

Muyskens, of Panorama High School in Panora, Iowa. Kylee was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Fourteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on May 1, 2016.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa high school was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who succeed in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Kylee Muyskens in the United States Congress. It is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to reach her goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Kylee on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

HONORING THE DURHAM FAIR ON  
THE CELEBRATION OF ITS CEN-  
TENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 16, 2016*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the community of Durham, Connecticut as well as a host of surrounding communities in extending my heartfelt congratulations to the Durham Fair Association as they mark the 100th Anniversary of the Durham Fair, Connecticut's largest agricultural fair and a cherished local legacy.

Each year, on the last full weekend of September, thousands converge on the historic Durham Fairgrounds for this wonderful celebration of Connecticut's rich agricultural history. Before the gates open each day, the national anthem is sung; down in the Cow Palace and Animal Buildings, farms from across the state showcase a variety of animals including beef and dairy cattle, horses, llamas, pigs, rabbits, chickens, goats, and sheep; in the Commercial Building the vendors offer everything from farm equipment to vacuum cleaners; and in the Crafts Tent you can enjoy the works of local artists selling wares from handmade pottery, clothing, and jewelry to some of the world's best fudge.

Art, baking, canning, crafts & collections, needlework and photography—there is no shortage of categories for the skills of adults and youth showcased throughout the "Best in Show" exhibits. Entries from quilts and wood-working to jams, pies and cakes, as well as pumpkin carving are on display competing for the coveted blue ribbon awards. Each extraordinary exhibit harkens back to the heritage and hallmarks of a true country fair.

And you cannot miss the Farm Museum where their vast collection of antique farm equipment and collectibles will transport you back to the days of hand-cranked tractors, blacksmiths, and pot-bellied stoves. The Midway offers a variety of classic amusement rides and games and on the four different stages throughout the fairgrounds, musical entertainment from favorite local bands to major

headliners comes with your admission ticket. And, of course, there are also the annual favorites—the tractor pull and demolition derby. It is nothing short of an extraordinary experience.

Of course, one cannot talk about the Durham Fair without mentioning the incredible variety of food one can enjoy throughout the fairgrounds. And while there are private vendors that contract with the Fair, much of the fare offered is from local nonprofit organizations that the Association has opened the Fair to over the years. Ears of corn-on-the-cob, corn muffins, and popcorn are available from the PTA of Lyman Elementary School; the Coginchau Benchwarmers have burgers and hotdogs; the Middlefield Lions have sausage and pepper grinders and fantastic donuts on their menu; the Portland Fire Department offers up the Fair's best french fries; Lime Rickeys are on tap at the Durham United Churches booth; and the Middletown Elks always have an extensive menu—and those are just a sampling of the more than two dozen local non-profits that participate in this event every year.

The Durham Fair Association takes great pride in distributing profits from the fair back to the community through scholarships and support of numerous projects and events. In fact, proceeds from the Durham Fair have allowed the Association to award over \$500,000 in academic scholarships, make more than \$50,000 in charitable donations, and assist in community projects such as fencing and maintaining the Old Cemetery, help with the repairs to the Durham Library and contribute to other library building projects, and purchase the Durham Fire Company's first Jaws of Life.

Over its 100-year history, what began as a single-day event has grown into a four-day celebration of agriculture past and present. What makes the Durham Fair particularly unique is that it remains a completely volunteer-run event—a testament to the special place it holds in the hearts of community members in Durham and neighboring communities. The Durham Fair is a local legacy that contributes to the enrichment of the Durham community in countless ways. Today, as they mark their centennial anniversary, I am proud to stand and extend my heartfelt congratulations and very best wishes for another century of continued success.

HONORING MRS. MARILYN D.  
ADAMS-COX

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 16, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable history maker, Mrs. Marilyn D. Adams-Cox, a resident of Cleveland, Mississippi.

Mrs. Adams-Cox is the daughter of Ms. Minnie Adams-Moore, and her paternal grandparents are the late Jack and Savannah Carlize, Sr. Mrs. Adams-Cox was born into a history making lineage. Her paternal grandparents had no problem being the first African Americans in the City of Cleveland, Mississippi to become prosperous entrepreneurs with numerous businesses, and her paternal grandmother being one of the first Bolivar County Head Start teachers.

Mrs. Adams-Cox saw the work ethic in her mother and parental grandparents and knowing that they did not allow anything to stop them from pursuing their life objectives as they demonstrated to family members that all things are possible if you believe in God.

She was fortunate to attend school in the Cleveland School District where Mrs. Minnie Evans and Mr. Nathan Tharp, who were teachers at B.L. Bell Elementary, had a profound impression on her when they taught on the importance and power of voting. When she attended Eastwood Junior High, the principal, Mr. Walter Robinson, instilled in her the importance of getting an education by constantly enforcing his motto: "You can always learn something." Upon entering East Side High School she was met with a powerful government class educator, Mr. Ned Tolliver who stresses the importance of knowing how government works and how one's vote has influence. During her senior year of high school she registered to vote and has casted her vote in every election. After high school she attended Alcorn State University and met others who had a positive influence in her life.

Due to the strong motivators in her life, her goal early in her youth was to be an asset in society. In 1993 she was blessed with a position with the City of Cleveland, and after three years of employment became the first African American Manager/Director of the Water Department which serves over 6,000 water customers. The City of Cleveland was chartered in 1886 and after 110 years in existence she made history and carried on her family lineage.

Furthermore, she is always willing to do the unthinkable to ensure that each and every life she touched would be touched in a positive way. Mrs. Cox is active in civic and social organizations and has received numerous awards.

