

supports women business owners, encouraging them to enter the world of business ownership. She also serves with organizations that focus on aiding the hungry and homeless in Central Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, strong communities are built upon people like Michelle, who go above and beyond their own self-interests and devote their time and energy to helping others. I am honored to represent leaders like her in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Michele for receiving this outstanding recognition and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF BELL'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the City of Bell on its 90th anniversary. I am deeply honored to represent this city as part of California's 40th Congressional District, and I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Bell and its residents on the city's anniversary.

The foundation of the City of Bell can be traced back to the arrival of the first group of settlers in the mid-1870s. Among the settlers were the city founder James George Bell and his wife and children. They moved to a property on Gage Avenue that is now known as the Bell House. The house is now a historic landmark filled with antique furnishings, vintage clothing, and photographs, and is open for the public to visit.

In 1898, the town's name was officially changed from Rancho San Antonio to Bell, in honor of its pioneer founders. The City of Bell was incorporated in 1927 and is a small, vibrant community composed of young families, small businesses, and an industrial district.

Between 1920 and 1935, Bell experienced a growth spurt where schools, businesses, and community organizations were established, such as the Bell Chamber of Commerce and Bell High School.

Since its incorporation, the city has expanded its facilities, obtained land for public parks and recreational areas, and acquired basic amenities such as a city hall, parks, a fire department building, and a police department.

The city has recently enhanced transparency and accountability within the city government. In 2013, the city's website earned an A— from a non-profit organization that examines state and local government transparency. Through the city website, the public can now watch live streaming council meetings, look up city contracts, view warrant payments and public officials' salaries and compensations, and review budget information.

Over the years, Bell has become a vibrant city with an innovative approach to enhancing its services and infrastructure in order to support its growing community. Bell encourages programs that provide recreational activities and community services, preserve and improve the environment, and protect the safety of Bell residents.

In 2016, the Bell City Council adopted a five-year strategic plan, which outlines the top

five targets for the city: economic development, community outreach, public image, developing and improving strong city management, and fiscal sustainability.

Currently, the City of Bell is mostly composed of a large Latino population and a growing Lebanese American community. Bell's commitment to community engagement can be seen through the various programs it offers to youth, adults, and seniors.

Over 700 children are participating in the city's soccer program and parents turn out in large numbers to support their kids. Some parents even become team coaches. The city has also developed new adult sports programs, and has been renovating parks by establishing maintenance procedures for the synthetic fields.

Ernest Debs Park, which is home to the youth soccer program, includes a synthetic soccer field with covered bleachers and a covered fitness zone that are available to residents every day of the week. The largest park in the city is Veterans Memorial Park, which commemorates the contributions of war veterans to our country and our freedom. Veterans Memorial Park includes a veterans monument, a rose garden, a baseball field with stadium seating, two large park pavilions, and batting cages.

Family events such as the city's annual street festival, the Summer Concert Series, and the Bell 5K Run/Walk have also been developed to promote community, health, and fitness in the city. The city's smartphone application has made it possible for its residents to report street improvements, pickup of bulky items, and graffiti removals through the touch of a button.

The new City of Bell Technology Center has provided a safe learning environment where both adults and youth can access computers. This Technology Center provides free after-school computer skills training classes, which include introductions to computer equipment and operation, word processing techniques, e-mail correspondence, and fundamental skills required for safe web access.

As the City of Bell celebrates its 90th anniversary this month, the community will also be celebrating some of the following achievements: a "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada; the establishment of a Planning Commission; the initiation of a "Business of the Month" effort to highlight local businesses; a partnership with the Bell Chamber of Commerce to establish the Bell Family Food Truck Night; and adoption of the city's Strategic Plan and the new city logo.

That new logo is shaped by a bell design, and includes the city's motto: "Home . . . in the center of it all" to inspire civic pride and civic engagement in the community.

