

George faced heavy racial discrimination and was not allowed to join the American Bar Association or the Chicago Bar Association. Despite this atmosphere, he became one of the most prominent and respected criminal defense lawyers in Illinois. George often worked as the court-appointed defense counsel for crimes of violence and with the NAACP and ACLU on cases of racial segregation. During this time he worked closely with Thurgood Marshall, among others, and was asked to represent Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. George fought tirelessly for equal voting rights, desegregation in schools, open housing, the right to sit on juries, abolishing the death penalty, and fairness in the criminal justice system.

In 1964, George was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County, where he gained recognition as one of the finest criminal court judges. Later, in 1969, he was appointed to the First District Appellate Court of Illinois. After gaining a reputation as one of the most thoughtful and fair jurists, President Gerald Ford appointed George to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in 1976. After retiring in 1987 at the age of 75, George returned to the private practice of law to work on civil and criminal litigation, and to continue to teach at John Marshall Law School.

A member of the bar for over 70 years, George exemplifies service to his community. He led his life fighting for a fair criminal justice system and, in 2011, George played a key role in successfully abolishing the death penalty in Illinois. In addition to the many honors George has received throughout his years fighting for equality, the U.S. Postal Service in New Bedford was also renamed after him, as the "Honorable Judge George N. Leighton Post Office Building."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Honorable George N. Leighton on this joyous occasion of his 105th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him many more years of health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING THE CATHOLICS FOR HOUSING, INCORPORATED 2017 FATHER GERARD CREEDON HOUSING AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the anniversary of Catholics for Housing, Incorporated and to congratulate the Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award recipients.

Catholics for Housing, Incorporated was established in 1979 by Father Gerard Creedon and a dedicated group of community members. Together they began working to expand affordable housing options and prevent homelessness in response to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter entitled, "The Right to a Decent Home." Now in its 38th year, Catholics for Housing has grown substantially in both breadth of mission and clientele. Since its inception, the organization has expanded to provide assistance in 21 counties within the vicinity of the Arlington Catholic Diocese.

The organization has adapted over the years with new goals and a renewed vision while remaining true to its core mission of collaborating with others to support the development, construction, and rehabilitation of affordable housing, as well as to provide senior citizen rental assistance, security deposit assistance, and collaborative education and advocacy efforts. Catholics for Housing provides a continuum of housing through life skills training, senior rental assistance in Fairfax County, down payment assistance in Prince William, Fairfax, Arlington and Loudoun Counties, security deposit assistance, rental homes in Vienna, Arlington, Fairfax and Fredericksburg and homeownership opportunities.

Catholics for Housing is sustained through the dedication and generosity of its board, staff, volunteers, and many community partners. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following Catholics for Housing partners for sustaining the vision established by Father Creedon and our dedicated community members. The 2017 Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award honorees are St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church and Ms. Alice G. Haase.

St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church and its parishioners are a Catholic community committed to nourishing through education and to proclaiming and promoting social justice. Through the St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church Tithing Fund Allocation, the church has generously provided grants to Catholics for Housing. For the last twelve years, St. Mary of Sorrows has provided funding to ensure the sustenance of the Virginia Ely Senior Rental Assistance Program and the Edie Street Security Deposit Assistance Program. Due to their continued support, the annual funding provided by St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church covers the expenses so that two seniors may live independently for a year and covers the security deposit for 10 rental homes.

Alice G. Haase, Esquire is the co-founder of CastroHaase PLLC, a commercial real estate law firm located in Washington, D.C. She dedicates much of her spare time to the betterment of the community. Alice has extended her services to Catholics for Housing to increase access to affordable housing throughout Northern Virginia and further the reach of programs in the community.

In recognition of the efficacy of the unique programs offered, Catholics for Housing has received numerous awards and honors. Catholics for Housing has been recognized by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development for "Best Practices" and received the Best New Project in Northern Virginia Award and an Arlington Community Award. In addition, the organization was named "One of the Best" by the Catalogue of Philanthropy in 2005–06 and again in 2011–12.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2017 Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award recipients and in commending the efforts of Catholics for Housing, Incorporated, its board, staff, and dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to provide needed support and assistance to many in our community.