Mrs. Adams-Cox is married to Michael Cox and they have one daughter, Elisha, in whom she has instilled the importance of getting an education and making sure she understands the power and influence within her vote.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Marilyn Adams-Cox, an amazing history maker in serving others.

SEVEN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL'S  
ALEX PRATT WINS SECOND  
PLACE IN STATE ESSAY CON-  
TEST

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 16, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Seven Lakes High School senior Alex Pratt for winning second place in our state essay contest.

In addition to playing football and running track for his school, Alex received the second-place award in the editorial contest of the annual Law Day competition. This contest is sponsored by the State Bar of Texas. The theme of the state essay contest derived from the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court case, *Miranda v. Arizona*. His essay titled, "Miranda: More Than Words: How the Sins of the Past Have Shaped a Better Present", explores the procedural protections

granted to everyone by the U.S. Constitution. The competition was open to all state bar associations, that selected local winners in each of three competition categories. The Katy Bar Association chose Alex's composition for its editorial submission.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Alex Pratt for winning second place in the annual Law Day competition. Thank you for bringing this prestigious honor to Seven Lakes High School. We expect more great things from Alex in the future.

#### HISTORIC MEETING OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS

#### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the events taking place on the Greek island of Crete, where Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople has called a historic meeting of Orthodox Christian Churches.

This meeting, known as the Holy and Great Council, is the first of its kind in over a millennium. The fourteen Orthodox Christian Churches together have over 300 million followers around the world, including over a million Americans. These churches are self-governing but united by common dogma, faith, liturgy, and moral conviction, with the Ecumenical Patriarch serving as the "first among equals."

Three hundred and fifty leaders will attend this meeting, which is set to begin on Sunday and continue through June 26. They will discuss key issues facing Orthodox Christians, including the church's mission in today's world, the Orthodox diaspora, and relations with other Christian churches.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew was elected in October 1991 as the 270th Archbishop of his 2000-year-old Church. He holds numerous doctorates, including from Georgetown and Yale, and was awarded a Gold Medal by Congress in 1997.

The Patriarch has a record of reaching out and working for peace and reconciliation among all faiths and has fostered dialogue among Christians, Jews, and Muslims. After the September 11, 2001 attacks, the Patriarch organized a gathering of religious leaders including Muslim Imams to condemn the attacks as an anti-religious act.

Mr. Speaker, the over one million Orthodox Christians in the United States represent diverse backgrounds and cultures. I join them in celebrating this historic meeting.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF JOHNSTON

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Johnston, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in co-

operation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Johnston has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide. When communities like Johnston are recognized it makes me proud to represent our great state in the United States Congress.

I commend the City of Johnston and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating them on this award and in wishing the city nothing but continued success.

#### CONGRATULATING FAITH WEN ON BEING NAMED A MEMBER OF THE 52ND CLASS OF THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Faith Wen, of Strafford, Missouri, for recently being named a member of the 52nd Class of the U.S. Presidential Scholars.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars program was established in 1964 with the intent of honoring the top high school graduates in the nation. It is an extremely prestigious award that is only granted to 161 graduating seniors, who are considered for admittance based on their proven track record of academic excellence. Applications to the Presidential Scholars program are by invite only, as applicants are either nominated by earning exceptional standardized test scores or by being specifically nominated by a Chief State School Officer.

Faith had to pass a rigorous selection process on her way to receiving this honor. As one of 4,000 initial candidates from over 3.3 million graduating seniors, Faith had already distinguished herself as a high achieving student. By being selected as one of 800 semifinalists, and then finally as one of the 161 award recipients, Faith has proven to be worthy of one of the highest academic honors attainable by a high school student.

Mr. Speaker, Faith Wen has earned the honor of being a U.S. Presidential Scholar through a combination of tireless effort, dedication to her studies and impressive intelligence. I'm proud to count such a remarkable young woman among my constituents. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I urge my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to Faith, and wishing her luck in all her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING COLONEL PAUL BALASH III

#### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor DLA Distribution San Joaquin Deputy Director Colonel Paul Balash III on his retirement. I would also like to personally thank him for his many years of profound service to our Country and to San Joaquin County.

Colonel Balash was born on May 19, 1948 in Fremont, California. After obtaining his degree from San Diego State University, he attended the Marine Corps War College and the National Defense University. Col. Balash dedicated 34 years of service to the Marine Corps, beginning as a Private and retiring at the rank of Colonel. His outstanding leadership allowed him to serve as a logistician, strategic military planner, and a national security specialist.

Throughout his time in service he was involved in over 50 studies, analyses, and gaming events aiding the Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense. Events under his supervision included the Comprehensive Material Response Plan, DLA and USTC efforts for material positional, distribution for a national defense strategy, and PRIME CHALLENGE III.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Colonel Paul Balash for his service and dedication to our great country.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM SNYDER FOR HIS 9 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

#### HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Snyder on the occasion of his retirement from Ivy Tech Community College. For the past nine years, Tom has devoted his life to providing an exceptional educational experience to the students of Ivy Tech. Ivy Tech flourished immensely under Tom's strong leadership, and the Hoosier community is forever grateful for his dedication to our state and country's future leaders.

Tom has demonstrated a lifetime passion for serving his community and country. As a lifelong resident of Anderson, Indiana, Tom graduated St. Mary's High School. He attended Kettering University in Flint, Michigan, and graduated in 1967 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He later earned a master's degree in business administration from Indiana University after having served as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force for 6 years. He applied his passion for learning and education to his service in the Air Force, working in research and development at various locations such as Vandenberg and Andrews Air Force Bases as well as the Pentagon.

Before serving as President of Ivy Tech, Tom worked as a business executive in the