The City of Bell has made huge strides in the past couple of years and does not show any sign of slowing down. I ask my colleagues to join me in sending our best wishes and congratulations to Bell on its 90th anniversary. This small, diverse, vibrant community makes residents proud and visitors feel at home. I expect more great things to come in Bell's future.

HONORING FIRST SERGEANT WILL
WILLIAMS, U.S. ARMY (RETIRED)

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor First Sergeant Will Williams, U.S. Army, Retired, of Round Rock, Texas, for his selfless dedication and service to our nation and his continued, unparalleled contributions to his community. I am honored to award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

Following his enlistment in 1976, SGT Williams contributed 24 years of service that included deployments from Panama and Somalia, to Desert Shield and Desert Storm as an Army Ranger, Small Weapons Specialist with the 2nd Division. His commitment to keeping our nation safe is in his blood. Three generations of his family served in combat roles in the United States Army, and among the three they share 4 Bronze Star Medals.

SGT Williams' service and sense of duty did not culminate with his military service. Upon returning to Round Rock, SGT Williams dedicated his civilian life to the uplifting and betterment of his community. In 2013, he helped raise \$50,000 for Dell's Children's Hospital and over \$10,000 for the Ronald McDonald House. In Round Rock, SGT Williams organized a food drive, sent out a care package to deployed soldiers, and provided clothing and supplies to 300 foster kids through Project Care.

His service has been recognized and appreciated throughout the community. SGT Williams was recognized with the Service to Mankind Award by the Round Rock Sertoma Club, received the Leadership Award from the "Heart of Texas Award" organization, and was honored with the Governor's Lone Star Achievement Award from Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

I commend First Sergeant Will Williams' selfless service to his community and nation. His commitment to excellence and citizenship reflect the best values we hold as Americans. I join his family, friends, and colleagues in saluting his great work and dedication to our country.

H.R. 732, STOP SETTLEMENT
SLUSH FUNDS ACT OF 2017

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today in opposition to the so-called Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2017 (H.R. 732).

The Department of Justice has long had the authority to enter into and enforce settlement agreements on behalf of the United States government. This includes payments to third parties that help right the wrongs caused by an entity that has broken the law.

For instance, the government can negotiate a settlement that allows payments to groups like nonprofits that help aid in the recovery of the individuals and communities hurt by unlawful conduct. These third-party payments are particularly important when it is impossible

to quantify all of the harm done, as is often true of environmental cases.

When a corporation responsible for dumping waste into a waterway or emitting pollutants into the air agrees to this type of settlements, the non-profits they pay restore coastlines, rebuild ecosystems, and often coordinate clean-up activities. This legislation threatens that critical remediation and recovery work.

The Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2017 ends this common-sense practice by prohibiting the U.S. government from entering into or enforcing settlement agreements that require payments to third parties. It also makes it much more difficult to provide relief for damage that is more generalized and non-quantifiable. When a power plant dirties the air of a community, the number of visits to the doctor or new cases of asthma cannot be precisely measured. That does not mean that they should not be held responsible for the harm they caused.

House Republicans have used the first 10 months of this Congress to do little more than push policies that reduce corporate accountability and line the pockets of corporate bad actors. I oppose the Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2017.

TRIBUTE TO ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF IOWA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Animal Rescue League of Iowa for being named the 2016 501(c) of the Year at the Des Moines East and South Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony earlier this year.

The Animal Rescue League (ARL) of Iowa is the largest nonprofit animal shelter in Iowa. ARL cares for thousands of animals every year, and offers a wide range of services to the public. From adoption, behavior training, spay/neuter services, and education, ARL aims to help people become responsible pet owners, as well as to help prevent animals from ultimately ending up in shelters.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent non-profit organizations like the Animal Rescue League of Iowa in the United States Congress 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 recognition and in wishing them all nothing but continued success.

RECOGNITION OF MR. DARRYL DIORIO

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Darryl DiOrio for his forty-seven years of service and leadership in the Johnstown community.

Mr. DiOrio holds degrees from Saint Vincent College, the Pennsylvania State University and Saint Francis University.