HONORING THE KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY FOR TWENTY YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL OPERATION

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and am joined by my colleagues from California, Congressman DAVID VALADAO and Congressman JIM COSTA, to recognize an essential resource in our community—the Kern Water Bank—and the incredibly positive impact that it has made upon California's Central Valley over the past twenty years.

This year, the Kern Water Bank celebrates twenty years since the signing of the 75 year Habitat Conservation Plan, which allowed the Water Bank to begin operating at its full capacity in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley. Prior to this monumental agreement, the roughly 32-square mile stretch of land on which the Kern Water Bank operates today was used largely for farming while California experienced wide fluctuations in water supply. The creation of the Kern Water Bank Authority and eventually the Kern Water Bank exemplifies the innovative and determined spirit of the Kern community and the effectiveness with which this community has been able to assist in meeting California's water needs.

Prior to the creation of the Kern Water Bank Authority, the California Department of Water Resources sought to create a system that would serve as a response to the water shortages that often plagued California's agricultural community. The Department of Water Resources struggled for years to achieve anything tangible—facing various legal, institutional, and environmental setbacks that made the project seem nearly impossible. It was at this point that the Kern Water Bank Authority came to fruition, and through the hard work and cooperation of both public and private contributors, the Kern Water Bank was finally feasible. Now, after twenty years of successful operation, we recognize the degree to which the Kern Water Bank has impacted California's water situation, the greater San Joaquin environment and the Central Valley community that Congressman VALADAO, Congressman COSTA and I share.

The daily operations and functions of the Kern Water Bank greatly assisted in combating the drought that has plagued California, especially throughout the past five years. As Delta pumping was slowly reduced, the Kern Water Bank served a particularly important purpose as the prominent storage facility for the water that local farmers and agricultural communities needed even more desperately in light of the drought. Additionally, the Kern Water Bank has become a notable wildlife resource of regional significance. The environment created by the Kern Water Bank supports many special-status species in alignment with the Habitat Conservation Plan and EPA standards, and creates a unique wetlands area that serves as a refuge for local wildlife. Very rarely do projects of this nature serve so many purposes all at once, and we believe that the Kern Water Bank serves as the ideal model for other similar projects.

The Kern Water Bank is the largest operation of its kind in California, and has even

been described as the most effective ground-water storage program in the United States. It is with great pride that Congressman VALADAO, Congressman COSTA and I recognize the vast success of the Kern Water Bank Authority and the Kern Water Bank. We look forward to witnessing the continued efforts of the Bank in serving the water needs of the Central Valley.

TRIBUTE TO ELSIE NEGLEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Elsie Negley of Clarinda, Iowa on the occasion of her 106th birthday. Elsie was born on July 29, 1911 in Page County, Iowa.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Elsie's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Elsie has lived through nineteen United States Presidents and twenty-three Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Elsie in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 106th birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Elsie on reaching this incredible milestone, and in wishing her nothing but the best.

HONORING LARRY MISHAL

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, for more than 30 years, trickle-down economics has influenced our policies to redistribute economic power to the top.

My friend and outgoing Executive Director, Larry Mishal has long been at the forefront of developing progressive economic alternatives to counter the popularity and effectiveness of trickle-down theory. Thanks in large part to his research; we know trickle-down policies gave us slower growth and stagnant wages for working families.

Throughout his career—before, becoming President of the Economic Policy Institute—Larry focused on researching the wages of working people and making the case for actions that would raise these wages. He realized how important power was in this equation, and so he argued for measures to improve the rights of working people to organize and bargain for higher wages.

Larry's work on the discrepancy between wages and productivity, and his analysis of skyrocketing CEO pay, were the first of their kind. Larry has expanded on and refined this research over the last 30 years. Larry's recent

work focuses on workers' rights and how the erosion of unions has hurt working people—union and non-union alike.

