

about my future as a Congressional Representative. They graciously welcomed us into their home, and I was struck by how well behaved and kind his children were. As our visit went on, I grew to understand that everything about Al and Lolly was authentic and accessible.

It has been an honor for me to serve in the same seat that Al held many years ago. On behalf of my family, Wisconsin and a grateful nation, I would like to thank and commend Al for his years of dedicated service. Al's colleagues remember him for being kind, gracious, civil, and approachable. May his legacy continue to live in this chamber and across the nation.

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION FOR PLYMOUTH**

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 7, 2017*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Plymouth, California, for the celebration of its centennial anniversary as a city. Plymouth is the site of the Amador County Fair and the gateway to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley vineyards.

When we think of the California Gold Country, the image of the lone miner packing up a hillside with his mule, pick, and shovel come to mind. In reality, the Gold Rush, while a defining moment in our region's history, lasted just a few years.

According to the Amador County Historical Society, "there was not a single discovery of gold or a defining site that became the center of activity" in Plymouth. "The town was established in 1873, long after other mining camps had already become ghost towns."

With the easy gold taken from the streams, Green Alden and the Hooper family began to consolidate a number of hard rock mining camps in the region. They constructed a simple trading post, described by the California Office of Historic Preservation as "all windows and doors of cast iron, with gun ports still in some of the windows. Walls at the base are 30" thick, with beams in the basement that are 12" x 12." The basement was dynamited out of shale rock and the entire foundation is visible."

While the gold was hard to get, the Plymouth mine produced more than \$13.5 million in gold and continued to be worked until 1947, an ample source of wealth for the area.

While some gold seekers left, either enriched or disillusioned by their experience in the rivers, creeks and mountains, many others were determined to stay here and find other ways to make a living.

Plymouth became a hub trading center, and grew during periods of prosperity, wars, depressions and local tragedies including several catastrophic fires. Each time the town rebuilt with the gritty pioneer spirit of determination which marks our region's culture.

Today, that heritage is celebrated at the Amador County Fair, which has gained a statewide reputation as one of the most authentic fairs in California. Filled with rolling

green lawns, heritage oak trees, and spotless grounds, the Amador County Fairgrounds is simply a must see for anyone who wants to have a true Gold Country experience.

Today, Plymouth has over 1,000 residents contributing to the local economy by accessing small businesses, farms, and orchards.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Plymouth continues to work with state and federal partners to improve its infrastructure for its citizens and provide a wonderful quality of life. Plymouth has enjoyed a century of progress and prosperity and is poised for a lucrative future.

**IN MEMORY OF GENIE MUNNERLYN DUNCAN**

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 7, 2017*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Midlands of South Carolina has lost a beloved civic leader with the death of Genie Duncan. Services were conducted by Presiding Minister Rev. Donna Stone Eidson and Pianist Christopher A. McCroskey at Trinity United Methodist Church. The following obituary from the church program was heartfelt and appropriate:

Genie Munnerlyn Duncan, 79, was born May 24, 1937, in Marion, SC, and passed away Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017. She was the daughter of the late Joseph and Catherine Munnerlyn and graduated from Marion High School and Columbia College. She will be deeply missed by her five children, Donald (Laurie), Susan, Madison, Brian (Shannon), and Jody, as well as her five grandchildren, Ashton, Hunter, Landon, Taylor, and Skylar. She is also survived by her brothers, Jody (Ginger) and Sammy (Diane) Munnerlyn. She was preceded in death by her husband of 35 years, Donald A. Duncan.

Genie lived a full and extraordinary life. She was passionate about her family, faith, her side of politics, USC sports, and "holding court" at Nick's on Sunset Blvd. She touched everyone she met in a deep and meaningful way. Her greatest gift to the world was the love she shared with everyone. The love she leaves behind will warm our hearts and conversations for years to come.

In memory of their sisterly friendship with Genie, the Honorary Pallbearers are carrying a red rose given to them by the family per Genie's request.