He has devoted his entire career to working in the steel industry, including twenty years at Bethlehem Steel Corporation, six years as President and CEO of Johnstown Wire Technologies, and nineteen years as President and CEO of Gautier Steel Ltd.

Under Mr. DiOrio's leadership, Gautier Steel recovered from a near shutdown to a multi-million-dollar operation.

Furthermore, Mr. DiOrio saved thousands of family-sustaining jobs by helping keep both Johnstown Wire and Gautier Steel in the Johnstown area.

Mr. DiOrio's leadership and great care for the community will leave an impact on Johnstown for years to come.

I would like to congratulate Mr. DiOrio on his recent retirement and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DENNIS DEWINE, U.S. ARMY

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service and achievements of an esteemed and valued citizen, Captain Dennis DeWine, U.S. Army. He has dedicated himself to his community and nation and is an embodiment of the Army values of honor, loyalty, and selfless service. CPT DeWine is a fitting and worthy recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

CPT DeWine joined the Army in 1967, graduated Helicopter Flight School in 1968, and spent the next seven years as a helicopter pilot; twenty months of which were two tours of duty in Vietnam. As a testament to his valorous service in Vietnam, the President of the United States presented CPT DeWine with the Distinguished Flying Cross award for his actions above and beyond the call of duty. After being Honorably Discharged CPT DeWine was inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor.

CPT DeWine's leadership skills have been invaluable throughout his post-military career. After rejoining civilian life, he became the founder, broker, and president of ERA Colonial Real Estate and Colonial Residential Properties, Inc. Despite his busy schedule, CPT DeWine remains dedicated to serving his community. He can often be found in jeans and boots working alongside his friends and neighbors. CPT DeWine's passion to serve is evident through his participation and leadership in numerous organizations, such as Central Texas Voices for Life, where he serves as Chairman. CPT DeWine has also proven his commitment to serving others through his company's efforts to successfully raise \$100,000 for Muscular Dystrophy.

Despite his business and charitable commitments, CPT DeWine has found time to raise a closeknit family, volunteer in community organizations, and remain active in his church. With admiration and deep respect, I pay tribute to Dennis DeWine for his sacrifices and the lasting impact he has had on his community and country.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL MARK SHADE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I recognize and congratulate Colonel Mark Shade on his recent retirement after years of service as Deputy Commanding Officer of the United States Army Training Center and Fort Jackson. Colonel Shade was commissioned after graduating from The Citadel in 1989 and his first duty assignment was at Fort Hood Texas, as a Platoon Leader in support of the 1st Cavalry Division during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. After attending the Combined Logistics Officer Advanced Course and the Petroleum Officers Course at Fort Lee, Colonel Shade reported to the 10th Mountain Division and served as the Assistant Support Operations Officer for 1st Brigade. He was then selected to Command Headquarters and Headquarters Company and Alpha Company of the 10th Forward Support Battalion.

After attending the Tactical Officer's Education Program at the United States Military Academy at West Point, and receiving his Masters in Education (Counseling and Leader Development) in 1999, Colonel Shade was the Tactical Officer for company A3. He then attended the United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Colonel Shade served in a multitude of leadership and staff positions within the 25th Infantry Division, and was the G4 for United States Army Cadet Command at Fort Knox prior to assuming his final position at Fort Jackson.

Colonel Shade has multiple combat deployments to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn. He has been awarded two legions of Merit, four Bronze Star Medals, the Defense Meritorious Medal, three Army Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, the Combat Action Badge, and the Airborne Badge. I am grateful for the service of Colonel Mark Shade and his family to the Midlands community and to the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE WAUKEE HIGH SCHOOL BOY'S SWIMMING TEAM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Waukee High School Boy's Swimming Team for winning their second consecutive team state championship on February 11, 2017.

In winning their consecutive title, the Waukee High School Boys Swimming Team doubled their team points from their first championship last year. During the meet, they were able to grab state championships in three individual events, and all three of their relay events finished runner up. I would like to congratulate each member of the Team: