

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, due to other commitments, I missed the following roll call votes:

Roll call no. 66, I would have voted yes.

Roll call no. 67, I would have voted yes.

RECOGNITION OF SAM PROLER'S
100TH BIRTHDAY**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sam Proler's 100th birthday. The world was a different place when Sam Proler was born a century ago. The oldest of nine children, Sam was born to Ben and Rose Proler during war times. Sam started working at the age of 13 and was later joined by his brothers. Through hard work, innovation and perseverance, the Proler's achieved the American Dream—Proler Steel Corp.

What would become the country's largest scrap metal recycling operation, Proler Steel Corp, NYSE (PS), started from a meeting between Sam Proler and Henry Ford. It was that meeting that led to an idea that there could be a better way to recycle used cars.

Through research and modifying mining machines, Sam Proler did what no one else had done before—he figured out how to melt entire vehicles in mere seconds. At that time, the recycling industry could not keep pace with the numbers of discarded cars each year. His invention was a game changer that helped reinvent the steel industry, and this led to the employment of hundreds of thousands of workers in the United States at more than 35 plants.

Because of Sam Proler, used cars and appliances gained new life as recycled steel. In fact, his patented process is known around the world as "Prolerized" scrap.

Sam Proler is one of America's original, innovative recyclers long before it was popular to be environmentally conscious. His innovation helped shape an American industry and protect our environment.

When you go to sell a used car for recycling, remember the name Sam Proler. Because of him, that car will be recycled into steel in a process that saves energy, conserves our nation's natural resources and protects our environment.

We know his lovely wife Marie, daughters Nina and Joyce, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are incredibly proud of what he has accomplished in his century. As we wish Sam Proler a Happy 100th Birthday, America also says thank you to one of our nation's innovative citizens.

IN RECOGNITION OF OTTO CONSTRUCTION'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Otto Construction as they celebrate their 70th Anniversary. As the community and members of Otto Construction gather today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring them and their long history of service to the Sacramento region and beyond.

A three generation family-owned business, Otto Construction was founded in 1947 by John F. Otto. When he opened Otto Construction, it was with the core values of honesty, integrity, and compassion. He strived to provide the best service to their customers delivering quality projects while maintaining high standards at a competitive price. When John's son, Carl Otto, joined the family business in 1971, he brought his commitment to civic duty and community involvement to the organization which helped intertwine their business and the Sacramento community to create a larger footprint. Joining the company in 2000, Allison Otto represents the third generation. Allison's focus is in the marketing department, carrying the same commitment to our community as her grandfather and father.

Otto Construction has helped build the Sacramento community, not just with the projects they have done, such as historical renovations, building community centers and hospital buildings, but with the impact they have had throughout their charitable work. Otto Construction has partnered with the Society for the Blind, Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, Eskaton Foundation and Sacramento SPCA, with many of their employees serving on the boards of nonprofits. A few notable projects include the Powerhouse Science Center, the California Lottery Headquarters, Bonney Field, the restoration of the Julia Morgan House, and Shriner's Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, as the family and members of Otto Construction celebrate their 70 years of service to the Sacramento region and beyond, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring them for their dedication to their community through their business practices and charitable work that have made them so successful throughout the years.

HONORING DR. CARTER G.
WOODSON**HON. EVAN H. JENKINS**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Dr. Carter G. Woodson and to celebrate his legacy with all of you at Marshall University. We are proud to call Dr. Woodson one of our own in Huntington, West Virginia, and to celebrate his work to honor and remember the achievements of African Americans. During Black History Month, it is only fitting that we stop to remark on the life of the Father of African-American History.

Dr. Woodson dedicated his life to educating others, becoming one of the first African Americans to earn a doctorate in history from Harvard University. He returned to his alma mater in Huntington, Douglas High School, where he became the principal and shaped the lives of countless West Virginians. He also documented the important contributions African Americans have made to our nation's history and ensured their accomplishments were not forgotten.

The Carter G. Woodson Lyceum at Marshall University will carry on his legacy and provide Black History Month events for the Marshall and Huntington communities. I wish you well as you celebrate the life of Dr. Woodson and the contributions of African Americans during the month of February.

