

solutions. Over the years, she has sat on at least a dozen boards, including the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, Children's Hospital and Health System Foundation, Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board. Thelma was paid to do what naturally was a part of her core: making connections and fostering relationships. It is also why she has been such an asset to WE Energies in serving their interests in a manner that supports the communities dear to my heart. In her position, she was able to help establish connections between people in need and those who can help through the corporation's separate, nonprofit arm, Wisconsin Energy Foundation, which has invested \$130 million into Wisconsin and Michigan communities since 1982.

Ms. Sias has a natural gift for connecting people, which she has to move the powerful to invest both financially and emotionally in economically distressed communities in a way that fosters sustainable solutions to problems. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with her for so many years. Thelma is political, but, more importantly, she is knowledgeable and she cares. She has remained an integral part of the community, maintaining her residence and remaining deeply committed to the Johnsons Park neighborhood community in central city Milwaukee. In addition to all her work with the Foundation and the community, she has found time to be a fixture in every presidential campaign from Carter to Obama. I join her friends and husband of over 30 years, Stephen Adams, in congratulating her on her well-earned retirement. I wish her much success as she transitions into a different phase of her life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Thelma Sias and I am proud to call her friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of her ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. Thelma, I thank you for all that you have done. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Thelma Sias.

HONORING JOSEPH SILVA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Joseph Silva for his 20 years of service on the Colma City Council, two of them as vice mayor. At 1,400 residents, Colma is the smallest town in San Mateo County on the San Francisco Peninsula. While Colma is best known as the City of Souls because it is home to 16 cemeteries, locals will point out its architectural charm created by Spanish-Mediterranean motifs, its modern infrastructure, including a BART station, and its central location that makes it easily accessible from anywhere in the Bay Area. Colma is a small town where residents and businesses happily coexist.

Joe Silva has been instrumental in creating or restoring the town's iconic buildings and structures. During his tenure, the town built the 5,500 square foot Colma Community Center that houses the restored historical museum and railroad depot, the Sterling Park Recreation Center and the Colma Police Depart-

ment. He is also heavily involved in keeping the current renovation of the historic Town Hall on track.

Councilmember Silva and his fellow councilmembers are always striving to maintain a harmonious balance between old and new. Brick paved residential streets with ornamental street lights coexist with Interstate 280. The historic Town Hall and Community Center coexist with the modern Metro Center and Serramonte Shopping Center.

While on the council, Joe served on the Grand Boulevard Task Force, the Peninsula Clean Energy Board of Directors, and the C/CAG Board of Directors. He cares deeply about his community and improving the quality of life for everyone.

Joe has a "roll up your sleeves" and "can do" attitude. This was evident during the recession that started in 2008 when he helped strengthen the town's retail base by finding ways to entice people to shop at Colma's businesses and car dealerships. He collaborated with the Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce to think outside the box and come up with creative ideas. Joe's optimism and determination were instrumental in guiding his home town through one of the most challenging times since the Great Depression.

Joe also finds time to volunteer for good causes such as the Lutheran Hope School in Daly City, Habitat for Humanity, the North Peninsula Food Pantry and Dining Center of Daly City, and Club Dust, an organization building homes for extremely poor families in Mexico. He has participated eight times in the AIDS/LifeCycle Ride to End AIDS, a seven-day, 545 mile bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles that raises money and awareness for HIV and AIDS. If you do the math, that's 4,360 miles. For his continued dedication to the AIDS ride, he received the distinguished San Mateo County Mayors' Diversity Award in 2012.

Joe grew up in the Bay Area and attended Jefferson High School in Daly City. He moved to Colma 30 years ago and has lived here ever since with his wife, Cynthia. They have raised two daughters, Sandra and Nicole.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the members of the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Councilmember Joseph Silva for two decades of service to the residents of Colma. While he is leaving the council, I have no doubt he will remain an active member of our community for many years to come.

