

I also commend Mark Rogoff who served as Chairman for 2014–2015 for his leadership during this time of significant expansion. During his tenure, membership of the Chamber increased by 15 percent, professional programs offered to members were expanded and improved, and community involvement was increased.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce for its commitment to promoting the business community while encouraging social responsibility and in congratulating the incoming board members. I wish the Chamber continued success.

ESSAY BY REBECA CHACKO

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight from across the political spectrum that sheds a light on the concerns of our younger constituents. Giving voice to their priorities will hopefully instill a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Rebeca Chacko attends Manvel High School in Manvel, Texas. The essay topic is: Select an important event that has occurred in the past year and explain how that event has changed/shaped our country.

In the 1960's the movement for marriage equality gained notable attention. This attempt gained traction because of the growing number of people who identified as homosexual. Since then, there has and continues to be conflict facing the definition of marriage. This issue unraveled the larger issue of government power. What can the government dictate, and what is overstepping the line? Even though the United States was built on Christian ideals, the government cannot cater to a specific group of people and neglect the rest. The Supreme Court legalizing same sex marriage evoked discussion and reevaluation of our country's beliefs.

Our government has the responsibility of maintaining order and protecting the rights of the people. As the people evolve, the government must evolve accordingly. With this Supreme Court ruling, some individuals felt as if this was an attack on their personal beliefs. Certain groups of people felt that they were going against their religious views by accepting this ruling. However, the ruling made it clear to individuals with those beliefs that it is not a matter of right or wrong in their standards, but a matter of equality that is extended to all individuals. Religious rights should not be encroached on, but individual rights must be preserved as well. The country learned to be more open and accepting of an array of views. Our constitution was created to ensure the protection of the minority, so no one group has to feel inferior to the rest.

The nation realized that everyone's views are not homogenous. With the legalization of

same sex marriage, our nation has become more progressive. Though the entire country might not be on the same page, they are on the path to acceptance. Nothing happens overnight, and no one should expect it to. Moreover, people cannot be complacent; they have to continually fight for the minority. Now, our country is more open to change and reform. This ruling helped us to become a better nation that includes all groups. Democracy cannot function without the illumination of the people's voice provoking change. That is exactly what has happened with this ruling.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JESSICA  
GRACE KINGSLEY

**HON. JOSEPH J. HECK**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2016*

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Captain Jessica Kingsley for her past year of exemplary service as an Army Congressional Liaison for the Chief, Army Reserve. During that short time, Jessica made a lasting and positive impact on the Army Reserve through her efforts to foster and maintain relationships with Congressional members and staff. As the legislative liaison for personnel and medical portfolios, she ensured that Army Reserve Soldiers' interests were clearly communicated to Members of Congress and their staffs as they contemplated the impacts of pending legislation. Additionally, Jessica led efforts to draft, refine, and promote legislative proposals designed to ensure the well-being of Army Reserve Soldiers and to maintain the superior quality force the Nation expects from its Army Reserve.

I am grateful that she will continue to serve the Army and Congress in her new assignment to the House Liaison Division, Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison, at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. We wish her well in her new position and look forward to our continued relationship.

A native of New York, Captain Kingsley enlisted in the Army Reserve as a Private. She served ten years as an Intelligence Analyst. During that time, Jessica deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina in support of NATO's first peacekeeping operation and the NATO led Stabilization Force, deterring war and maintaining security to support civil reconstruction efforts. In 2001, she mobilized for 30 months at U.S. Army Forces Command in support of the Global War on Terrorism. In 2002, she graduated from the University of Georgia with three Bachelor Degrees in Criminal Justice, Sociology and Psychology.

Captain Kingsley was appointed via direct commission into the military intelligence branch in 2005. As an Officer in the United States Army Reserve, Captain Kingsley served at various levels. In 2005, she mobilized in support of humanitarian efforts on behalf of the people of Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas as part of Joint Task Forces Katrina and Rita. In 2006, Captain Kingsley deployed to Iraq as the Senior Intelligence Officer for the Engineer Task Force serving Multi-National Force-West and conducting all bridging, construction and route clearance operations in western Iraq. In 2008, she was selected to serve as the Aide-de-Camp for the Commanding General of the Military Intel-

ligence Readiness Command at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. In 2011, she was selected as the Company Commander for Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 377th Military Intelligence Battalion in Orlando, Florida. In 2012, Captain Kingsley was recognized with the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

Her service in the Army Reserve is highlighted by her 2013 selection as an Army Congressional Fellow. Captain Kingsley graduated with a Master's Degree in Legislative Affairs from The George Washington University and served as a Congressional Fellow for Senator ROBERT CASEY JR. of Pennsylvania. In Senator CASEY's office, she worked legislative and constituent issues in National Defense, Foreign Affairs, Veterans Affairs, and various labor and union related areas. Following her fellowship, Captain Kingsley served as a Legislative Liaison assigned to the Office, Chief Army Reserve.

As with all our Citizen Soldiers, it is important that we acknowledge her civilian employer's sacrifice and community's service. It is because of their cooperation and understanding during her many tours on Active Duty that she is able to make such a positive impact on the Army Reserve.

Jessica is accustomed to working long hours in all of her positions in the Army and civilian sector. So, it is only fair and proper to acknowledge the tireless support of her spouse, Annah. I thank her for her sacrifices and wish her all the best for continued success in the future.