HONORING JOHN ELINE OF
PENNSYLVANIA**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor my constituent, John Eline, on his upcoming retirement upon 10 years of service with Adams County Emergency Services, and for his ongoing commitment to his community.

Mr. Eline served as Adams County's Director of Emergency Services and provided calm leadership, professionalism and a strong work ethic to a wide range of challenges, including implementation of a new digital emergency radio system and preparations for the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg in 2013. Mr. Eline is also very active in our community, volunteering with the Gettysburg Fire Department, previously serving 12 years on Gettysburg's Borough Council and more than two decades with Gettysburg Hospital.

Mr. Eline's dedication has touched the lives of many people and challenged all with whom he served to be the best. His legacy of service to his community is admirable.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate John Eline upon his retirement after many years of service to Adams County and our fellow citizens.

IN MEMORY OF TYRUS WONG

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of celebrated artist Tyrus Wong, of Sunland, California, who passed away on December 30, 2016, at the age of 106.

Tyrus Wong, best known for his beautiful, impressionistic renderings in the Walt Disney Studio's animated film "Bambi," was born as Wong Gen Yeo in China on October 25, 1910. He and his father emigrated to the United States in 1920.

Tyrus' father taught his son calligraphy, drawing and painting, encouraging Tyrus' artistic talents. Tyrus attended junior high school in Pasadena, but left that school to attend Otis Art Institute, now Otis College of Art and Design, on a full scholarship. At Otis, Mr. Wong

studied great western artists and Chinese brush paintings, especially Song dynasty landscapes that expressed mountains, trees and fog with nominal brush strokes. He graduated from Otis and joined the Depression-era Federal Art Project, creating paintings for government buildings and other institutions. During this time period he was a featured artist at an Art Institute of Chicago exhibition that included artists such as Pablo Picasso, and was active in organizing local art exhibitions for Los Angeles' Asian artists.

In 1937, Tyrus married Ruth Ng Kim, and after the birth of their first daughter, Kay in 1938, he began working for Disney as an "inbetweenner," where he worked on hundreds of Mickey Mouse sketches. After learning about Disney's film "Bambi," which was in pre-production, he created watercolors and drawings of a deer in a forest, and those tiny, evocative renderings became the basis for the film's visual style and he became the film's lead artist. In 1941, after a Disney animators' strike, Mr. Wong went to work at Warner Brothers Studios as a film production illustrator and sketch artist, where he drew set designs and storyboards for movies such as "Sands of Iwo Jima," "Rebel Without a Cause" and "Auntie Mame." Tyrus retired from Warner Bros. in 1968, but continued to work as an artist, creating greeting cards for Hallmark Cards, working as a ceramicist, and building and designing exquisite hand-made kites.

Mr. Wong's life and work has been featured in many significant exhibitions at The Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco and The Museum of Chinese in America in New York City and his striking Chinese Dragon mural is prominently displayed in Chinatown. Tyrus is featured in several documentaries, including the award-winning documentary "Tyrus," in which he shared his struggles with poverty, racism and adversity.

Mr. Wong is survived by his daughters: Kay Fong, Tai-Ling Wong, Kim Wong and two grandsons.

I would like to ask all Members to join me in remembering Tyrus Wong, a Disney Legend, whose innovative work inspired generations of animators, and who leaves a lasting legacy as one of the foremost artists in Los Angeles, California.

LA PATISSERIE FRANCAISE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud La Patisserie Francaise for being honored by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce as Business of the Year.

To be honored as the Business of the Year by the Arvada Chamber, businesses must have established a reputation for providing a superior level of customer service, using ingenuity and innovation to overcome challenges, and be an active participant and supporter of community activities.

La Patisserie Francaise is well known for their extraordinary leadership and heartfelt commitment to the city of Arvada. The owner, Sadie Russo, goes above and beyond in her commitment to the community through her do-

nations to local organizations as well as serving as an advocate for the City of Arvada.