RETIREMENT OF CALMAN COHEN, PRESIDENT OF THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE FOR AMERICAN TRADE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Calman Cohen on his retirement after a distinguished and productive career. Dr. Cohen built on his public service at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and the Senate by leading the Emergency Committee for American Trade for many years, an organization of leading U.S. companies with a mission to support economic growth through the expansion of international

trade and investment. He has effectively represented his member companies by working with Members of Congress and many Administrations on a broad range of trade and investment issues, including all major trade agreements during his tenure as well as Trade Promotion Authority. He has vigorously defended the needs of U.S. companies and their employees as they strive to compete in today's global marketplace, achieve market access for their exports, and create jobs here at home.

I send my best wishes to him, and his wife Susan, who is always by his side, during his retirement.

HONORING SUN VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sun Valley Elementary School which was selected as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education in recognition for its Exemplary High Performance as one of the top schools in the nation as measured by state and national assessments. This highly competitive award reflects outstanding academic achievement and the highest caliber of professional service, and family and community engagement.

With over 500 students from a variety of socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, Sun Valley Elementary School offers comprehensive educational programs that academically challenge and instill a joy of learning in its students and ensures every child has the skills and knowledge to reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, this hard-earned distinction reflects a true community success. From the "Super Star" students and their families, to the staff and administrators and the extended community, Sun Valley Elementary School has developed an education model for the state and nation, empowering students of today to be the problem-solvers, inventors, and pioneers of tomorrow. Please join me in congratulating Sun Valley Elementary School on this impressive achievement.

HONORING DAVID CANEPA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Councilman David Canepa who is leaving the city council of Daly City to assume a new position as a member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors from District 5. David's service to Daly City began in the fateful year of 2008 when he was first elected to the council.

As we all know, 2008 and the next few years were financially difficult for many Americans. The budget of Daly City was not spared this stress. Working with his colleagues, David helped craft budgets that were balanced and that included difficult choices, including a reduction in city hall work days, while preserving essential life, health and safety services.

As a C/CAG representative, David Canepa represented Daly City as cities throughout San Mateo County joined together to resolve issues involving transportation funding, congestion management, and storm water management. C/CAG also establishes the public policy position of 21 cities and the County of San Mateo.

While serving as Vice Chair of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, Councilman Canepa helped prioritize hundreds of millions of dollars in transportation projects throughout San Mateo County. This responsibility went hand-in-hand with his service on the Bay Area Regional Air Quality Management District where he again represented county cities in deliberations over air quality regulations and violations of the law by emitters.

David Canepa served as mayor in 2014 and was overwhelmingly re-elected to the city council in 2014. He is a fourth-generation resident of San Mateo and was born in Daly City. He graduated from nearby Skyline College and the University of San Francisco. He and his wife, Ana, live in Daly City.

In his early career, he served as an aide to a state legislator. Through his work with the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART) and Housing our People Effectively (HOPE), Councilman Canepa has worked to create affordable housing for San Mateo County residents, many of whom are in a crisis because of skyrocketing rents and wages that cannot keep pace. He also served as a director of the North San Mateo County Sanitation District. In Daly City, he is known for his efforts to improve public safety, spur economic development, and to preserve both neighborhoods and the environment.

Mr. Speaker, Daly City is a remarkable place in San Mateo County. Its residents are friendly and the city has always been family oriented. Daly City is now losing a leader in local government, but it will gain an advocate at the county. The interests of the city will be joined to those of South San Francisco, Brisbane, Colma, Broadmoor and San Bruno which together with Daly City form District 5. From criminal justice to healthcare to environmental protection to transportation and dozens of other quality-of-life concerns, District 5 will have an important voice for residents in David Canepa. I wish him well as he seizes the opportunities to serve his constituents in the years ahead.

HONORING INVESTIGATOR MAGGI HOLBROOK WITH THE VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Ms. BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Investigator Maggi Holbrook with the Vancouver Police Department, and recognize her contributions to Southwest Washington during 16 years of public service.

Investigator Holbrook's dedication to the community can be seen through her long service to the Vancouver, Washington, Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon areas. In the Vancouver Police Department, she established a Digital Evidence Cybercrimes Unit

that has worked on or assisted all levels of crimes. In addition, Investigator Holbrook was an invaluable resource for the Washington State Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force and the Seattle Police Department. Her efforts of the task force to investigate, prosecute and convict those individuals who would harm vulnerable children are admirable.