Throughout her twenty year career, Captain Jessica Kingsley has made positive impacts on the careers and lives of her Soldiers, peers, and superiors, and I am grateful that she has chosen to serve as an Army leader. I join my colleagues today in honoring her dedication to our Nation and invaluable service to the United States Congress as an Army congressional liaison.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE RICHARDS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mike Richards for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

As a senior shareholder and attorney at the Davis Brown Law Firm, Mike works tirelessly to provide his customers with sound, reasonable legal advice and top notch customer service. Mike's dedication to his community goes hand in hand with his hard work in his

professional life. He volunteers his time to the Broadlawns Advocate Circle so that those who suffer from a mental illness have access to the kind of care they need in order to find themselves on the path to recovery.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Mike in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mike on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE MARC KOVAR

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2016*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievements of Detective Marc Kovar, who is being honored by the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist during the 16th Annual Dean McNutty Awards Dinner this Sunday, April 17, 2016.

Detective Kovar is the Executive Vice President of the 33,000-member strong New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association (NJSPBA). He is committed to fighting for the rights of the men and women of law enforcement, who place their lives on the line each day for the people of New Jersey. Marc has served the residents in the City of Passaic for more than 20 years, and holds the rank of Detective.

He has been involved in many other committees and sits on the National Board of NAPO (National Association of Police Organizations). As a labor leader, Marc rose through the ranks of the Passaic PBA and State PBA. As the Delegate for the PBA Local 14, he was appointed to the State PBA Executive Board in 2008 and served six years as Chairman of the Collective Bargaining Committee. Furthermore, he is an active voice in the PBA Committees on legislation, legal defense and training of new union delegates. Marc is widely known for his volunteer work on behalf of fallen officers and their survivors; including over 10 years of service on the Passaic County Blue Mass Committee. He currently lives in Clifton with his wife Nicole and his two daughters Rachel and Isabella.

Marc is one of the most passionate union members and is exceptionally loyal to the PBA. Until his appointment as Executive Vice President, he was Chairman of the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association Collective Bargaining Committee. His involvement with this committee has given him the unique perspective and experience needed to carry out his duties as PBA Executive Vice President.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I understand that law enforcement officials such as Detective Kovar are a critical part of keeping our local communities safe. I have the great honor of recognizing Marc's strong leadership and tireless dedication to his fellow officers as well as the

communities that they serve. I have known Marc personally as a law enforcement officer and as a friend, and I can tell you that there are few people who you would rather have in your corner than him.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of public servants such as Detective Marc Kovar.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, his family and friends, fellow officers, all those whose lives he has touched, and me, in recognizing the work of Detective Marc Kovar.

CONGRATULATING SUE WOODRUFF ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sue Woodruff on the occasion of her retirement, and to thank her for her 42 years of service to Fairfax County.

Sue began her career with Fairfax County in 1973. Since that time, she has served in a variety of positions and departments including the County Executive's office, the Consumer Affairs division and the former Department of Social Services; however, she has spent the majority of her career in the Department of Human Resources (DHR) where she has served admirably for the last 35 years.

Sue joined the DHR in 1981 as a personnel analyst and from 1986–2002 served as the employee relations division chief. In this position, Sue was responsible for supervising employee relations, including personnel policy development, grievances, internal communications, award programs, the Employee Assistance Program, and drug and alcohol testing. She also served as the agency's liaison to the Fairfax County Employees Advisory Council and the Civil Service Commission.

She was promoted to assistant director for DHR in 2002 and served in that position for 6 years. Her responsibilities included overseeing compensation, employee relations, and work force planning. Due to her expertise, Sue led the review of the Pay for Performance System. She convened a group of human resources professionals, budget analysts, and employee advocates to explore possible enhancements. This commission identified a number of areas that could be improved and made recommendations, including the addition of an extra level or "fifth bar" to be used in employee evaluations and adjustments to performance awards. These changes resulted in a more consistent and fair employee evaluation process. During this time, Sue also served on the legislative team and co-lead the management team setting the strategic direction for the agency.

Most recently, Sue has served as the director of the Department of Human Resources (DHR), a position the Board of Supervisors appointed her to in 2008. She has continued to strive to improve Human Resources operations and ensure that Fairfax County has the policies and programs in place to attract and retain a superior workforce. The world-class

services provided by Fairfax County government are in no small way due to Sue's efforts to build, train, and incentivize the dedicated civil servants who work for the County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Sue on the occasion of her retirement and in thanking her for her decades of dedicated public service. Fairfax County is often cited as being one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, and raise a family, and Sue Woodruff has contributed immeasurably to this success.

COMMEMORATING THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 37th Anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) which was signed thirty-seven years ago on April 10, 1979.

Since its enactment, the TRA has undergirded U.S.-Taiwan relations—resulting in a mutually beneficial relationship that encourages strong security, cultural, and economic ties.

Taiwan's story is an example to the world of the potential of a country.

Taiwan and the United States share many values including: a commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

Indeed, I am particularly proud that as a Member of the U.S. Congress, my colleagues and I can serve an important role in strengthening bilateral relations by engaging our counterparts in Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan has grown to become America's ninth-largest overall trading partner and our seventh-largest destination for agricultural exports.

After Taiwan became part of the U.S. Visa Wavier Program in November 2012, travel from Taiwan to the United States increased by more than 50 percent.

Taiwan is set to join the U.S. Global Entry Program—a manifestation of its commitment to continuous cooperation between our two countries.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the speech delivered by Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou on March 30, 2016 at AmCham Hsie Nian Fan celebration, in which he emphasized the strong and abiding friendship between Taiwan and the United States, which was integral to Taiwan's transformation into the free, prosperous, and just society it is today.

President Ma also mentioned that through the effort to seek peace, Taiwan has become a peacemaker and provider of humanitarian aid.

President Ma also spoke of Taiwan's future through the lens of three key issues: cross-strait relations, energy, and economic development.

During this time, as we commemorate the 37th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, I encourage my colleagues to continue to join me in support of and in promotion of our bilateral relations with Taiwan.

I also want to congratulate Taiwan on the January 16, 2016 election of the first female President to be elected—Dr. Tsai Ing-wen.