I extend my deepest congratulations to La Patisserie Francaise for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

TO HONOR THE IMPERIAL COURT
DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington (ICFWA) in celebration of its 37 years of service to the LGBTQ community in the 33rd Congressional District of Texas.

In 1979, thirty founding members established the Fort Worth/Arlington chapter of the International Court System—one of the oldest and largest LGBTQ organizations in the world. ICFWA is a social-community service organization that sponsors fundraisers for charities in the community, advocates on behalf of the LGBTQ community, and provides a social support system for members of the LGBTQ community.

The ICFWA has given to a number of organizations throughout its decades of service to Fort Worth and Arlington. ICFWA fundraisers have benefitted the Samaritan House, Cancer Care Services, Health Services of North Texas, Meals on Wheels, and the Aids Outreach Center. Throughout 2015 and 2016, the ICFWA gave over \$21,000 to various causes and charities.

The LGBTQ community has experienced discrimination at their places of employment and in general society. Due to the work of LGBTQ advocacy groups, such as the ICFWA, progress has been made to ensure that Americans of any sexual orientation are not treated differently under the law, have equal access to healthcare services, and that their rights are well protected.

Members of the ICFWA have fiercely served the LGBTQ community by addressing the needs of those suffering from HIV/AIDS. The ICFWA helped form the Treehouse Commission, which is still active today, during the peak of the HIV/AIDS crisis to foster coordination among organizations aiding those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Several ICFWA members sat on the founding committee of the Samaritan House, a home for persons with HIV/AIDS, in 1991. When the local AIDS Outreach Center lost grant funding, the ICFWA took on the responsibility of funding the food pantry so that clients would not go hungry.

The ICFWA will honor the work of all of its members in March at its XXXVIII annual coronation in Fort Worth, Texas as the Court chooses a new Emperor and Empress.

I honor the Imperial Court de Fort Worth and Arlington's ceaseless support and fearless advocacy for the LGBTQ community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STREAM-
LINED AND IMPROVED METHODS
AT POLLING LOCATIONS AND
EARLY VOTING ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Streamlined and Improved Methods at Polling Locations and Early Voting Act, also known as the "SIMPLE" Voting Act for short. I introduced this bill earlier today.

This is a scary time for voting rights. We are witnessing an assault on voting rights the likes of which our nation has not seen since the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. The President is alleging, without evidence, that there is widespread voter fraud in our country.

We know where this is heading. It is just the latest attempt to turn back the clock on voting rights since the Supreme Court overturned a key portion of the Voting Rights Act in 2013.

In the name of protecting Americans from supposed in-person voter fraud, a fraud that is virtually non-existent, States have been enacting voter ID laws. The real reason for these laws, however, has been anything but election integrity. It has been about partisan politics and discrimination.

But don't take my word for it. Take the words of legislators like the then-Pennsylvania House Majority Leader who boasted in 2012 that the state's newly enacted voter ID law would allow Mitt Romney to win his state. While speaking about his legislature's accomplishments, he said, "Voter ID, which is going to allow Governor Romney to win the state of Pennsylvania: done."

Or take the more recent comments of a freshman Republican Wisconsin state representative last year who, while being interviewed about the 2016 election, said, "And now we have photo ID, and I think photo ID is going to make a little bit of a difference as well."

Or take the word of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit which said that new provisions of a voter ID law in North Carolina, "target African Americans with almost surgical precision[.]" According to the court, the law imposed cures for problems that did not exist, and "Thus the asserted justifications cannot and do not conceal the State's true motivation."

The right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy. It is sacred. Yet, sadly, we have an ugly history in this nation of efforts to limit people's ability to access this constitutional right.

We need to make it easier for people to vote, not harder, and that is why I have introduced this bill today.

If enacted, the SIMPLE Voting Act would require states to allow early voting for federal elections for at least two weeks prior to election day, and to the greatest extent possible ensure that polling locations are within walking distance of a stop on a public transportation route.

It would also require that sufficient voting systems, poll workers and other election resources are provided, that wait times are fair and equitable for all voters across a state, and that no one be required to wait longer than one hour to cast a ballot at a polling place.