and the Women’s Initiative for Leadership and Learning, Inc. (WILL) for supporting such an important event. Once every two years, dedicated students, faculty and activists come together in Seneca Falls, New York, which has been associated with women’s rights since the Declaration of Sentiments was signed in Seneca Falls in 1848 at the first women’s rights convention. The Seneca Falls Dialogues aim to encourage discussion and research concerning equal rights for women.

In October of 2008, the Seneca Falls Heritage Group, the Friends of the Women’s Rights National Historical Park, the National Women’s Hall of Fame, and the Greater Rochester Branch of the American Association of University Women, in collaboration with an alliance of western New York colleges and universities, came together to create the First Biennial Seneca Falls Dialogues. This initial conference was held on October 11–12, 2008 in celebra-

tion of the 160th anniversary of the first women’s rights convention and the 60th anniversary of Eleanor Roosevelt’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Today, the Seneca Falls Dialogues are sponsored by WILL, in collaboration with the College Alliance, the town of Seneca Falls, the Seneca Falls Heritage Group, the Friends of the Women’s Rights National Historical Park, the National Women’s Hall of Fame, and the Greater Rochester Branch of the American Association of University Women. Works presented at the Dialogues are archived and serve as an important cache of materials used by a network of university Womens and Gender Studies programs and enable scholars to do further research.

Additionally, I would like to recognize the President of Friends of Women’s Rights National Historical Park, Marilyn Tedeschi, who is also the key organizer of the Seneca Falls Dialogues.

Ms. Tedeschi has served in a number of roles, including urban educator, youth advocate, business entrepreneur and social activist. Her passions lie primarily in economic development of the working poor and their communities. She is a member of several boards that reflect this dedication, and is a cofounder of the Community Microenterprise Center, a not-for-profit that helps small businesses and serves as a Progressive Neighborhood Federal Credit Union for Rochester’s lowest income families.

An advocate for women and girls, Ms. Tedeschi is the President of the Greater Rochester Area Branch of the American Association of University Women and Vice President of the Women’s Institute for Leadership and Learning, both of which sponsor the Seneca Falls Dialogues.

This year’s WILL award recipient is Brenda Ann Keneally. Ms. Keneally is an interdisciplinary artist who captures intrinsic aspects of human nature in her photographs. A highly honored photographer, Ms. Keneally has pushed the boundaries of art and social documentation by immersing herself in the lives and situations of her subjects, and incorporated the Internet as a documentation tool. Ms. Keneally also cofounded The Raw File, a digital theatre which focuses on expanding recognition for socially provocative media.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Seneca Falls Dialogues, Marilyn Tedeschi, and Brenda Ann Keneally for their dedication to fostering civil discourse regarding women’s rights, and their perseverance and advocacy in the fight to ensure equality for women.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR CHUCK
KILBRIDE AND THE UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS TOYS
FOR TOTS PROGRAM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Chuck Kilbride for his work with the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. Major Kilbride, through his work with the Toys for Tots Program, has provided hope and joy

to children in need during the holiday season for well over two decades.

Started in 1947 by Major Bill Hendricks, Toys for Tots collects toys to provide to less fortunate youth, bringing local communities together around spreading holiday cheer. Toys for Tots was a quick success, collecting and distributing 5,000 toys in its first year alone. It has only improved throughout the years, providing over 512 million toys to over 237 million children nationwide to date.

The Toys for Tots Program is not only about making children’s wishes come true, it is about creating an environment of inclusion for all youth, regardless of their background or economic situation. The program recognizes that children are our most valuable asset because they are our future; investing in them is contributing to our future.

The Toys for Tots Program has a special place in my heart. Each year, it has provided toys to public housing residents throughout my district in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. I fondly remember distributing toys with Major Kilbride at the Seward Park Community Center and the Vladeck Houses on the Lower East Side of Manhattan in December, 2009. That year, Major Kilbride named my late husband, Clifton Maloney, honorary vice chairman of the Toys for Tots program in New York City. I am grateful for all the amazing work Major Kilbride and his Marines have done for children throughout the New York metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Major Chuck Kilbride, Gunnery Sergeant Brian Gomez, Staff Sergeant J.D. Quinton, and Sergeant Eliezer Gomez for their work for the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. These gentlemen and the Marine Corps have worked tirelessly to spread happiness and faith to less fortunate youth during the holiday season.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. PRAKASH
M. SWAMY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Prakash Swamy for his tremendous dedication to improving United States and India relations.

Dr. Swamy holds a doctorate degree in Media Studies from Amstead University and has worked as a journalist for over 35 years. Starting as an intern with the Gainesville Sun, he has written and served as editor for numerous newspapers both in the United States and India.

Dr. Swamy is an experienced public speaker. He was a speaker at the 2009 convention of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas sponsored by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, which celebrates the contributions of the overseas Indian community to India.

Dr. Swamy currently is a Diplomatic Correspondent to the United Nations and has spent the last 10 years writing about the UN General Assembly Session. In this role, he has reported on prominent international leaders including heads of state, foreign ministers and ambassadors. Dr. Swamy is dedicated to improving India-U.S. relations and has worked