

buildup in Armenia where Putin has deployed advanced fighter aircraft and attack helicopters just 25 miles from the Turkish border. This is the same NATO border that Russian military aircraft have regularly violated, culminating in the downing of a Russian bomber by Turkish defense forces. I need not remind this House that Turkey is an indispensable ally in the fight against ISIL, and the effort to restore stability in the Middle East. Unnecessary Russian provocations such as this increase the risk of miscalculation and escalation between nuclear powers, and are intended to drive a wedge between NATO allies.

Just last week, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg made a symbolic trip to Washington, D.C. where he met with the President and members of the Senate Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees to discuss the threats posed by an increasingly assertive Russia. I myself moderated a NATO Parliamentary Assembly Panel, where our partners from around the world raised concerns about a resurgent Russia, and whether the United States will continue to play its indispensable role in ensuring a stable world order.

Mr. Speaker, on the bleached bones of great civilizations and nations are written the pathetic words: "Too little, too late." Ladies and gentlemen, I call on Members of Congress to heed these words, and to stand undaunted in the face of Russian aggression before it is too late. Putin's escalating aggression in his efforts to project power is a direct threat to our NATO allies and U.S. interests abroad. We must stand with our NATO allies now, more than ever, to ensure that security in the region is maintained. We must pursue peace and diplomacy for the sake of future generations. That peace will only come through unified strength.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEFFREY E.
"JEFF" PHILLIPS

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time in recognition of Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Phillips, an extraordinarily gifted leader from Leesburg, VA. Mr. Phillips is retiring from the United States Army as a Major General in the Army Reserve. Currently, as the Executive Director of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States, Mr. Phillips serves over 50,000 members in promoting the development of national security-minded military policy to ensure future American security.

Prior to joining the ROA, Jeff served his country proudly for nearly 37 years in various positions in the U.S. Army. Mr. Phillips was commissioned in the Regular Army in 1979 as a second lieutenant of armor, and eventually commanded an M-1 Abrams tank company in the 2nd Armored Division. Having been deployed overseas to Afghanistan, the Balkans, Egypt, Honduras, Israel, Iraq, and Germany, Mr. Phillips always conducted himself in a manner in which he highlighted the American ideals.

Years of hard work and dedication to his country led to Mr. Phillips being appointed by President George W. Bush as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and White

House Liaison for the Department of Veterans Affairs

For his service, he has been awarded two Legions of Merit, Two Bronze Stars, an Army Parachutist Badge, and shares the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize for his work with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mr. Jeff Phillips for his service and dedication to the United States of America. He is a true patriot, and I wish him all the best on his future endeavors.

MATTHEW DE LOA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Matthew De Loa for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Matthew De Loa is a 12th grader at Westminster High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Matthew De Loa is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Matthew De Loa for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE CORINTHIAN
YACHT CLUB

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Corinthian Yacht Club of San Francisco in honor of its 130th anniversary. Located in Tiburon, California, the CYC is the second-oldest yacht club in the western United States, and continues to serve as a premier cultural and sporting center in the Bay Area.

Founded in 1886, the CYC sponsors local and international races, hosts more than 35 social events annually, and serves hundreds of members and guests at its dining sites. In particular, the club is known for its Opening Day on the Bay and Blessing of the Fleet events, as well as its spectacular views of the San Francisco Bay.

The CYC also participates in and supports several philanthropic causes in Northern California and beyond. They host scholarship fundraising events through their Wooden Boat Show and hold an annual regatta to raise money for lung cancer research. Additionally, they convene sailing seminars for women and an educational speaker series that covers a range of educational and environmental topics.

With a record of business success, commitment to yachting and boating, and involvement

in the community, the historic Corinthian Yacht Club remains a cultural cornerstone that extends beyond the Town of Tiburon. Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that we honor the Corinthian Yacht Club of San Francisco on their 130th Anniversary for their ongoing contributions to Marin County and the Bay Area.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDGEWOOD CHILDREN'S RANCH

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the broad impact and faithful service of the Edgewood Children's Ranch during the past 50 years. As a residential facility in Central Florida that provides a home and education for boys and girls in troubled family circumstances, the Edgewood Children's Ranch has made a remarkable impression on the lives of the young people who have been under their care.