Throughout his career, Larry Mishal has created a necessary counter balance to the "common knowledge" Wall Street approach to economic policy in the U.S. He did this through his own research, but also by building EPI up as a research organization willing to take on the conventional wisdom in either party.

We all know the immeasurable contribution Larry and EPI have made to successive campaigns to raise minimum wages at the federal and state levels. For years, EPI's Policy Center has provided the economic analysis of the Progressive Caucus budget. We know the budget adds up, would boost wages, and would, in time, lower the deficit. We know it would build better infrastructure and a better education system because EPI, under Larry's leadership, runs all the numbers for us, and alerts us if our plans threaten to come up short in any way. Larry's contribution is incredibly valuable as it provides a concrete framework for our fight to support working folks across the country.

After 30 years at EPI—15 as President—Larry is stepping aside at the end of 2017. He will continue to provide innovative research on the rights and wages of working people. And, he will remain at EPI as a senior researcher. Thea Lee, who is the incoming President, will have big shoes to fill. However, Thea is the perfect fit to build on Larry's legacy and EPI's work on behalf of low- and middle-income families.

I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to Larry for his years of service, and I look forward to seeing the incredible work he will do in the months and years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS 2017 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations on the occasion of its 67th Annual Citizen of the Year Awards Banquet. The Federation is a coalition of civic and homeowners associations who work together to promote and support initiatives that will benefit all. Each year, the Federation honors a few select individuals for their extraordinary contributions to our community. As a former two-term President of the Federation, I understand that those who volunteer their time, energies, and talents to civic activities play a vital role in making Fairfax County one of the best places in the nation in which to live, work, and raise a family. I am honored to recognize the following individuals for their service to our community:

2017 Citizen of the Year: Joseph Chudzick: "A model citizen with a passion for serving his community." A more apt description could not be found. Joe's contributions to his community are many and varied, from Boy Scouts to the Mason Neck Lions Club to serving as a volunteer at polling stations on Election Day. Joe's passion for service also extends far beyond

the borders of Fairfax County. He has served in the Peace Corps, as a Foreign Service Officer in the U.S. Department of State and in the U.S. Air Force. One would not think it was possible to find so many different ways to serve, but Joe has shown that it is. We should all strive to mirror his example.

Citation of Merit: Cheryl Ellsworth: Cheryl is receiving this citation for an issue that is close to my heart, namely affordable housing. During my time on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I worked to address this important issue in conjunction with combatting homelessness. Cheryl has shown similar dedication to these causes through her work with Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services. Her work has received numerous accolades, including the Washington Post Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management and the Fairfax County Nonprofit of the Year Award.

Citation of Merit: Emily McCoy: Emily is currently serving her 35th year on the Fairfax County Commission for Women and has spent her entire career fighting for the rights of women and girls. Emily has also been a leader in Fairfax County's efforts to combat the scourge of domestic violence and served as the representative for the Commission for Women to the County's Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy and Coordinating Council for five years.

Citation of Merit: Ken Balbuena: Ken has distinguished himself as a tireless and effective advocate for his community. As President of the North Springfield Civic Association, he has worked to revive County ordinances regarding the upkeep of lawns in neighborhoods, established traffic calming measures to combat speeding and successfully lobbied for the local crossing guard to receive traffic control training. In each of these instances, as well as many others, Ken has kept the community informed on his progress and successfully solicited their input to guide the process according to the will of the neighborhood. He is truly a testament to effective volunteer leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these incredible individuals and in congratulating them on being honored by the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations. Civic engagement is the foundation of a healthy community, and Fairfax County residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life due in part to the efforts of these individuals. The contributions and leadership of these honorees have been a great benefit to our community and truly merit our highest praise.

CONGRATULATING SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize Shiloh Baptist Church on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.

For the last century, Shiloh Baptist Church has been an integral part of the community in Waukegan, Illinois. This extraordinary anniversary is a moment of celebration for the entire Shiloh family, and I wish them well as they mark the occasion this weekend.