

a party, he stole his buddy's good-looking date, Miss Colette Martin. They were wed on Oct. 7, 1967. Their beautiful life together brought them two daughters who were the lights of his life. He worked tirelessly to provide for them and set an amazing example of hard work and dedication.

Ralph formerly served as a zoning inspector for the city of Girard. He was a true patriot who belonged to both the American Legion and the V.F.W., as well as having served as a Democratic precinct committeeman. He was politically active and was involved in many local campaigns throughout the years.

In his spare time, Ralph enjoyed gardening, collecting antiques, complaining, Youngstown State University football, anything related to Cleveland sports, cheering for whatever team his son-in-law, Pat was currently coaching, and watching John Wayne movies with a fresh box of cheese crackers and a cold beer. He was a true Civil War buff and spent his most enjoyable hours dressing in costume and teaching others about the Civil War, particularly Ulysses S. Grant. He especially enjoyed taking part in the school tours at the Girard Historical Society Barnhisel House Museum, where he also played an instrumental role in the museum's restoration.

Those who will carry on his legacy include his loving wife of almost 50 years; his daughter, Erin (Pat) Meyer of Huntington Beach, Calif., and his daughter, Shawna Chuey and Quentin Miles of Washington, DC; three grandchildren, Chris, Emma, and Sophia; his brother, Tom (Pat) Chuey of Poland, and many nieces and nephews.

The family would especially like to thank Dan Hromyak and Leslie "Dani" Diana for their support and devotion to their Uncle Ralph. Ralph will be laid to rest at Girard City Cemetery, with military honors. I extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING TOWER ONE/TOWER EAST ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Tower One/Tower East in New Haven, Connecticut as they mark their 50th Anniversary—a remarkable milestone for this special organization.

Committed to its mission "to provide older persons of varying means with high quality living arrangements and services based upon Jewish values and traditions," the Towers has been a place of care and solace to hundreds of residents over the last half century. The organization is led by a dedicated staff and outstanding Board of Directors made up of leaders from across the community. The staff and Board have worked hard over the years to meet the changing needs of their residents and, in doing so, have created a unique environment in which their seniors are assured an affordable place to live with dignity and security in their golden years.

Designed by renowned architect Charles Moore and located on the southern edge of New Haven's downtown, Tower One opened

its doors in 1971 and was followed a decade later by Tower East. Today, the Towers are comprised of 328 apartments that offer safe, affordable independent and assisted living as well as a full schedule of social, enrichment, and cultural programs. The Towers has been recognized both locally and nationally with multiple best practice awards from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Connecticut Assisted Living Association.

The Towers have always been a special place to me. When my mother, Luisa, served on the City's Board of Aldermen, she was fortunate enough to have been invited to attend and speak at the opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting at the Towers. As an elected official, she focused much of her attention on seniors. She visited the various senior centers and housing facilities to talk with the residents. She continued those visits on my behalf after I was elected to Congress. The Towers, its residents and staff alike, always welcomed her with open arms and have extended that same warmth to me over the years.

The Towers are so much more than a group of buildings—it is a community. I am honored to have this opportunity to rise today to extend my sincere thanks and heartfelt congratulations to the Board of Directors and staff, past and present, of Tower One/Tower East as they mark their 50th Anniversary. Mazel Tov.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, September 13, I was unavoidably detained and subsequently missed two votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 486 and YEA on Roll Call No. 487.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. HARVEY MILNER, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a terrific educator, strong civic leader, dedicated man of God, and dear friend to my wife, Vivian and me, Harvey Milner, Sr., who retired from his position as Deputy Director of Public Services for the Columbus Public Works Department. He was honored in a retirement ceremony on Friday, September 22, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at the Columbus Government Center in Columbus, Georgia.

Harvey Milner, Sr. was born to the late Horace and Verlue Milner as the fourth of eight children. He is the loving husband of Mrs. Glendon Milner, the father of three children, Mr. Demetrius Milner, Mr. Harvey Milner, Jr., and Mrs. Lisa Rhodes, and the father-in-law of two, Mrs. Keyona Milner and Nathaniel Rhodes. A humble servant of God, he recounts becoming saved at an early age as he received the Gift of the Holy Ghost and came to know the Lord. He is humbled in his love

for God and his church, serving on the deacon board for over 29 years.