Memorials may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church Maintenance Fund, 1201 Mohawk Dr., West Columbia, SC 29169. A07FE8.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. DEREK KILMER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 7, 2017*

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 06, 2017, I missed two votes due to unavoidable travel delays in route to our nation's capital. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On roll call No.79—H.R. 689, the Bolts Ditch Access and Use Act, I would have voted yes.

On roll call No. 80—H.R. 337, the Black Hills National Cemetery Boundary Expansion Act, I would have voted yes.

**INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REMOVE THE RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN LAND TRANSFERRED TO ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 7, 2017*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to remove deed use restrictions on one acre of property used for the Plains Area Day Care Center in Broadway, Virginia. For over 25 years, the Plains Area Day Care Center has utilized this land to provide childcare on a sliding scale to many families who otherwise could not afford such a benefit.

In 1989, the federal government deeded, with restriction, three acres of land to Rockingham County, a county in the Sixth Congressional District of Virginia, which I represent. The government transferred this land to the county on the condition that this property be used for public purposes. Rockingham County then decided that the non-profit day care center could benefit from the use of the old buildings already housed on the land. Therefore, in 1990, Congress enacted Public Law 101-479, which allowed a specified portion of the three acres of the transferred land to be used for a child care center.

Donations by the community totaling \$75,000 turned the garage building into a nursery, daycare, and afterschool care facility. Additionally, the creation of the day care center provided for the construction of a playground that the center supports, which is open for public use. As one would imagine, after two decades of consistent use, the day care facility is in desperate need of repairs. Unfortunately, because of the narrow way Public Law 101-479 was drafted and because of the terms of the deed, the day care center has been unable to secure a loan to complete the much-needed renovations.

To solve this issue, my legislation would remove the deed use restrictions from the one acre of property on which the building resides. This would allow the day care center and Rockingham County to make needed upgrades. This legislation, which was approved by the House of Representatives by a vote of 407-0 in the 114th Congress as H.R. 2288, is a simple formality. However, it is of great importance to those being served by this day care center in the Rockingham County community.

By passing this legislation and allowing Rockingham County more authority over the land, it will ensure that more children and more of the community will be served by this land. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation in the 115th Congress.

## HONORING RABBI ADAM BALDACHIN

## HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and welcome a new leader in the community, Rabbi Adam Baldachin, who on February 5, 2017 will be installed as the new Rabbi of Shaarei Tikvah in Scarsdale.

Rabbi Baldachin joined Shaarei Tikvah in July 2016, drawn by the community's energy and warmth. He previously served as the Rabbi of Montebello Jewish Center in Rockland County. There, he founded the Rockland Clergy for Social Justice, a group of Jewish, Christian and Muslim clerics advocating for fair and equitable education for the public school students of East Ramapo, a district controlled by an ultra-Orthodox school board.

Rabbi Baldachin has also served communities as close as Riverdale, which is also a part of my district, and as far as Israel and Uganda. In Uganda he worked with the Abayudaya, the local Jewish Community, teaching Hebrew, leading services, and helping to build sustainable businesses.

A native of New Providence, NJ, Rabbi Baldachin earned his undergraduate degree from the Joint Program of Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary. He then completed his Rabbinical Degree with an M.A. in Midrash at the Seminary, where he received the prestigious Gladstein Fellowship in Entrepreneurial Rabbinic Leadership. He also completed extensive training in community organizing with JOIN for Justice and in pastoral care, interning as a chaplain at Self Help with Holocaust survivors.

When not serving his congregation, Rabbi Baldachin loves spending time with his beautiful family. He and his wife, Maitel, have three wonderful children and they are his pride and joy.

I know that Shaarei Tikvah is in very good hands with Rabbi Baldachin, and I know his presence will only strengthen our community further. Congratulations to him on this day.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, due to other commitments, I missed the following roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll call No. 79, I would have voted yes.

Roll call No. 80, I would have voted yes.

## LAURYN RICHARDSON EARNS ACADEMIC ALL-STATE RECOGNITION

## HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lauryn Richardson of Richmond,

TX, for earning volleyball all-state recognition by the Texas Girls Coaching Association.

