

of young women. The girls represented themselves and their county very well at the national competition in Orlando, Florida. I congratulate the students and their coaches on the national championship and I am proud to honor them before the United States House of Representatives.

**HONORING BRIAN HAYDEN UPON  
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE CITY OF BUFFALO**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Brian Hayden as he retires from the City of Buffalo. Brian's career with the City spanned over forty years.

Brian was born on February 8th, 1954 at Our Lady of Victory Hospital in Lackawanna, New York to his beloved parents John & Dorothy (Norton) Hayden. He has two siblings, Dennis and Susan.

Growing up, Brian graduated from Holy Family Grammar School in 1968, one of several Catholic schools in the close-knit community of South Buffalo. He went on to attend Father Baker High School, becoming Senior Class President for the class of 1972. Brian attended Brockport College.

Brian first worked as a pool attendant at the Boone Street Playground during the summer of 1973, transitioning into a rink guard at Cazenovia Ice Rink. The next year, he started as a Laborer with the Carpenters for the Buffalo Board of Education. In 1979 he became co-owner of the Ounce and a Half, a favorite neighborhood gathering spot on Abbott Road in South Buffalo.

In 1983 Brian became a Building Inspector for the City of Buffalo. As an inspector, he ensured structures were safe and compliant with local, state, and federal regulations. Working his way up through the ranks, in 1990 he moved to the role of Director of Building Safety & Health for the Buffalo Board of Education. In 1993 he began his service as the Director of Building Inspections for one year, continuing to serve as a Building Inspector afterwards.

A family man, Brian is married to Jean Ann Kalec, with whom he has 2 sons, Matthew and John. He is also known for his community involvement, and volunteers for many races, organizations, and groups. He is a founding member of the Connors, Kait, Harrity Memorial Race, which went on for twenty-five years. Brian won the prestigious Irishman of the Year award in 1995 and the St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioner of the Year in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Brian Hayden upon the occasion of his well-deserved retirement. His service to the City of Buffalo and our community are worthy of recognition. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors and a fulfilling, relaxing retirement.

**U.S. LNG EXPORTS TO THE BLACK  
SEA**

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of U.S. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports.

U.S. LNG is of vital importance to our friends around the world, specifically those in the Black Sea.

Currently, our European allies are stuck in a struggle for energy independence from Russia.

More critically, the burgeoning democracies in Ukraine, Bulgaria and Romania are largely dependent on Gazprom for their crucial gas supplies, and we are all well aware Russia is seeking to influence its neighbors' political process by threatening their gas supply.

American LNG could give Ukraine and the other Black Sea nations a real alternative.

In fact, there are Texas companies already engaged in negotiations with the Ukrainian state gas companies to build Ukraine's Black Sea LNG receiving terminal and supply U.S. LNG to Ukraine.

There exists a concern that an impediment to Ukraine receiving U.S. LNG is the uncertainty surrounding the passage of LNG tankers through the Bosphorus Straits.

Under the 1936 Montreux Convention, which controls how the Bosphorus Straits are to be used in peacetime, the LNG tanker issue should already be resolved.

Article 1 provides that "The High Contracting Parties recognize and affirm the principle of freedom of transit and navigation by sea in the Straits."

Article 2 states that "In time of peace, merchant vessels shall enjoy complete freedom of transit and navigation in the Straits, by day and by night, under any flag with any kind of cargo."

Even with the clear language of the Treaty, debate continues as to governmental authorities over the waters of the Bosphorus.

It is time to bring clarity to this important issue and open the Black Sea to U.S. LNG exports.

U.S. LNG exports will play an important role in the future of our allies.

It is my hope we can develop a reasonable, consensus approach to allow LNG to pass through the Bosphorus Straits.

**HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICERS FELLED BY GUN  
VIOLENCE**

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sadness and a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the individuals in law enforcement who have fallen in the line of duty while serving and protecting their communities.

It is important to acknowledge that no one is immune from gun violence, including our law enforcement officers stepping in the line of danger to protect us.

While overall rates of officers killed by gun violence have declined over the years, we continue to see and hear about horrific cases of officers falling victim to gun violence.