Harvey earned both his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and his master's degree in Education with emphasis in Criminal Justice from Troy University. He was also a graduate of the Sergeants Major Academy Class 42, in Fort Bliss, Texas. He went on to serve as a Command Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army for twenty-four years, before retiring. He also served eight years with the Columbus Police Department. He started in the Patrol Division before being promoted to the First Crime Analysis Office. From there, he served as the Division Manager for Public Services, before being promoted to his most recent position as the Deputy Director of Public Services. Although he is retiring, Harvey will continue to serve as an Adjunct Professor with the University of Maryland (UMUC) where he will passionately teach students of all ages how to protect themselves from cybercrimes.

In addition to his professional achievements, he served on a number of boards and was affiliated with several associations. These included serving as a board member, and president of the Muscogee Rotary Club, secretary of the 100 Black Men of Columbus, Inc., and supervisor for Georgia Association Conservation Districts, as well as, memberships on the Big Brothers Advisory Committee, Columbus Consolidated Government Pension Board, and Two Rivers Resource Conservation and Development Council. He has also been invited to speak for numerous civic and church events.

Harvey Milner has demonstrated through his career and life, outstanding achievement, service and public distinction. Our community, our state and our nation are better because of him.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 700 thousand citizens of the 2nd Congressional District in honoring and commending Mr. Harvey Milner, Sr. for his contributions to his community and human kind.

HONORING CITY OF LITTLETON MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE BRUCE BECKMAN

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation to City of Littleton Mayor and City Council Member At Large Bruce Beckman for his many years of extraordinary work and dedication to the City of Littleton. Mayor Beckman's leadership has, amongst other accomplishments, contributed to the city's reputation as one of the best places to live in the State of Colorado and in our nation.

Throughout Mayor Beckman's tenure as both Mayor and City Councilman, he consistently guided city policy towards improving the quality of life and growth. He has worked relentlessly towards preserving and cultivating a quality community, developing a financially sound city government, and pursuing a balanced and sustainable local economy.

In addition, Mayor Beckman has represented the interests and concerns of the

City of Littleton as a member of the Denver Metro Mayors Caucus and as an alternate Board Member on the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

Prior to his public service as the City of Littleton Mayor, Beckman served our country and state in the United States Army and the Colorado Army National Guard; ultimately retiring at the rank of Colonel. In Littleton, he worked to protect others throughout his long career with the Littleton Police Department, until his retirement as Division Chief in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, Bruce Beckman represents the very best in public service that the State of Colorado and our nation has to offer. I commend Mayor Beckman; he has served his community, our state, and our country tirelessly over a long and impressive career in public service. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE CITY OF SEMINOLE, FLORIDA ON EARNING THE DESIGNATION OF A PURPLE HEART CITY

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in commemorating the City of Seminole, Florida on earning the designation of a Purple Heart City.

The Purple Heart recognizes members of the Armed Service who have been wounded or killed while serving our country. It is the oldest military decoration awarded by the United States; beginning under General George Washington during the Revolutionary War. As originally conceived, the award recognizes meritorious military service with the Badge of Military Merit. President Washington's merit award was revived with the Purple Heart on his 200th Birthday, to honor those who served the United States Armed Forces with distinction.

The City of Seminole first sought to recognize men and women currently serving, veterans, and those who gave their lives protecting our freedom when the City Council passed the Red, White, and Blue initiative in 2014.

Mayor Leslie Waters and the City of Seminole wanted to display the city's patriotism by fitting every city building and park with a lighted flag pole. Military members were invited to be present at the city's parades and community events, and the city's website was updated to provide instructions for the proper display of the American flag for businesses and homeowners who wished to join in this celebration of patriotism.

After two years of working towards the Purple Heart designation, Mayor Waters secured the honor on March 28, 2017. This distinction publicly acknowledges the City of Seminole's gratitude to the men and women who have served in our military, and continued commitment to recognizing the price they have paid to ensure our freedom. Through civic education programs, military community involvement, and public works honoring the American flag, the City of Seminole demonstrates its commitment to our nation's veterans.

