

HONORING ZENNIE HERRING

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the honoree of the Molina Healthcare of Illinois' 2017 Community Champions Awards Ceremony and Dinner, Zennie Herring.

Zennie, who is from my hometown of Collinsville, has dedicated her life to improving the world around her. After retiring from her career as an elementary school teacher, Zennie volunteered at the Cahokia Mounds Visitor Center for 20 years. In addition, she served as director of the local Meals on Wheels program.

She is also a remarkable and avid tailor. Zennie has sewn thousands of reversible dresses for her church's mission team at Meadow Heights Baptist Church, and she has sent hundreds of her dresses abroad to little girls in Mexico and Haiti. She also sewed dog beds for the local shelter, dresses for children's toys, and lap robes and clothing protectors for nursing home residents.

The Community Champions Awards Ceremony and Dinner, created in honor of Molina Healthcare's founder Dr. C. David Molina, brings together people whose civic and faith-based leadership, volunteerism, and public advocacy embody Dr. Molina's legacy of service. There is no doubt that Zennie embodies the very spirit behind this award.

I applaud Zennie Herring for her service to her community, and I would like to thank her for representing my constituents so wonderfully both in Illinois and abroad.

HONORING 2017 PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS HONORABLE MENTION RECIPIENT  
**AMY SCHWARTZ**

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amy Schwartz for being named a 2017 Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators (PIAEE) honorable mention recipient.

The PIAEE recognizes elementary school teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning for their students. The PIAEE reviewed hundreds of applicants for the award and selected only 12 recipients, highlighting Ms. Schwartz's unique qualifications.

Representing Edison Middle School in Wheaton, Illinois, Ms. Schwartz coordinated a project in which student, faculty, parents and Wheaton Park District staff worked together to transform an area behind the Edison Middle School into a native tallgrass prairie. Students complemented this hands-on project with a field trip to Fermilab, a local physics laboratory, to learn more about energy and ecosystems.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in recognizing Ms. Amy

Schwartz for her outstanding service and congratulate her being named a 2017 PIAEE honorable mention recipient.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE  
WASTE NOT OC COALITION

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the notable contributions and meaningful progress made by the Waste Not OC Coalition (WNOC) towards ending hunger in Orange County.

Food insecurity is a serious public health issue. It is linked to malnutrition, obesity, and other negative health consequences. For children, inconsistent food access can adversely affect their mental and physical development. Unfortunately, more than 300,000 Orange County residents—including one in five children—experience food insecurity each month.

A conversation between Orange County Public Health Officer Dr. Eric Handler and Orange County Food Bank Director Mark Lowry concerning the disconnect between the food insecurity of residents and the food waste of local restaurants led to the creation of WNOC.

Established in November 2012, as a public-private partnership, WNOC offers a simple yet innovative model for food recovery. WNOC facilitates the donation of wholesome surplus food from local restaurants, groceries, and other food-producing establishments to local pantries while reducing the amount of food waste destined for area landfills.

WNOC does more than just redistribute food; the organization uses county health inspectors to educate operators about food donation during routine inspections and uses food industry partners to safely and efficiently connect recoverable food sources with distribution agencies throughout the county. WNOC has facilitated a dual city-wide effort between Anaheim and Orange to identify food sources, partnered with community hospitals and clinics to implement a food insecurity screening tool, united with the Anaheim City School District to implement food recovery programs, and worked with local universities to establish campus pantries.

WNOC partners are working with hundreds of Orange County facilities to address food insecurity. Through these collaborative efforts, the Coalition has successfully recovered over 3,700 tons of excess food this year alone, or the equivalent of more than 6 million meals, to provide much needed sustenance to numerous residents. WNOC performs a vital function within my district. In recognition of that significant work, the National Association of City and County Officials named WNOC as a Model Practices Program in 2016.

