

HONORING TAIWANESE AMERICAN
HERITAGE WEEK**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Taiwanese American Heritage Week. During this week, celebrations of Taiwanese culture, the history of Taiwan, and the contributions of Taiwanese Americans will take place across our country, including in my district, in Central New York.

This year marks the 37th anniversary of the enactment into law of the Taiwan Relations Act which functions as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwanese relations. Today, this law continues to provide a strong foundation for the bond between the people of both countries.

Taiwanese Americans have made invaluable contributions to the diversity and prosperity of American society. Taiwanese Americans have succeeded as successful and notable artists, Nobel Laureate scientists, researchers, human rights activists, business leaders and so much more.

Taiwanese American Heritage Week provides us with an opportunity to learn more about the outstanding contributions men and women from Taiwan have made to our nation, and to the world. During this special week, we are able to embrace America's diversity and celebrate the spirit of community that binds us together as one nation.

HONORING ANTHONY RUSSO III

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Anthony "Tony" Russo III, of the Third Congressional District, and to express my sincerest condolences to his family and loved ones he has left behind, as well as to recognize his career and community engagement.

Tony was one of Burlington County's most well-known and respected farmers and was a former member of the Burlington County Board of Agriculture and was described as both "a pillar of the Tabernacle community" and "a giant in New Jersey agriculture." His farm celebrated its 75th anniversary last year and is one of the most well-known farm stands in South Jersey, in very large part due to Tony who took over operations of the farm after the death of his father in 1991.

Tony and his wife Maryann were married for 50 years and enjoyed working together on the farm, along with his son and daughter-in-law. A tragic accident claiming his life has left a devastating void in the lives of his family, friends, and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously honored to have had Anthony "Tony" Russo III as a selfless and dedicated member of their community, whose generosity and vivacious spirit will never be forgotten. It is with a heavy heart that I commemorate his career and life, and recognize the lasting legacy that he has left behind, before the United States House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF MARY CATHERINE
(KITTY) VAN BORTEL**HON. CHRIS COLLINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine who was recently awarded one of the highest honors in her industry.

Mary Catherine (Kitty) Van Bortel, president of Van Bortel Subaru in Victor, New York, which is located in my Congressional district, was named the 2016 TIME Dealer of the Year. Ms. Van Bortel received this highest honor out of a select group of dealers from across the country recognized at the 99th annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Convention & Exposition in Las Vegas on April 1st.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted honors. Recipients are among the nation's most successful auto dealers who also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. In fact, Ms. Van Bortel was one of only 50 auto dealers from 16,000 nationwide—nominated for the 47th annual award.

The award is sponsored by TIME in association with Ally Financial, and in cooperation with NADA. A panel of faculty members from the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at the University of Michigan selects one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year.

A 1972 graduate of Palmyra-Macedon Central High School in Palmyra, New York, Ms. Van Bortel earned a B.A. in psychology from Wells College in Aurora, New York, in 1976. Although her father was a car dealer who owned 17 franchises at one time, she began her career at a dealership independent of her family.

Having first worked at Ridley Ford in Webster, New York where she became the top salesperson, Ms. Van Bortel was later a sales manager at Holtz Mercedes-Benz and BMW in Rochester, New York, before opening a used-car lot—her first step toward owning a dealership.

She later convinced Subaru to give her a chance and opened Van Bortel Subaru in 1991 vowing to make it the largest-volume Subaru dealership in the nation. Within seven years, that goal was achieved. Her business has since expanded to include Van Bortel Chevrolet in Macedon, New York, and Van Bortel Ford in East Rochester, New York, both of which she owns with her brother.

The reputation which she has built over the last 30 years has been the most rewarding part of her automotive career. And that reputation includes an unwavering commitment to giving back to her community. A nine-year breast cancer survivor, Ms. Van Bortel is dedicated to spreading the word that early detection is the cure. She has raffled off pink Ford Mustangs, given countless speeches to those who would listen and become a major contributor to the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester. Other organizations Ms. Van Bortel supports include: National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House in Rochester; The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children; American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure

(fundraising cycling event); Warrior Salute (assists veterans as they transition back to civilian life); Vistor/Farmington Food Cupboard (Thanksgiving baskets); IAC Kids: It's About Caring for Kids (help families in the Greater Rochester region going through financial hardships due to their child's severe illness); House of Mercy in Rochester (homeless shelter and advocacy group); Open Door Mission in Rochester (homeless shelter); Catholic Charities USA and many other local organizations.

In addition, Ms. Van Bortel has received numerous awards for her community service and business leadership, including the 2009 Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award from the Saunders School of Business at Rochester Institute of Technology; 2011 Athena Award from the Women's Council of the Rochester Business Alliance and 2009 Rochester Women's Network "W" Award.

In 2005, she was named one of the "100 Leading Women in the North American Auto Industry" by Automotive News.