I would like to commend the city of Seminole in its efforts to honor the sacrifices made by our Purple Heart veterans. I am honored and humbled to represent so many veterans in the City of Seminole and across the 13th United States Congressional District of Florida, which is home to over 90,000 veterans and the distinguished C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center in Bay Pines.

Mr. Speaker, please join me once again to commemorate the City of Seminole on gaining the designation of a Purple Heart City, as we continue to appreciate and celebrate those who have sacrificed for this country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call votes 494, 495, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted on Roll Call Vote 494: NAY, and on Roll Call Vote 495: AYE.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. HOBART KELLISTON McDOWELL, III

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Hobart Kelliston McDowell, III—a beloved husband, father, and grandfather—who passed away on September 9, 2017 at the age of 64.

Known to his family and friends as Kelly, Hobart grew up in Northern Virginia on a horse farm and attended Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts. In 1974, Hobart graduated from Stanford University with a degree in Economics and Political Science. He received his juris doctorate from UCLA Law School in 1977 and practiced law in Southern California for 30 years.

Hobart later moved to El Segundo where he served as Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce and on the El Segundo Investment Advisory Committee. He was elected to City Council for the City of El Segundo in 1988 and served as a member for 12 years. In 2004, he was elected Mayor of the City of El Segundo and fought tirelessly on behalf of his constituents for six years. Hobart was instrumental in addressing issues pertaining to the Los Angeles International Airport's modernization plan and was a powerful voice in protecting the Los Angeles Air Force Base by highlighting its importance to the South Bay. During this time, Hobart also served as Chairman of the Consortium of Cities where he worked closely with city officials on multiple planning projects. He was deeply committed to ensuring that El Segundo residents had a voice at the decision-making table. After his retirement as Mayor, Hobart continued to be involved in the region as the Executive Director of the Independent Cities Association, a non-profit group consisting of 32 cities in Southern California.

Hobart is survived by his wife Lisa, his son Kelliston, his brothers Josh and Robert, his

sister Tina and his step-grandchildren, Tommy, Ruby and Tanner. I hope that his family will take comfort in the incredible legacy that he established as a dedicated community leader. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

RECOGNIZING VICENTE V. GARZA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Vicente V. Garza, of Laredo, Texas.

Vicente V. Garza was born on August 5th, 1931 to Vicente Garza, Sr. and Julieta V. Garza in Laredo, Texas. He graduated with honors from St. Augustine High School and then from St. Edwards University in 1951 with a degree in Business Administration. He would soon form many business relationships in Laredo and manage several retail stores and hotels throughout the area. Eventually, through hard work and dedication, he founded El Rio Department Store and contributed to the development of the Riverdrive Mall in Laredo, Texas.

A devoted Catholic and parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Church, Vicente contributed to the Laredo Catholic Consolidation Fund. His firm belief in the educational system led him to serve on the Laredo Community College Education Foundation Board, the Mary Help of Christians School Advisory Board, and sponsor various scholarship programs. Mr. Garza had been named Laredo Morning Times Man of the Year for his efforts.

Mr. Garza was successful both in business and in serving the community. He understood the importance of giving back to others. That is why he was committed to improving the education system. He wanted to ensure that those pursuing their education would have the opportunity to accomplish their ambitions. Mr. Garza's life and work serve as an example to us all.

Vicente is survived by his wife Irma, his daughter Irma P. Trautmann (Robert), siblings Ricardo Garza (Alma), Eduardo Garza, Violeta Zertuche (Ramon), Virginia Shuey (Rick), Juanita Fontaine, Julieta Averitt, and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize Vicente V. Garza.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2017

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed Roll Call vote number 516 regarding "On Motion to Recommend with Instructions" (H.R. 3697). Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes".

I missed Roll Call vote number 517 "On Passage of the Criminal Alien Gang Member Removal Act" (H.R. 3697). Had I been present, I would have voted "No".

I missed Roll Call vote number 518 "On Agreeing to the Amendment, Amendment No.