

years of his life to represent Pennsylvanians in this chamber and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring our former colleague, Joseph McDade, for his service and accomplishments. He will be missed.

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**HONORING ANTHONY CHAVEZ**


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**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism and bravery of Albuquerque native, Anthony Chavez, also known as the “Red Hat Hero”. He helped five women escape gun fire during the deadly attack in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 1, 2017.

Chavez was among thousands in the crowd at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival when a gunman fired at the crowd from the 32nd floor of the nearby Mandalay Bay Casino and Hotel. Chavez did not hesitate to help the women who were standing near him.

He made a selfless and courageous decision to help his significant other and four strangers over the fence in front of them so they could retreat to safety. Without his help, it is likely that the women would not have gotten out unharmed.

Chavez then stayed in the area for an additional hour, helping direct people to ambulances and safe locations. He won't refer to himself as a hero, but it is undeniably clear that without his help many could have been injured or killed.

Chavez was dubbed the “Red Hat Hero” because one of the women he saved recognized his unique, red Albuquerque Dukes hat in a photo on social media.

Chavez was one of many heroes during an otherwise tragic night in Las Vegas. As such, he deserves our gratitude for his actions.

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**TRIBUTE TO TIFFANY MENKE**


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**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Tiffany Menke, president of the Urbandale Iowa Chamber of Commerce, for being named a 2017 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

For 18 years, the Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of women who have made a significant difference in business, civic and philanthropic endeavours throughout the Greater Des Moines Area.

Tiffany has spent her life dedicating her time and talents to serving others. It all began during her time in customer service and as vice president of marketing and tourism for the Newton Chamber of Commerce. She oversaw a number of areas and projects while in Newton, helping lead them down a path of sustained success. After Tiffany's time in Newton she moved on to serve as president of the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce for the past

13 years. Her talents and abilities have been instrumental in tripling the chamber's membership, making it one of the best in the region.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent leaders like Tiffany in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community, and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Tiffany on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and in wishing Tiffany nothing but continued success.

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**IN RECOGNITION OF BURNETTA SLOSS-TANNER**


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**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of a dynamic political activist, Burnetta Sloss-Tanner, who passed away on October 23, 2017. She was my confidant, drill instructor, surrogate, auntie, war time general and tireless campaigner. She was a dear friend to me and my family and a friend to Hoosiers everywhere, especially the powerless.

“Ms. Burnetta”, known for her trademark sequined hat, was a pillar in Democratic politics throughout Indianapolis. She long served as the 4th Ward Chair for the Marion County Democratic Party and had a deep love for grassroots politics, holding monthly meetings in her home to train candidates, elected officials, and volunteers on strategy and mobilizing our community. Without Ms. Burnetta, neither me, nor my grandmother, Congresswoman Julia Carson, would have been elected to Congress. I am certain many local and state elected officials can credit her for their successes as well.

Not only was Ms. Burnetta a legend in political circles, she was also beloved by the community. She worked with the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, the Center Township Trustee's office, and countless other organizations.

She was a woman of great faith with a passion for gospel music. She studied under several notable gospel artists, mentored countless others, and was a founding member and director of the award winning Jordan-Aires Gospel Choir. She will always be remembered for her work as a gospel radio personality, hosting The Heartbeat of Good Gospel Music on WTLC. Her passion for, and contributions to, gospel music earned her the title of “The First Lady of Gospel Music” of Indianapolis.

Ms. Burnetta served as a source of change, strength and faith for so many, leaving a lasting impression on generations to come. I am blessed to have had the opportunity to know her.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring our beloved Burnetta Sloss-Tanner for her remarkable service to the City of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and our nation.

**TRIBUTE TO JEFF NOLAN**


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**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jeff Nolan, of Winterset, Iowa for being named the Madison County Chamber of Commerce's Business Person of the Year at this year's Madison County Chamber Banquet.

The Business Person of the Year award is given out annually to a member of the community who has demonstrated a commitment to improving the economy and the business climate of Madison County. Jeff exemplifies that commitment and has worked tirelessly to improving the lives of all residents of Madison County, whether it was his work as President of Union State Bank or his service to the community. He also volunteers his time to the local hospital board, the Chamber Ambassadors and the Greater Madison County Community Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Jeff's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am proud to represent him, and Iowans like him, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jeff for this outstanding achievement and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

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**HONORING ALEX BREGMAN**


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**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Albuquerque's Alex Bregman for his stand-out performance in the 2017 World Series. Bregman's heroics on the baseball diamond helped the Houston Astros win its first World Series in franchise history. Alex also made his hometown and the state of New Mexico proud as he fulfilled his childhood dream and showed the entire world the value of hard work.

Bregman's baseball talent was the stuff of legend in Albuquerque, where he played for Albuquerque Academy. During his sophomore year at the Academy, Bregman was named USA Baseball Player of the Year.

Bregman took his talent to Louisiana State University, where he played baseball with the Tigers from 2013 to 2015.

The Astros drafted Bregman as the 2nd Overall pick in the 2015 Major League Baseball Draft. He quickly rose through the Astros system and during his first full year in the Major Leagues, Bregman hit .284 with 19 home runs and 71 RBI.

In the World Series, Bregman produced 5 runs, 7 hits, 2 home runs, 5 RBI and a stolen base. He produced his biggest moment in what may be the most exciting game in the history of the World Series. With the score tied in the bottom of the 10th inning, Bregman hit a walk-off, RBI single that gave the Astros a pivotal, 13–12 win and the momentum they rode to the championship.