The vision for the Edgewood Children's Ranch began in 1966 when Juvenile Court Judge D. Arthur Yerger identified the need for a residential home where boys could be placed after displaying negative social behaviors due to family situations. This realization led Judge Yerger into contact with John W. "Jack" Lynd, who subsequently opened the Edgewood Boys Ranch in Orlando, Florida.

Today, 50 years later, the residents Edgewood Children's Ranch consist of both boys and girls ages 6–17, with a capacity for 70 children at a time. The Ranch encompasses 110 acres, thanks to the generous donation of "Aunt" Minnie Rouse in 1968. The sprawling acreage is a small symbol of the many hearts and lives that have been changed through the impact of the Edgewood Children's Ranch.

RECOGNITION OF GHOST ARMY
MEMBER, MR. WALLACE WATSON

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Wallace Watson.

Wallace was born in Alpine, Texas and joined the U.S. Army in March 1943 at the age of 19. He was chosen to be a member of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, recognized today as the "Ghost Army". The Ghost Army's World War II operations consisted of deceiving German reconnaissance aircraft and radio interceptors by using only their creativity and a handful of props. The heroic actions of Wallace Watson and his fellow soldiers afforded the U.S. Military invaluable positioning throughout the war and saved countless American lives.

Upon the conclusion of the war, Wallace moved to Monahans, Texas, where he continued to serve his community by taking on leadership roles on the local school board and in his church. On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of Texas, I want to thank Wallace for his contributions to the United States

and for his dedication to service. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING GENTLE'MEN
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND THE SHELTER FOR ABUSED
WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN
NAPLES

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three Naples men who have traveled 1,256 miles by bicycle from Naples, FL to Washington, DC to raise awareness for Gentle'men Against Domestic Violence (GADV), an initiative of The Shelter for Abused Women and Children in Naples, FL. GADV calls on men to stand as equal partners with women to end domestic violence.

GADV seeks to prevent the generational cycle of abuse through prevention programs such as Raising Gentle'men, a school-based curriculum, which teaches boys and young men that strength does not equal violence and true gentle'men exhibit the traits of respect, loyalty, honesty and accountability. GADV dispels myths of masculinity as based on aggression, and is working toward a cultural shift that will eliminate domestic violence.

GADV is associated with The Shelter for Abused Women and Children in Naples, which does excellent work as well. The shelter not only operates as a haven for survivors of domestic violence, but performs outreach and operates prevention programs in the community. The work that the shelter does has touched countless lives, strengthened the community, and drawn praise from various sectors of the South Florida community, including schools, police officers, and those involved with the judicial system.

According to the National Council Against Domestic Violence, one in four women have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Numbers like that are far too high. We have a responsibility to continue to create policy that prevents, protects and prevails over domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Colin Estrem, Gordon Kellam and Glen Schwesinger for their mission to raise awareness for the Gentle'men Against Domestic Violence program and The Shelter for Abused Women and Children in Naples, and I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this worthy cause.

SUPPORTING EARTH DAY 2016

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Earth Day, the day set aside to honor our planet and formerly renamed as International Mother Earth Day, in 2009 by the United Nations.

For more than four decades, Earth Day has brought Americans together to honor our

moral responsibility to preserve our planet, protect our environment, and address the pressing challenge of climate change.

Across the country, families and students spend this day serving their communities, cleaning up their neighborhoods, promoting conservation, and participating in the effort to ensure clean air, clean water, and a cleaner planet.

The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970, originating in the United States, and becoming recognized worldwide by 1990.

On the very first Earth Day, 46 years ago, 20 million people gathered in the streets of America to protest the environmental damage caused by industrialization and gave birth to the environmental movement.