Sometimes hunger feels like too big of an issue to tackle, but WNOC is proving there is meaningful work we can all participate in. The organization's work is remarkable not only for the strides they have made in Orange County, but also for the resources they provide for the greater community such as their willingness to work with any community interested in replicating the Waste Not OC Coalition Model for food recovery to end hunger and reduce food waste.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Waste Not OC Coalition for the profound impact it has had in our community these past five years and I look forward to its future contributions to Orange County.

TRIBUTE TO BART FORSYTH

**HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bart Forsyth, who recently left Capitol Hill after serving in many capacities over the past 13 years.

After graduating from Hofstra University and receiving his law degree from Washington and Lee School of Law, Bart began his career on Capitol Hill as a staff member on the Foreign Affairs Committee. He then went on to serve on the House Science Committee as investigative counsel, as my chief of staff on the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, a staff member of the House Judiciary Committee, and as my chief of staff in my personal office. In the more than 10 years I have known Bart, he has never lost sight of what brought him here—to solve problems and make a positive difference in people's lives.

Bart's extensive knowledge, foresight, and drive made him a force on Capitol Hill. He has championed a number of causes related to government surveillance, law enforcement, privacy and civil liberties, and European relations. In June, 2013 when it was revealed that the National Security Agency (NSA) had overstepped its authorities, he immediately began work on a legislative response that would eventually be known as USA Freedom Act. He also spearheaded work on the Judicial Redress Act of 2016, which ensures data is protected in the strongest possible way with our privacy laws. His achievements have not gone unnoticed. Twice, Bart has been recognized by European leaders as one of the Hill's top policy influencers. Additionally, he was admitted into the prestigious U.S. Supreme Court bar in 2014.

Too often, working long hours can take its toll on one's personal life. Not so with Bart. Whether it was running marathons, competing in an Ironman competition, including qualifying for the world championship in Kona, Hawaii, or more importantly taking on the role of devoted husband and father, Bart continuously sought out new challenges and did so with strength and determination.

Bart has been a true asset as a trusted advisor, effective facilitator, and respected leader. I'm thankful for his distinguished service and wish him, his wife Mindy, and daughter Triana, all the best as Bart begins this new chapter.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF  
SARKIS TATIGIAN

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in honoring Sarkis Tatigian, the longest serving federal civilian employee on record.

Currently, Sarkis Tatigian serves as the Associate Director of Small Business Programs for the Naval Sea Systems Command, the largest component of the U.S. Navy. While he was initially eligible for retirement in 1973, Mr. Tatigian has continued to provide decades of selfless service to our country. Mr. Tatigian began his naval career in 1942, when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a Junior Inspector of Radio at the Naval Aircraft Factory. Throughout his time with the U.S. Navy, Mr. Tatigian has served multiple tours; served in various units within the U.S. Navy, such as the Navy Bureau of Ordnance Experimental Unit and the Bureau of Naval Weapons; and worked as a Small Business Analyst for the Bureau of Ordnance. In addition, Mr. Tatigian has received numerous awards, including the U.S. Navy Meritorious Civilian Award, and has also had an award named after him for his role in small business, the Sarkis Tatigian Small Business Award.

On September 26, 2017, Mr. Tatigian will have served a total of 75 years of federal service.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Sarkis Tatigian.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLIPPARD WILSON TAYLOR VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 3838

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Clippard Wilson Taylor Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3838 of Cape Girardeau, Missouri on celebrating their 75th anniversary of serving veterans and their families as well as the community.

The Post was chartered on the 20th day of September, 1942 with 44 members. Since then, it has grown to be one of the largest VFW Posts in the state with a current membership of 590, a strong part of the 1.7 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary nationally.

Post 3838 has been instrumental throughout the years fostering patriotism in many ways which include teaching flag etiquette at local schools and supplying American flags to schools, churches, and parks. The Post shows great comradery amongst their war veterans and strives to assist fellow veterans in need. The members have lobbied successfully for legislation to provide care to veterans and funding for the military.