Since 2005, shooting-related deaths account for approximately 37 percent of officer fatalities in the line of duty.

In the past five years, 259 police officers have died by gunfire across the nation.

Thirteen of those deaths were accidental.

Sadly, Texas had the highest number of fatalities, losing 12 officers in 2015.

This year, we have already lost nine officers to senseless gun violence across the nation in Utah, Oregon, Colorado, North Dakota, Ohio, Georgia, Mississippi and two in Maryland.

Five of these shootings occurred in just three days in February.

The recent incident that occurred on February 10, 2016, in Harford County, Maryland, accounting for two of five officers killed in less than a week is particularly alarming and egregious.

Senior Deputy Patrick Dailey and Senior Deputy Mark Logsdon of the Harford County Sheriff Department were killed upon approaching a troubled and wanted man in a local restaurant.

They were the first Harford County Sheriff's deputies to be shot and killed in the line of duty since 1899.

The suspect, who legally purchased the weapon used in shooting these officers, had a history of domestic violence including stalking and a suspected shooting of his estranged wife, substance abuse, and a criminal record including assault on an officer.

Awarded Medals of Honor, Deputy Dailey and Deputy Logsdon paid the ultimate sacrifice for responding to a call of need, and encountering an individual who should have never been in legal possession of a firearm.

Mr. Speaker, this tragic event highlights the desperate need for mental health and common sense gun reform in this country.

We do not need any more first tragedies for communities and law enforcement agencies, and we do not need to repeat history as this year sets a shocking pace for increased officer killings by gunfire.

There is no place in a civilized society for such senseless and preventable acts of violence in this country.

As Members of Congress we have a solemn obligation to pass legislation that improves the safety and respect between every law enforcement officer and the communities they serve to protect.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of the fallen police officers in this nation.

**HONORING MATTHEW PELKEY FOR  
RECEIVING THE EMERGING  
BUSINESS LEADER AWARD FROM  
THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Matthew Pelkey as he is presented with the Emerging Business Leader Award by the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Matthew,

through his extensive and distinguished work, has proven to be a leader in his community.

Matthew is an attorney and recent partner with Colligan Law LLP. Matthew's practice relates to counseling startups, entrepreneurs and businesses. His practice includes land use, commercial real estate and regulatory compliance for businesses and political groups.

An active member of the Western New York startup community, Matthew was co-founder and co-director of the Buffalo Chapter of Start-up Grind. In that role, he also co-founded the monthly #LaunchHour entrepreneur Twitter chat in partnership with Launch NY. He serves as a member of FIKA Buffalo and the 43 North WeMakeBuffalo Team.

Additionally, Matthew sits on the advisory board of the ECIDA Venture Capital Fund, a board responsible for making recommendations to the ECIDA Board of Directors on how to form and operate a ten year, multi-million dollar early stage venture fund focusing on local emerging companies with high growth potential. An entrepreneur himself, Matthew is a co-founder and Chief Financial Officer of Black Squirrel Distillery, a New York State craft distillery. In that role he also co-founded the WNY Craft Beverage Alliance, Inc.

Outside of the startup community, Matthew is a strong advocate for sustainable development and has served as a member of the Smart Growth Work Group of the WNY Regional Economic Development Council and the One Region Forward Land Use & Development Working Team.

As the former Chair of The Emerging Business Leaders, Matthew served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Chamber's Public Policy Committee. He volunteers for B-Team Buffalo and the Parkside Community Association. Matthew also serves as a member of the Professional Panel for the Cancer Legal Resource Center, and as an advisory board member for WomenElect.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Matthew Pelkey as he receives the Emerging Business Leader Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. His personal contribution of time and effort towards the progress and enhancement of our community is admirable, and I wish him much continued success in all his future endeavors.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF PAUL TRANBARGER

#### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a heroic individual, Mr. Paul Tranbarger, of Flemingsburg, Kentucky.

Mr. Tranbarger served in World War II as part of what we consider the Greatest Generation in our nation's history. Please join me today in honoring a man who has displayed selflessness, courage, commitment, and dedication to our beautiful country.