A sophomore at Foster High School, Lauryn received academic all-state recognition while leading her team, the Lady Falcons, to a play-off victory. She had 169 blocks and averaged 2.1 kills per set during the sets.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Lauryn Richardson for earning volleyball all-state academic recognition. We are proud of her and look forward to seeing her excel in the future.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE BURNS BROTHERS CLEANERS

## HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize a local business in Virginia's 10th Congressional District that will be closing their doors this year after over six decades of service. Burns Brothers Cleaners, the landmark cleaners and laundromat located in downtown McLean, Virginia, has served the community for the past 67 years and is one of the oldest family-operated businesses in the area. Since founding the mom-and-pop shop in 1949, Don and Bob Burns have been exemplary small business owners and operators.

Before opening Burns Brothers Cleaners, Don Burns worked in several different dry cleaning establishments where he learned the trade and also gained a valuable customer service skillset. Since opening, Don's customer-first attitude helped yield diverse and high-profile clients ranging from U.S. Cabinet Members to local shopkeepers. Yet despite some important clientele, the business never lost sight of its origins and the core values of a family-owned small business. In fact today, Amy Burns, one of Don's daughters, manages and operates the cleaners as her father once did.

In today's society, family owned small businesses are an essential player to the future of our nation. It is families like the Burns family that help foster strong local economies by establishing successful business practices that can be carried out for multiple generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the Burns Brothers Cleaners for its dedication to serving our community for so many years. I wish Don, Amy, and the rest of the Burns family the best in their future endeavors.

## HONORING TIM SCHWERING

## HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Spokane Police Officer Tim Schwering.

On Friday, January 20, 2017, Officer Schwering was first on the scene to a vehicle fire, with reports of the driver inside. The driver, Kim Novak, was returning home when she encountered a frozen section of roadway,

causing her car to malfunction and eventually catch fire. According to Officer Schwering, when he arrived on scene, the car was engulfed in flames and he noticed a woman trapped in the backseat. Upon learning that she was unable to escape the car, Officer Schwering used his baton to begin breaking a hole in one of the passenger windows. He was successful in creating a hole large enough for Ms. Novak to escape, saving her life.

The next day, Officer Schwering met Ms. Novak, who expressed her thanks for his valiant efforts. According to Ms. Novak, "You just don't hear about that kind of compassion and follow through. And the officers get a lot of bad rap, but here's a guy who's a genuine hero."

Today and every day, we owe a debt of gratitude to our nation's law enforcement officers, who put themselves in harm's way to serve and protect. I'm grateful for the sheriffs and officers in Eastern Washington, such as Officer Schwering, who put on the uniform and do right by their communities each and every day. I want to recognize Officer Schwering for his bravery and quick thinking in a dangerous situation.

## HONORING PAUL WARHIT

## HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the strength of our Westchester community lies with those who are engaged and working to better it day by day. One of those engaged individuals is a constituent of mine, Paul Warhit, who has given his time and talent to a whole host of active civic groups in the region.

Born in Yonkers, Paul is a loyal son of Westchester. He had his bar-mitzvah at Mid-Chester Jewish Center and later graduated from Eastchester High School. He went on to attend Boston University and after completing college returned to New York to oversee the family business.

Paul's active involvement in Jewish communal life began in 1996, when Ilissa joined Temple Israel of New Rochelle. Less than a decade later, he became the synagogue's president. He has also served as president of the Board of American Jewish History Society, the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation, in addition to treasurer of the Jewish Deaf (and Hard-of-Hearing) Resource Center.

Thanks to his prolific involvement across a range of organizations, Paul's work caught the eye of the Westchester Jewish Council (WJC) who asked him to join their board. As is often the case with Paul, once he's on the board it's only a matter of time before he becomes the board's president, and Paul was elected to that post for WJC in 2013.

When not serving his community, Paul enjoys spending his down time reading and traveling the country to visit different Major League Baseball parks. He also serves as an umpire for Westchester High School baseball leagues.

This year, WJC is honoring Paul Warhit at the organization's 41st Anniversary Gala for all he has done to better our community. I want to congratulate Paul on this wonderful honor,