Throughout their years of service, the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3838 have remained loyal and dedicated to their organization, their country, their members, and the community. Therefore, it is my privilege and honor to recognize the Clippard Wilson Taylor VFW Post 3838 on celebrating their 75th anniversary before the U.S. House of Representatives.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARLAN WALDROP

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor a beloved public servant, Marlan Waldrop. After a long and valiant battle with cancer, she is now at peace. Ms. Waldrop served for the last three years as the Director of the Veterans Benefits Administration, Houston Regional Office. As Director of the Houston Regional Office, Marlan was responsible for administering approximately two hundred nineteen million dollars each month in federal benefits to nearly eight hundred thousand veterans and their families living in ninety South Texas Counties, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

Ms. Waldrop began her VA service in December 1990 as a Veterans Service Representative in the Education Division of the Atlanta Regional Processing Office. During her twenty-seven years of VA service, Marlan served in numerous leadership roles including: Instructor for the Challenge 2001 veteran service representative training, Assistant Deputy Director of the Tiger Team in Cleveland, Ohio (2004–2005), Louisville Veterans Service Center Manager (2005–2007), Assistant Director of the Montgomery VA Regional Office (2007–2011), and as Director of the San Juan VA Regional Office (2011–2014).

Ms. Waldrop came to work for the VA because she needed a job, but found a career that allowed her to help improve the lives of our nation's veterans. She empowered her staff "to do what is right for the veteran" and to make the VA a welcoming place. She ensured that her outreach team was accessible to veterans beyond the walls of a VA facility. Marlan is survived by her son, Josh, six hundred sixty dedicated employees at the Houston VA Regional Office, and family and friends.

On behalf of a grateful nation and the tens of thousands of veterans whose lives were better because of her work on their behalf, I rise to remember Ms. Waldrop and her many years of devoted service to our nation's veterans.

JANYA RAM EARNS GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Janya Ram of Sugar Land, TX, for earning her Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest achievement a Girl Scout can earn. To earn this distinguished award, Janya had to spend at least 80 hours developing and executing a project that would benefit the community and have a long-term impact on girls as well. For her Gold award project, she taught self-defense workshops at the Boys and Girls Club in Stafford. Janya wanted to take the skills she learned in her karate classes and help girls in her community protect themselves in unsafe situations.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Janya Ram for earning her Girl Scout Gold Award. We are confident she will have continued success in her future endeavors. We are very proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, due to my need to be back in my district to help my community prepare for Hurricane Irma, I was unable to be present for Roll Call Votes 467 through 484.

Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 467; YEA on Roll Call No. 468; NAY on Roll Call No. 469; NAY on Roll Call No. 470; NAY on Roll Call No. 471; YEA on Roll Call No. 472; NAY on Roll Call No. 473; YEA on Roll Call No. 474; NAY on Roll Call No. 475; NAY on Roll Call No. 476; NAY on Roll Call No. 477; YEA on Roll Call No. 478; YEA on Roll Call No. 479; YEA on Roll Call No. 480; NAY on Roll Call No. 481; NAY on Roll Call No. 482; NAY on Roll Call No. 483; and YEA on Roll Call No. 484.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed one vote during a vote series on September 8, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted: No on Roll Call No. 484, on the Pearce amendment (H. Amdt. 361) to the Make American Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 3354).

SEPTEMBER 11TH

**HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 12, 2017*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001 was on a Tuesday.

I remember watching the horrible destruction unfold, and thinking that the world would change for all of us. In those days and weeks after 9/11, Americans from the South Asian, Muslim, and Arab American community were subjected to hate crimes simply because of how they looked. Muslim students were pulled out of school because of fear for their safety, Sikh men were shot at for their turbans, and many of us were told to go home, back to our own country—even though America is our home.

But in the wake of that destruction, I was part of forming powerful coalitions to fight against hate of all kinds and to protect our civil rights and civil liberties.

As we reflect on the events of that day and honor first responders and those who lost their lives, let us also remember that America's true