

After serving under Mayor Lindsay as general Counsel for the then Housing Development Administration, Bob opened his own law office in Riverdale, where he still practices. Bob plans to continue practicing law in Riverdale and remain an active participant in community affairs.

This year, The Kingsbridge-Riverdale-Van Cortlandt Development Corporation is honoring Bob at their annual Greenway Gala. They could not have found a more deserving honoree. Congratulations to Bob on this wonderful honor.

JANE STAPLETON: TESTIMONY BEFORE THE BIPARTISAN TASK FORCE TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following:

Good morning Congresswoman Kuster and co-chairs Meehan, Speier and Joyce.

My name is Jane Stapleton and along with Dr. Sharyn Potter, I am the Director of Prevention Innovations Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. It is an honor to provide testimony on campus sexual violence and promoting healthy relationships and consent education in K through 12 schools to the Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence. Prevention Innovations is made up of researchers and practitioners who work together to create, evaluate and disseminate evidence-based prevention and responses to sexual and relationship violence. We work to build practitioners' capacities to respond to survivors, prevent violence and navigate the changing landscape of federal laws and mandates. We believe that to truly end the problems of sexual and relationship violence in K through 12 schools and post-secondary education, we must understand what works in prevention and response and then implement evidence-based and research informed prevention strategies.

Together, my colleagues and I have developed, evaluated and implemented prevention strategies to engage community members as bystanders who take responsibility to create safe and respectful learning and living environments. Prevention Innovations' evidence-based prevention strategies include:

Bringing in the Bystander, an in-person prevention program with high school and adult versions

Know Your Power bystander intervention social marketing campaign

uSafeUS, a mobile app that puts trauma informed responses and evidence-based prevention strategies in the hands of survivors and their allies

Still in development: a Bystander Intervention Video Game

Increased attention to sexual and relationship violence in schools has led to exponential growth in the number of vendors offering solutions to these pervasive public health problems. Vendors sell products that guarantee compliance and prevention, often times with little to no scientific evidence to suggest that they are effective. Prevention Innovations has recently published a white paper on choosing prevention products. It seems appropriate to share this guidance with the Bipartisan Task Force.

It is essential to know whether prevention products have been thoroughly evaluated

with scientific research methods. Prevention products should have stated, measurable learning objectives that can be evaluated. Ongoing evaluation and utilization of the best available evidence should also inform the product's evolution over time.

Sexual and relationship violence are nuanced issues, so it is vital that prevention efforts are developed by people with expertise. The best interventions adhere to the principles for effective prevention.

Effective prevention strategies are informed by theories that have been developed and validated through rigorous scientific scrutiny. Effective prevention products should be grounded in theories that foster change.

Prevention efforts are most effective when they use multiple modalities such as text, video, audio, case studies, interactive exercises, gaming principles, and skills practice. Products should be developmentally and culturally appropriate to your audience and well-suited to the method of dissemination.

It is critical that all efforts promote a campus culture that supports survivors. It is important to consider the impact of prevention products and programs on members of the community who are survivors and secondary survivors, and to ensure they are trauma-informed products.

The product should be informed by those for whom it was intended. A prevention strategy developed for a college student is most likely not appropriate for a high school student and definitely not for a middle school student.

Prevention efforts require sufficient dosage to be effective. Cutting down the prevention dosage could lead to inadequate or no effect or could potentially cause harm. One-time programs are tempting, and vendors may claim that they "check all the prevention boxes," but a solo packaged program or a single annual event will not change campus culture.

It is vital that prevention messages are socioculturally relevant and reflect a community's diversity. For prevention efforts to be effective, members of the community need to see situations and people like those they would regularly encounter.

While we know a lot about prevention, there is still so much we do not know, such as the impact of consent education on reducing sexual assault perpetration; and the effectiveness of on-line prevention modules, community and societal level interventions. The best way to proceed in our efforts is to continue to develop scientifically evaluated prevention strategies and implement these evidence-based and research informed prevention tools in a comprehensive plan that engages all members of the social ecology.