Ms. Van Bortel was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year award by Robert Vancavage, president of the New York State Automobile Dealers Association.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all of the members of the New York Congressional delegation, please allow me to once again congratulate Ms. Mary Catherine (Kitty) Van Bortel on this prestigious award and thank her and her family for their involvement in the Rochester area.

I wish her, her family, and her employees at the dealerships a prosperous and bright future.

HONOR OF POLICE WEEK—MAY 15–
21, 2016**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the men and women who support and defend our communities by putting their lives on the line each and every day.

Police Week is a time set aside to honor not only our fallen heroes, but all men and women in law enforcement work tirelessly to protect our neighborhoods. While it is often in emergencies that we remark at their courage and perseverance, we know that they remain vigilant every day. I send my deepest condolences to the friends and family members of these brave women and men who so proudly wore the police uniform.

One hundred twenty-eight officers lost their life last year, including one from Minnesota. Investigator Steven Martin Sandberg was shot and killed on Sunday, October 18, 2015. His selfless dedication to protect and serve the community of Aitkin County will be forever remembered.

This week, we honor Officer Steven Sandberg and the other law enforcement officers who lost their lives last year. With profound gratitude we thank them for all they do to keep our cities safe. Congress must continue to ensure that our law enforcement professionals have the resources they need to protect our communities.

THANKING MELISSA LEAYM-FERNANDEZ FOR HER CHARITY AND SERVICE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Leaym-Fernandez for the support she has offered to the city of Flint and its students during the Flint Water Crisis.

Ms. Leaym-Fernandez is a professional artist and visual arts teacher in Flint Community Schools. Flint schools have an art budget of less than one dollar per student annually, but Ms. Leaym-Fernandez makes it her mission to combat this by providing opportunities and resources for Flint students to express themselves artistically. She has worked tirelessly to find funding opportunities to empower both her visual arts program and the students within it since she took the lead two years ago.

Ms. Leaym-Fernandez emphasizes the importance of artistic expression by focusing her efforts on the population of disenfranchised students in her district who need her help the most, especially those students who attend an alternative education institution. Fostering success in students who vary from being teen parents, on probation, or have learning or discipline difficulties is a commendable mission. Especially in light of the ongoing water crisis. By striving to give students the resources they need to express themselves creatively and artistically, Ms. Leaym-Fernandez sets an admirable example for teachers and community members alike.

It is my honor to represent such active and charitable members of our community, and Melissa Leaym-Fernandez is a shining example. The type of direct and individual care that Ms. Leaym-Fernandez has shown is exactly what the students of Flint need.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by Ms. Leaym-Fernandez and thank her for the service she has provided to the students and city of Flint.

THANKING HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS FOR THEIR CHARITY AND SERVICE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the students of Holt Public Schools for the support they have offered to the city of Flint and its residents during the Flint Water Crisis.

Seven students from Washington Woods Middle School and Dimondale Elementary have embarked on a campaign to donate a truckload of drinking water to Flint residents. The students quickly accomplished their fund-raising mission by selling rubber ducks at local community events, and cooperation with Meijer stores and UFCW Local 951 assisted in their donation effort. The student group is continuing their successful community service campaign and plans on raising funds for the delivery of another truckload of water.

To date, over \$4,500 has been raised by the group's Truck of Water for Flint GoFundMe fundraiser. This has allowed a truckload of over 36,000 water bottles to be delivered to Flint residents, and the second load of drinking water is forthcoming. The type of direct care that these students have shown is exactly what the residents of Flint need. It is my honor to represent such active and charitable members of our community, and this group of young students is a shining example.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by these Holt Public Schools students, and I thank them for the service they have provided to the city of Flint.

CONGRATULATING KILLOTTA TARTT-WALL ON BEING NAMED NATIONAL HEAD START TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in

recognizing Ms. Killotta Tartt-Wall for her unwavering commitment to equal educational opportunities and student success.

Ms. Tartt-Wall has worked in the educational field for 12 years. She has worked as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher for five years and has worked for the Head Start program for seven years. For two summers she also taught the Tot Lot summer Preschool Program. All of her teaching has been done in the Flint area with Flint families and children.

Ms. Tartt-Wall is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of young children and their families. She believes that one of the pathways out of poverty is having a good educational foundation that focuses on partnering with families to help ensure the success of the children she works with.

Head Start is the national commitment to give every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, an opportunity to succeed in school and in life. When Head Start was first launched in 1965, the idea of providing comprehensive health, nutrition, and education services to children in poverty was revolutionary. The Head Start Model, developed over the decades has been built on evidence-based practices and is constantly adapting—using the best available science and teaching techniques to meet the needs of local communities.

This year, Ms. Tartt-Wall was nominated for the National Head Start Teacher of the Year by her peers. She has a reputation of having endless enthusiasm and a passion for working with at-risk families and children. Ms. Tartt-Wall is an outstanding example of what one person can do to bring hope and success to the children and families affected by the Flint Water Crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Ms. Killotta Tartt-Wall for her dedication to the families of Flint and commitment to educational success.