Every year on April 22, men, women, and children collect garbage, plant trees, clean up coral reefs, hold teach-ins, sign petitions, and plan for a better future for our planet.

I commend the schools and communities celebrating Earth Day for a whole week to expand the time frame that people focus on the earth and how they can preserve it.

On Earth Day 2012, more than 100,000 people rode bikes in China to reduce CO2 emissions and save fuel.

In an Earth Day celebration in 2011, 28 million trees were planted in Afghanistan by the Earth Day Network.

In Panama, 100 endangered species of orchids were planted and maintained to prevent their extinction in honor of Earth Day.

This Earth Day we must take the opportunity to act to keep America number one in science, technology, and renewable energy.

For Congress, Earth Day must be a moment to build on American efforts to invest in clean energy jobs, to strengthen industries of innovation, to decrease harmful emissions, to cut energy costs for consumers, and to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

This day must represent a clarion call to renew our commitment to defend our natural resources and reverse the ill effects of climate change.

On Earth Day, Democrats and Republicans should commit to working side-by-side with the American people to create a future of sustainability for our children and grandchildren, prosperity and opportunity for our families and communities, and security and energy independence for generations to come.

I urge all Members to join me in celebrating our planet and assuring a longer and healthier life for all creatures inhabiting her bountiful realm.

HONORING CALVARY M. B.
CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a church family whose desire is to do God's will, Calvary M. B. Church. Calvary M. B. Church has served the Yazoo County community over a century through faith and service.

Calvary M. B. Church desire is to bring people closer to the Lord. They want to build the foundation of faith in young people and remind the Yazoo community that anything is possible through love, faith and prayer.

Calvary, located on Broadway, began welcoming the community to its services over 100 years ago. November 15, 2015 will mark 131 years of praise, prayer and worship.

On April 1, 1889 a small group purchased a lot for \$50 which became the site of Calvary. For an additional \$35, another lot was purchased along with the original and this site would later develop into the modern day church.

According to church history notes the first pastor was Rev. Phillips. As the years progressed the congregation grew, even amidst growth, there were challenges. Small fires struck the church. Over the years several pastors called Calvary home. But it seemed like perfect timing when Pastor RaSean O. Thomas arrived at Calvary in 2009. Pastor Thomas is a product of Calvary.

Calvary has a rich history within the Yazoo community, its recent ministries and growth show what can be done through strong prayer and fellowship. Currently, the church has two hundred members and growing. The church has Sunday School, morning worship every Sunday, Wednesday night Bible Study, monthly street evangelism and prayer services, outreach project health fairs, men and women empowerment conferences and other ministries. There is always something going on inside the walls of Calvary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Calvary M. B. Church for its dedication to serving the community and doing God's will.

CELEBRATING THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit a statement on behalf of my constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman. Rabbi Zoberman is the Founding Rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Rabbi Zoberman asked me to submit the following remarks:

As we celebrate the 68th Anniversary of the State of Israel, heir to the Jewish people's long and proud legacy of the spirit uplifting humanity, it remains an enlightened Western island of progressive values retaining its democratic essence in a wide sea of barbarism and backwardness begrudging the survival of the world's only Jewish state.

In fact, no other democratic nation-state's very existence is questioned except Israel's. This is in spite of its enduring roots in its historic land, and world renowned accomplishments in the arts, sciences, and high-tech industries. It proved an unrivaled ability to rise from two millennia of exile, oppression, and an unparalleled Holocaust consuming a third of the Jewish people. Israel's renewed emergence against great odds is an affirmation of the transforming power of hope, and the rightful restoration of the Jewish people's human dignity and standing in the community of nations. It is the divine fulfillment of prophetic promise, with the challenging mandate and expectation to create a model society.

Today's troubled Middle East, home of humanity's inspiring Biblical Exodus, is in dire need of replacing degradation with dignity, and unrelenting terrorism with humane