

After retiring as a crossing guard, Pedro could dedicate more time to his first love, the guitar. He would travel across town to meet with his friends in the guitar group. Together, they would polish their versions of the classic Mexican love ballads, even as he modestly repeated that he was not learning anything new.

I close by saying that Pedro Ramirez Davis was a hard-working and decent man from very humble origins. Pedro, like so many immigrants, came to this country to work hard and build upon the character and values of our nation. He did so with pride and purpose. He lived a life worthy of recognition, honor and respect. His lifetime of involvement on behalf of the working people and the less fortunate in his community has not gone unnoticed. Pedro Ramirez Davis will be sorely missed.

#### HONORING TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Truman State University on their 150th Anniversary. Since 1867, this fine institution of higher learning has been producing quality graduates who greatly enrich our society with the knowledge and values that have been instilled in them.

Founded on September 2, 1867, in Kirksville, Missouri, by Joseph Baldwin, the school was originally known as the North Missouri Normal School and Commercial College and existed to train teachers to serve in public schools. It received several name and mission changes over the years and today, it is known as Truman State University. Building on a tradition of academic excellence, Truman State became the state's only public liberal arts and sciences university in 1985 at the direction of the Missouri Legislature. The recipient of multiple national accolades, the school continues to successfully embody their mission of providing affordable education to exemplary students. Highly selective in the students they accept, Truman State University boasts both the highest retention rate of freshman to sophomore students among public universities in Missouri and the highest public university graduation rate in the state.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the rich 150 year history of Truman State University. This elite public, liberal arts university in rural Northeast Missouri has educated generations of students who have made an exemplary impact both at home and abroad. I commend President Dr. Sue Thomas and the faculty and staff—past, present and future—for their commitment to providing the next generation with a quality education. I am extremely honored to represent this fine institution in the United States Congress.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF ARNOLD PARK

#### HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Army veteran, community

leader, and my constituent, Arnold Park of Streator, Illinois.

Mr. Park served his country for two years in Germany before returning home to Streator to run the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Agency for the next thirty-five years. In this capacity, he was a trusted community member and able to provide peace of mind to thousands of my constituents. He also served his community as a member and President of the Streator School Board and as a council officer at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

His dedication to his community and his neighbors continued throughout his life, with Mr. Park most recently dedicating his time and efforts to the Ramp Builders for St. Paul, an organization he founded which constructs and installs wheelchair ramps to help individuals with handicaps and senior citizens access their homes. The Ramp Builders have built hundreds of ramps since 1987 and it now serves people in nearby communities such as Ottawa, Marseilles, and Seneca.

Without question, Arnold Park positively impacted not only his family and loved ones, but also the entire Streator community. His commitment to his profession, his family, his community, and his faith should serve as an example to all of us.

Sadly, Mr. Park passed away on October 9, 2017. I offer my condolences to his widow, children, and grandchildren. Each of them should know how grateful his community and his country are for all he achieved during his life. It is truly an honor to represent an area of Illinois in which people like Arnold Park are making a difference in others' lives each and every day.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE VOLUNTEER SERVICE OF THE BAY ORAL SURGERY & IMPLANT CENTER AND ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEONS-BAYCARE CLINIC

#### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteer service of the Bay Oral Surgery & Implant Center and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons-BayCare Clinic. Since September 2014, these two groups have taken turns each week volunteering their professional services at the N.E.W. Community Clinic, a federally qualified health center in northeastern Wisconsin.

Over the last three years, these groups have provided expert care on a volunteer basis to over 1,200 patients and completed more than 3,300 surgical procedures. The patients these oral surgeons continue to serve are among the most vulnerable members of society, including those who are disabled, in wheelchairs, are cognitively delayed, have Alzheimer's or other severe forms of mental illness.