As one of the first investigators in Washington certified in Peer to Peer child pornography investigations, Investigator Holbrook brought her proactive approach to child sexual exploitation investigations. She quickly became proficient in the very technical and labor intensive methods for identifying Internet Protocol addresses of offenders offering to share child pornography files across the Internet. Through these cases, she identified one child sexual-abuser after another and used the expertise and credibility she'd developed to convict them in court. Investigator Holbrook is considered a leading expert in these types of investigations, has certified hundreds of other investigators in the use of Peer to Peer investigative technology and assisted many more with investigations.

Due to Investigator Holbrook's hard work and collaborative nature, she paved the way for the Vancouver Police Department to become an Affiliate Agency for the Department of Justice's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in Washington State. Through this task force, Investigator Holbrook has made hundreds of referrals to agencies statewide and internationally that have resulted in the arrest and conviction of numerous Child Sexual Exploitation offenders.

For example, Investigator Holbrook was called to conduct the forensics on a particularly difficult child pornography case where proving possession was critical to obtain a successful prosecution. Investigator Holbrook initially identified a Peer to Peer user sharing child pornography and forwarded this information to Cowlitz County authorities for investigation. The resulting search warrant led to the identification and seizure of 13 child pornography files on the defendant's computer. Further investigation, however, revealed the defendant had successfully deleted hundreds of files that he had been sharing over the course of eighteen months. Holbrook assisted the Assistant U.S. Attorney Grady Leupold and the team who successfully litigated the perpetrator. Investigator Holbrook's selfless dedication to an investigation far beyond her case responsibility played a pivotal role in bringing this person to justice.

Over the years, Investigator Holbrook has been a tremendous and valuable partner to law enforcement agencies across the state as well as many federal partners: Department of Homeland Security Child Exploitation Unit, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Marshals Service, the United States Postal Service and the U.S. Secret Service.

Holbrook has had an outstanding career that has been dedicated in not only the successful criminal investigations and rescues of children, but in building resources to assist others in their efforts. Her work have contributed to training the next generation of investigators, forensic examiners and even prosecutors to carry on this extremely necessary and valuable work.

Southwest Washington is proud to have had such an extremely talented and dedicated indi-

vidual as Investigator Holbrook. Her contributions and accomplishments in support of the Washington State ICAC Task Force mission will positively impact Southwest Washington for generations to come. I want to thank Investigator Holbrook for her tireless work and congratulate her on her retirement.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOBAR, INC.

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere thanks and congratulations to Lobar, Inc. on its upcoming 50th Anniversary on January 19, 2017.

Lobar, Inc. is one of Central Pennsylvania's largest construction services firms. Family owned, Lloyd and Barbara Eichelberger started Lobar, Inc. in 1967 and quickly built a reputation for reliability. Today, Lobar Inc. is a multi-million dollar business that offers construction services throughout Pennsylvania.

Lobar Inc. has earned a reputation for excellence in customer relations and quality of work. Their mission statement sums up perfectly the reason for their success: "To provide superior construction services for our customers at fair prices and at the same time, have our customers enjoy working with Lobar, Inc. Our goal is to have our customers want Lobar, Inc. to do their construction work."

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and congratulate the employees of Lobar, Inc., both past and present, on their 50th Anniversary and wish them continued great success in the years to come.

HONORING JOHN MULLER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John Muller, better known as Farmer John, for his 10 years of public service on the Half Moon Bay City Council, including one year as mayor. As a farmer, John has deep roots in the community and always strives to nurture the quality of life of all residents of the coastside. I am very grateful to have worked with him for more than three decades and to call him a dear friend.

While on the council, Councilman Muller served on the Chamber Government Affairs Committee, the Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside, the League of California Cities Coastal Cities Issue Group, the San Mateo County Airport Land Use Committee, the Association of Bay Area Governments, and the City County Association of Governments.

John was instrumental in restoring Half Moon Bay's fiscal health. The Great Recession combined with a multi-million dollar land use settlement put the city at the brink of bankruptcy. Through strategic decisions, collaboration and meticulous work, John and his fellow councilmembers managed to balance the budget and placed the city on solid financial footing. Today, Half Moon Bay is a thriving