Paul Tranbarger was born in Bristol, Virginia in 1926. He left home at the early age of 17 when he enlisted in the United States Navy.

As a Seaman First Class aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Shamrock Bay*, he participated in the Philippines Campaign: Phase 2, the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the Okinawa Campaign. He was part of a crew that earned the USS *Shamrock* three battle stars. As if the military battles were not enough, he and his crew endured a typhoon while onboard the ship.

After his military service, Paul returned home in 1946 to Virginia where he began working for Crosley Refrigeration. It was there he met and married his first and only love, Sadie. The two moved to Kentucky in 1952. Determined to live the American dream, Mr. Tranbarger fell in love with farming and owned and operated his own service station.

Paul and his late wife Sadie have three children. He is an elder at the Mt. Pisgah Christian Church and is still very active in his community. He attributes his faith in God and love of family as the reason for his existence at age 90.

Words can never express our gratitude or convey the honor so richly deserved. His service and sacrifice will be remembered and honored for generations to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. JENNIE McIVOR RICHARDSON CAMPBELL

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, the lives of many in my district have been touched by the life of one—Mrs. Jennie McIvor Richardson Campbell; and

Whereas, she was born January 15, 1926 in Mount Vernon, New York, and today she celebrates a milestone in her life, her 90th Birthday; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, words of encouragement and inspiration; and

Whereas, Mrs. Campbell is a warrior for those in need, a woman of compassion, a fearless leader, a mother, a grandmother, an aunt, a servant to all and truly a friend; her dedicated service is present throughout my district, she is an unwavering caregiver; and

Whereas, she is a blessing to us all. She gives advice on life, sewing and culture. She is a member of her beloved Greenforest Community Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Jennie McIvor Richardson Campbell on the anniversary of her birth and for her outstanding leadership and service to our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim January 15, 2016 as Mrs. Jennie McIvor Richardson Campbell Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of January, 2016.

HONORING BENJAMIN T. JEALOUS

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Benjamin T. Jealous as he is the keynote speaker for the Canisius College Academic Talent Search Black History Month event. Mr. Jealous and his years of experience in civil and human rights will bring invaluable insight to the students of Canisius College and to the Buffalo community, and we are honored to have him with us today.

The Academic Talent Search (ATS) Program at Canisius College identifies and provides services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, helping students progress through the academic pipeline from middle school through post-baccalaureate programs. The program serves approximately 600 youths recruited from area schools and community service organizations, giving educational, social, and career support as well as co-curricular and cultural enhancement.

Mr. Jealous has previously served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the NAACP. He recently began working in the Silicon Valley venture capital firm Kapor Capital, where he plans to continue his goal of growing opportunities for minorities in the tech economy. A Rhodes Scholar, Mr. Jealous was named by both Forbes and TIME magazine to their "Top 40 under 40" lists, as well as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.

The youngest president in the NAACP's history, Mr. Jealous began his career at 18 opening mail at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Under his leadership, the NAACP grew to be the largest civil rights organization online and on mobile, and became the largest community-based nonpartisan voter registration operation in the country. In addition, the NAACP experienced their first multi-year membership growth in over 2 decades. A builder of robust coalitions, Mr. Jealous's leadership included bringing environmentalist organizations into the fight to protect voting rights, and convincing several well-known conservatives to join the NAACP in challenging mass incarceration.

Prior to leading the NAACP, Mr. Jealous spent 15 years as a journalist and community organizer. Throughout his entire career, he has been the leader of successful state and local movements to ban racial profiling, defend voting rights, secure marriage equality, and free multiple wrongfully incarcerated people. Mr. Jealous has built a legacy on fighting for justice, and has made a career out of helping the disadvantaged and less fortunate.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Mr. Benjamin T. Jealous for all of the work that he has done. The ATS Program and Canisius College is honored to have such a distinguished and honorable speaker for their event. His personal contribution of time and effort towards the progress of justice in our nation is admirable, and I am grateful for his unwavering commitment to such noble causes. I wish him much continued success in all his future endeavors.