Without this volunteer service at the N.E.W. Community Clinic, many of these patients would not have access to the necessary oral procedures they need and deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in commending the humanitarian work of the Bay Oral Surgery & Implant

Center and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons-BayCare Clinic, and thank them for their ongoing commitment to serving those in need across northeastern Wisconsin.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY'S HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

#### HON. DAVE BRAT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the centennial of Chesterfield County's historic courthouse. This building is a point of pride for the county of Chesterfield and is an official Historic Landmark for Chesterfield and the commonwealth of Virginia.

The Chesterfield Courthouse sits where the original 1749 colonial courthouse once stood. It took only a mere eight months to build the 1917 Courthouse and began hearing cases shortly after construction. The bell from the 1749 Colonial courthouse has been carefully preserved and is the oldest historic artifact in Chesterfield County. It currently stands on display at the Chesterfield County Museum. The bell is, in fact, three years older than the great Liberty Bell.

The Courthouse is more than a well-preserved Landmark, it is a symbol of our great history. When it was built in 1917, it was one of the first preservation struggles in our nation. It was the place where WWI draftees camped out as they waited to ship out to training camps. It has and will continue to represent the critical third branch of government where it still hears cases to this day, 100 years later.

A centennial anniversary is a great accomplishment and is worth recognition and appreciation. It is necessary for our culture and history to be preserved and remembered; whether that be in the abstract of our ideals and principles, or in the physical; such as the Chesterfield Courthouse. Behind the physical buildings is where our principles and values lie. For this reason, I want to recognize the 100 year anniversary of the historic courthouse in Chesterfield, Virginia.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN T. FARINELLA

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as I pay tribute to the recipient of the 2017 New Jersey Principal of the Year Award, Mr. John T. Farinella of Rahway High School.

Mr. Farinella is a lifelong South Plainfield resident and a graduate of South Plainfield High School. After high school, he went on to earn a dual bachelor's degree in economics and mathematics from Pennsylvania State University. He later received his Master's in Education Administration and Supervision from Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey, followed by his Juris Doctor from Seton Hall University's School of Law. Mr. Farinella has worked in the New Jersey public school system for more than 20 years, and he has

served the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association (NJPSA) as a member of its Council, Legislative Committee, and Constitution Review Committee.

During his time as Principal of Rahway High School, Mr. Farinella has coordinated two key programs that have dramatically helped the students of Rahway High School: the Freshman Transition Program and the Rutgers Future Scholars Program. The Freshman Transition Program provides a support system for Rahway High School's incoming freshmen as they acclimate to the differences between middle school and high school. It helps them begin to plan their lives beyond high school. The Rutgers Future Scholars program recognizes and mentors eighth grade students whose parents have not graduated from college. Fifteen students who perform to the satisfaction of Rahway High School and the Rutgers Future Scholars Program are invited each year, free of charge, to attend Rutgers University.

Mr. Farinella and his staff have dedicated much of their time and effort over the past six years to creating a more comprehensive and complete learning environment for the children of Rahway High School. Through his work at Rahway High School, Mr. Farinella has shown students the value of a college degree and created a college-going mentality throughout his school. Mr. Farinella has shown passion through his leadership and vision for Rahway High School. The Tenth District of New Jersey is proud and honored to have Mr. John T. Farinella investing in the futures of the students of Rahway High School.

#### RECOGNIZING BRIGADIER GENERAL STEVEN P. BULLARD FOR HIS MILITARY SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

##### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, we rise to recognize the distinguished military service and retirement of Brigadier General Steven P. Bullard of the United States Air Force and the Kentucky Air National Guard. General Bullard was commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force and earned his wings as a navigator in the C-130 Hercules aircraft in 1985. Since that time, General Bullard quickly rose to vital leadership positions including: Chief of Staff of the Kentucky Air National Guard; Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff, Joint Force Headquarters-Kentucky National Guard; and a member of the Joint Air Component Coordination Element (JACCE) staff for the Commander, 7th Air Force, Osan Air Base, South Korea.

Over his many years of service, General Bullard worked hard to establish meaningful and trustworthy relationships with Members of Congress to effectively communicate the policies and concerns of the Kentucky Adjutant Generals Office. Through his leadership, General Bullard helped improve the lives of U.S. service members and strengthened the national security of the United States of America. We honor his military service and sacrifice that have led to the betterment of our nation.