On behalf of Prevention Innovations Research Center, I would like to thank the Bipartisan Task Force for your careful consideration of our suggestions for the most effective elements of prevention in K through 12 and colleges. I welcome your questions and the opportunity to provide additional information.

AIR CARGO SECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2017

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, thirteen years ago, the 9/11 Commission raised red flags "regarding the screening and transport of checked bags and cargo" and

called for "[m]ore attention and resources" to "be directed to reducing or mitigating the threat posed by explosives in vessels' cargo holds."

Today, the threat of a terrorist attack using air cargo is significant. In fact, in July, then-Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly identified cargo-based aviation attacks as a major concern, explaining "there are people out there, very smart people, very sophisticated people who do nothing but try to figure out how to blow up an airplane in flight. . . . [T]here is a fair amount of cargo, what we would attribute to just cargo flown on passenger airplane on space available. [Terrorists] are constantly looking for ways to do this."

That same month, Australian authorities arrested four men on charges that that they plotted to detonate a bomb to bring down an Etihad Airways passenger plane on behalf of ISIS on July 15. Reportedly, "a senior ISIS commander shipped partially assembled components of a bomb on a commercial cargo plane from Turkey to Australia . . . [and] two men in Australia assembled the parts into a functional explosive device." In response to the foiled Australia attack, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued a security directive requiring any air cargo from Turkey bound for the U.S. to undergo enhanced screening. The Australia plot came seven years after a terrorist plot to ship bombs hidden in printer cartridges from Yemen to the United States onboard cargo planes was thwarted.

This increase in the air cargo security risk comes at a time when the volume of goods being moved by air cargo has increased, with the volume, as of 2016 back to approximately 98.4 percent of pre-recession levels with airlines transporting 52 million metric tons of goods.

In response to this security risk, I am introducing the "Air Cargo Security Improvement Act of 2017." My legislation would direct the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to take a number of steps to enhance its responsibilities for air cargo and require the agency to aggressively move towards addressing current and future threats to air cargo. Specifically, my legislation would clarify air cargo security responsibilities at TSA, encourage further technological developments for screening air cargo, review existing air cargo programs, and require the Department of Homeland Security to make permanent the Air Cargo Advance Screening Program.

Mr. Speaker, a decade ago, I was the lead sponsor of legislation that addressed the concerns raised by the 9/11 Commission about the threat of an air cargo-based attack. The "Implementing 9/11 Recommendations Act of 2007" directed TSA to, for the first time, ensure that all cargo carried on passenger planes was screened. My bill recognizes the need to revisit that law and the stark reality that as technology has evolved so have terrorist capabilities. For instance, in 2007, it was unimaginable for terrorists to use laptops as bombs; however, in 2017, the threat of a laptop bomb was so severe that TSA considered banning laptops from airplane cabins, in response to intelligence about terrorist capabilities. The threat posed by terrorists' abilities and desires to exploit vulnerabilities cannot be understated and they have demonstrably set their targets on air cargo. We need to be timely and precise in addressing air cargo security,

as we cannot afford, nor should the American public tolerate, otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, I introduce the “Air Cargo Security Improvement Act of 2017” in the hopes that Congress will move with urgency to make Americans more secure from the threat of an air cargo-based terrorist attack and urge my colleagues to join me in working to advance this timely measure.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES AND DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Mr. CONNOLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2017 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Woman in Sales Leadership Award presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs designed to provide the knowledge and tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the United States who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development.

Awards are presented in categories including Excellence in Sales Innovation, Excellence in Sales Training, Excellence in Sales Management, Excellence in Customer Partnering, and Excellence in Strategic Alliances. In addition, Lifetime Achievement Awards are bestowed to a select few who have demonstrated continued success and have made significant contributions in their fields.

The recipient of the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Awards is Mr. Paul Smith, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Public Sector for Red Hat, North America. In this capacity, Mr. Smith manages the Red Hat portfolio across the entire federal government, as well as the state and local marketplaces as it relates to education. Prior to joining Red Hat, Mr. Smith enjoyed successful careers at VERITAS, Netscape Communication and Oracle.