While his offensive prowess contributed to the team's record-breaking statistical performance, Bregman's brilliant defense helped give

the Astros an edge throughout the playoffs. He made several critical plays at third base, including an aggressive catch and throw to home plate in Game 4 to prevent a run.

Following the end of the World Series, the Baseball Hall of Fame announced that Bregman's glove is one of three artifacts from the Series that will be enshrined in Cooperstown.

RECOGNIZING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FORT WALTON BEACH

**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 10 year anniversary of the Christian Life Center at First Baptist Church in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. This 13,000 square foot center was built in 2007 to serve as a community service outreach to residents in the Fort Walton Beach area. Any member of the community is welcomed to hold membership at the Christian Life Center and take full advantage of the multitude of resources they offer.

With approximately 200 members thus far, the center is able to host a wide array of sporting options and programs including Upwards Sporting Program for children and the Special Olympics. In addition to sporting leagues the Christian Life Center offers over 15 exercise classes and programs to members of the community. CLC also offers physical training equipment to assist less mobile individuals with health and wellness. The community has access to the CLC as it serves as the meeting place for the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce in addition to holding various seminars, drives and job fairs.

I would like to personally extend my gratitude to the Christian Life Center and the congregation at First Baptist Church of Fort Walton Beach for their sincere love for the community and the resources they offer to provide a higher quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to congratulate the Christian Life Center on their 10th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MERLIN AND SYLVIA McALLISTER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Merlin and Sylvia McAllister of Shenandoah, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 7, 1946.

Merlin and Sylvia have enjoyed many adventures together throughout their 70 years of marriage. Merlin said, "We've been here, there, and everywhere, and just have a good time and enjoy life. We work together and we

make a good team." They have visited all 50 states and have ventured overseas to Europe. Merlin said throughout his career he has been a jack of all trades and master of none.

Merlin and Sylvia's lifelong commitment to each other, their two children, three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but the best.

HONORING DAVID SEELY

**HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. David Seely who is retiring as the President and CEO of Kirtland Federal Credit Union (KFCU). Throughout his 27 years at the head of the lending institution, Seely oversaw tremendous success as the credit union grew from \$80 million in assets to nearly \$800 million. KFCU now serves more than 48,000 clients, including many men and women in uniform.

Seely also earned a reputation for combatting predatory lending practices and promoting financial education. When the federal government shut down for several days in 2013, Seely ensured his members had access to services such as extended loan due dates and fee waivers while they were furloughed.

In addition to his work with the credit union, Seely volunteered his time to help promote economic growth, as well as support military personnel serving at Kirtland Air Force Base. He served on the Kirtland Partnership Committee, the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce and the New Mexico Association of Commerce & Industry. Recently, Seely received a Humanitarian award from the Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque for his service to non-profit organizations and leadership at Kirtland Federal Credit Union.

His work at the credit union and support for Kirtland Air Force Base was also recognized by Col. Michael Duvall, 377th Air Base Wing Commander, who singled out KFCU as the "Best in the Air Force" for its commitment to improving the quality of life of Kirtland personnel.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend Mr. David Seely for all of his success and his contributions. We wish him well in his retirement. I thank David. He is an inspiration to us all.

HONORING DENISE M. FORTE ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2017*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank and pay tribute to Denise Forte, who is my staff director on the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After a remarkable 20 plus year career in federal service, today is Denise's last day with us.

Denise first came to Capitol Hill as a Women's Research and Education Institute fellow in my personal office in 1994. While she received her degree in computer science from Duke University, Denise's fellowship on Capitol Hill made her realize her true professional calling—helping ensure America's children have equality access to a quality education. I recognized her talent and; at the conclusion of her fellowship, hired her as a full-time employee where she excelled at several positions, including as my legislative director.

Her passion and talent eventually caught the attention of Congressman George Miller, the former Ranking Member and Chairman of the Education and the Workforce Committee. Denise seized an opportunity to join the Committee in 2001, where she served in successively senior roles, eventually becoming Congressman Miller's director of education policy. During her initial service with the Committee, Denise played integral roles in major reforms, including the No Child Left Behind Act, the College Cost Reduction Act, Child Nutrition Reauthorization, reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act, and the Student Aid and Responsibility Act, amongst others.

Denise left the Committee in early 2011 to join the Obama Administration at the Department of Education's Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development as a deputy assistant secretary. In that capacity, she provided strategic advice and counsel to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Denise also directed and managed several policy portfolios, including overseeing budget, higher education, and early education policy development.

In late 2014, my colleagues in the House Democratic Caucus elected me to succeed George Miller as Ranking Member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. I immediately knew who I wanted to help me assemble a staff and lead my team—Denise Forte. As my colleagues know, Denise is well-regarded and respected by Members and staff on both sides of the aisle. She is known to care deeply and fight vigorously for what she believes in, but Denise always remains focused on achieving what's possible. She understands the importance of building bridges and working to identify policy areas on which Committee Democrats and Republicans can agree.

The best example of that is the most recent reauthorization of our nation's landmark education law, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Despite an increasingly polarized environment, Denise believed in the possible and led my team to realize a full rewrite of the law in the Every Student Succeeds Act, which was enacted last Congress with overwhelming bipartisan support. Denise led our