#### HONORING 1 OCTOBER FIRST RESPONDERS

##### HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the on-call and off-duty first responders whose training, instincts, and valor saved lives and prevented further tragedy on October 1st in Las Vegas.

Southern Nevada's police, firefighters, and medical professionals rushed into gunfire, suppressed an active shooter, and prepared the community for its recovery. As bullets rained down and innocent victims lay in need of assistance, crews from Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, and Clark County entered a situation without hesitation, despite knowing few details about the scope of the attack. Off-duty officials who attended the concert went from enjoying a night of music to selflessly acting under fire.

Amid the report of firearms, the whiz of bullets, and the screams of horror, first responders risked their lives to shield the helpless, provide medical assistance, and secure an area that was the target of an unspeakable event.

Their service did not stop after the shooting. Many went home for a few minutes to change their blood-soaked clothes and hug their family members. Then they returned to a grieving community. Not all of Las Vegas' heroes were lucky enough to go back to their families. Some, like Las Vegas Metro Police Officer Charles Hartfield, lost their lives. Others left the scene with gunshot wounds and various injuries. They were all Nevada's Guardian Angels that night. Those heroes and their family members cannot be thanked enough for their service and sacrifices.

Likewise, our ambulance services, American Medical Response and Community Ambulance, not only assisted the injured on the scene but rapidly transported hundreds to local hospitals. Our two trauma centers, designed to accommodate a fraction of the patients they received in the hours after the shooting, were able to treat a nonstop flow of victims. Our charities immediately set up blood drives and other donation centers to meet the needs of victims. On their own accord, good Samaritans opened their car doors to fleeing concertgoers, turned their belts into tourniquets, and imparted countless acts of kindness in the hours and days following the tragedy.

Through it all we were guided by the leadership of LVMPD Sheriff Joe Lombardo, LVMPD Undersheriff Kevin McMahon, Clark County Fire Chief Greg Cassell, University Medical Center CEO Mason VanHouweling, Sunrise Hospital CEO Todd Sklamberg, and Special Agent Aaron Rouse of the Las Vegas FBI.

These were among the first Nevadans to take action on October 1st. They have had sleepless nights, skipped meals, and borne the weight of the world on their shoulders. Thanks to their guidance and sacrifice, the community has been able to mourn and recuperate in peace. On behalf of Nevada's First Congressional District, I want to thank these leaders and all the local heroes who jeopardized their own lives to make sure that so many in Southern Nevada would be able to face a new day.

They made Las Vegas Strong.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded because I was absent due to travel delays. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 569, YEA on Roll Call No. 570, and NAY on Roll Call No. 571.

#### RECOGNIZING THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF EMERALD COAST CRIME STOPPERS

##### HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the twentieth anniversary of the Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers. This organization is celebrating 20 years of partnering with the community and local law enforcement.

Twenty years ago, a small group of community leaders and citizens attended and formed the nonprofit organization known as Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers.

Launched in 1997, the concept has developed into a combination of efforts by local media, businesses, civic and social clubs, law enforcement agencies, and the public. Donations of airtime, newspaper space, and reward monies have established Crime Stoppers as an effective tool to fight crime in our area. Crime Stoppers provides a method for local law enforcement to receive information on crimes. These efforts increase tips, which in turn increase arrests in our community.

A unique quality of this organization is that it is not a branch of any law enforcement agency or local government, but is run by community members who graciously volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all who have served in any capacity with this very successful organization. The work that has been done by this group has proved to be invaluable to our communities.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to congratulate Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers on their 20th Anniversary.

#### HONORING DONOVAN SMITH

##### HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Donovan Smith, who is a young entrepreneur and philanthropist, who has made a positive impact in our community through his soap making business.

Donovan came to New Mexico in 2011 with his mother, Ms. Casey Smith, after falling upon hard times. Ms. Smith, a Navy veteran,