The recipient of the inaugural Woman in Sales Leadership Award is Ms. Mary Beth Cockerham, Vice-President of Sales for Deltek. In this capacity, Ms. Cockerham manages all sales personnel related to Deltek's GovWinIQ program, which provides business intelligence to companies that are pursuing public sector sales. Prior to joining Deltek, Ms. Cockerham spent 20 years with Sun Microsystems in a variety of data-related sales roles.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Paul Smith and Mary Beth Cockerham for their innovative and effective leadership and in congratulating them on receiving the 2017 IES Lifetime Achievement Award and Woman in Sales Leadership Award.

DETECTIVE MIGDALIA “MINDY” RAMOS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to represent one of the great public servants in the northwest Bronx who day after day works hard to keep our community safe.

Detective Migdaha Ramos, better known to all of us as Mindy, was born and raised in Manhattan. She attended Fashion Industry High School and upon graduation, worked in the retail and fashion industry. In July of 1998, Mindy started on a new path as a member of the New York Police Department. She was appointed to the 50th Precinct following her completion of the Police Academy, and has for the last 18 years honorably served the community there in different assignments.

Detective Ramos started as a Uniform Patrol Officer, answering 911 radio calls and addressing community concerns. Shortly thereafter, she was assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit. For the next seven years, she would conduct investigations, arrest violent perpetrators, and assist victims in receiving appropriate services.

In 2007, Detective Ramos had the pleasure of being assigned as the Precinct Community Affairs Officer, the position she still holds to this day. Since then, she has established a great working relationship with the elected officials, business district, community board, and various other entities that serve the community. She also has a wonderful rapport with the residents of the northwest Bronx, which is why in December of 2015, she was promoted to Detective.

I have always been impressed with Detective Ramos's commitment to the neighborhood and her responsiveness to the needs of the community. I know when it comes to my office it has been a true pleasure working with her.

This year, the Kingsbridge-Riverdale-Van Cortlandt Development Corporation is honoring Detective Ramos at their annual Greenway Gala. They have chosen a most deserving honoree. I want to congratulate Detective Ramos on this great honor and thank her for all she has done to improve and strengthen our neighborhood.

TRIBUTE TO THE BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Bedford Public Library in Bedford, Iowa for celebrating their 100 year anniversary.

The Bedford Public Library was built in 1916 as a gift from Andrew Carnegie and is one of 101 Carnegie Libraries built in Iowa. It has come a long way since 1916, there are no longer just books housed there. It is home to five public access computers with high speed internet connections along with a number of other modern amenities. The library also contains a large genealogy collection.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent those who have made the Bedford Public Library such an integral part of the community and it is with great pride that I recognize them today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them for this outstanding milestone and in wishing them all nothing but continued success.

SUGAR LAND MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAMS RAISE MONEY TO HELP BEAT BREAST CANCER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 7th and 8th Grade Girls' Volleyball Teams at Sugar Land Middle School for their efforts to raise money to help beat breast cancer.

The teams worked together to raise \$1,375 for the Fort Bend Junior Service League's Breast Cancer Fund, in spite of the hardships they have faced after Hurricane Harvey. These girls exemplify what it means to be a team, not just on the court, but also working together to give back to our community. The funds they raised will go toward improving quality of life, diminishing suffering and providing access to early detection and treatment for Fort Bend County breast cancer patients.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Sugar Land Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Girls' Volleyball Teams. We are very proud of them and look forward to their future successes. Go Titans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER TUG HILL COMMISSION CHAIRMAN KEN VIGUS

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ken Vigus, the former Chairman of New York State's Tug Hill Commission.

Ken had a great interest in and love for the Tug Hill Region of New York. He was appointed to the Tug Hill Commission in 2002, where he worked to help local governments and citizens shape the future of the Tug Hill Region, which encompasses much of Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida and Oswego counties. With a total of 14 years of service, Ken served as both Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Commission.

Ken's involvement in the region did not stop there. He enjoyed hunting on the Tug Hill Plateau and served as President of the Horse Shoe Hunting Club. He was also a member of the Boonville Zoning Board of Appeals and served on the Boonville Town Planning Board. Earlier in his life, Ken made important contributions to both his country and to his community by serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam War and then as a professional firefighter.