

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA STATE  
TROOPER STEVEN MULLER

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Virginia State Police Trooper Steven Muller, for his recognition by the Rotary Club of West Springfield as an Outstanding Virginia State Trooper of the Year for 2016.

Trooper Muller is a credit to his unit and uniform and the long tradition of our Commonwealth's State Police Force. Trooper Muller has been nominated for this Rotary award by his superiors, who note that in August of 2015 he was dispatched to a vehicle crash on the Capital Beltway. Upon arriving at the scene he found two citizens who were trying to aid an individual lying near the wreckage on a very busy and dangerous stretch of I-495. Trooper Muller checked the victim for signs of breathing and a pulse and found the victim unresponsive. Immediately after, he began special rescue breathing and CPR. Trooper Kress Adamson arrived a few minutes later to aid Trooper Muller. A Fairfax County Rescue team then arrived and asked the two troopers to continue their life-saving efforts until the Rescue team could apply an automated external defibrillator. After several minutes of these common advanced lifesaving techniques, they were able to regain a pulse in the victim. The victim was then transported to INOVA Alexandria Hospital where he remained in critical condition until his recovery. Due to the initial valiant efforts of both civilians and these two troopers, the victim has a better chance of recovery from this life-threatening accident.

Trooper Muller has served with the Virginia State Police for five years. After graduating from the State Police Academy, he was assigned to Springfield (Area 48), where he currently serves. Originally from Brocton, New York, he holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Fredonia State University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Trooper Muller and in thanking him for his years of service to Fairfax County and the Commonwealth of Virginia. He has demonstrated exceptional dedication to public safety and the mission of law enforcement, and for that, we owe him a special debt of gratitude.

STATEMENT COMMEMORATING  
NEW YORK STATE YELLOW RIBBON DAY

**HON. PAUL TONKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate New York State Yellow Ribbon Day.

On April 9th, the State of New York will observe Yellow Ribbon Day to honor current and former members of the United States Armed Forces. Yellow Ribbon Day has occurred on April 9th each year since 2006 following unanimous support for resolutions by the New York State Legislature, and Proclamations by New York's governors.

New York State Yellow Ribbon Day, which was originally held at the Saratoga-Wilton Elks, and now takes place at the Halfmoon Town Hall, truly represents the spirit of the New York's 20th Congressional District and its commitment to supporting and recognizing our service men and women.

Yellow Ribbon Day is championed each year by Carol Hotaling, a resident of New York's 20th Congressional District, who began making yellow ribbons to donate to the family members of troops deployed during Operation Desert Storm. Ms. Hotaling stands as a beacon of goodwill and an outstanding member of our community by virtue of her dedication to creating a meaningful occasion to honor our troops.

Ms. Hotaling chose the date of April 9 in honor of Matt Maupin, a U.S. Army Staff Sergeant who was captured while serving in Iraq on that date in 2004. Staff Sergeant Maupin was the first U.S. military service member who went Missing-In-Action during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

It is an honor and privilege to recognize our troops on this solemn occasion, and always, for their example of honor, sacrifice, strength, sense of duty, and leadership. On behalf of New York's 20th Congressional District, I offer my heartfelt gratitude for their service in defense of our freedom, security, and way of life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE POLICE  
TRAINING AND INDEPENDENT  
REVIEW ACT

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of The Police Training and Independent Review Act, a bill I introduced earlier today with colleague LACY CLAY of Missouri, and with Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH of Illinois.

If enacted, the Police Training and Independent Review Act would help ensure the independent investigation and prosecution of law enforcement officers in cases involving their use of deadly force. It would also help ensure that law enforcement officers receive appropriate training.

America received a wakeup call in Ferguson, Missouri. We received another in Staten Island, New York.

We received yet another in Ohio, South Carolina, Illinois, Minnesota, Louisiana and Oklahoma.

Our nation faces sobering questions about the basic fairness of our criminal justice system. And we face sobering questions about race. These questions simply cannot be ignored.

For too many, for too long, justice has seemed too lacking.

Nearly 2 years ago, President Obama's Commission on 21st Century Policing suggested several common sense reforms, including the use of independent prosecutors for police-involved civilian deaths, as well as additional training for law enforcement officers.

Unfortunately, Congress has not yet acted on these recommendations.

We need to stop asking local prosecutors to investigate the same law enforcement officers

with whom they work so closely, and whose relationships they rely upon to perform their daily responsibilities. Prosecutors also often seek the support of their local police when they run for reelection.

This is an inherent conflict of interest, and if we are serious about restoring a sense of fairness and justice, we must remove this conflict immediately.

To be sure, the vast majority of prosecutors and law enforcement officers are well meaning, dedicated public servants, and we depend upon them to keep us safe from criminals. And they have dangerous jobs, as we have seen all too frequently.

But the fact remains that some officers go beyond the law in a callous disregard for due process. When it comes to investigating, and potentially prosecuting, these actions, there is often a perception of unfairness, and that perception poisons the public trust.

That is bad for law enforcement as well as citizens, making their work more dangerous.

The Police Training and Independent Review Act would give states an incentive to use independent prosecutors when police use of deadly force results in a civilian death. It would also give states and incentive to provide training to police to help them better understand the racial and ethnic diversity of the communities they serve, as well as how best to work with individuals who are disabled or mentally ill.

If states refuse to use independent prosecutors or provide appropriate training, they would begin to lose a portion of their federal funding.

I urge my colleagues to help pass this legislation quickly, and help restore some much needed faith in our criminal justice system.

I want to thank my colleague LACY CLAY for his partnership on this bill. He is a tireless advocate on these issues, and I am honored to work with him. I also want to thank Senator DUCKWORTH for her leadership on this bill in the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF DR.

JOAN L. VORIS

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Joan L. Voris, who passed away on February 11, 2017. Joan was an incredibly hard worker who dedicated her life to bettering the lives of others. Through her leadership as Associate Dean of the UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program she touched the lives of many that had the pleasure of knowing her. The passing of Dr. Voris has left a void in the Central Valley.

Dr. Voris was born on August 5, 1941, in Brooklyn, New York, and lived much of her young life in Belmont, California. She then went on to earn her undergraduate and medical degree at Stanford University. She moved to Fresno in 1971, with her late husband Zirmo Bezmalinovic, and dedicated the rest of her life to improving the central San Joaquin Valley.

In 1980, Dr. Voris started her career at the Children's Clinic at Valley Medical Center. This center cared for children who were predominately low income. Coinciding, Dr. Voris

began her residency program, pulling all-nighters to get training so she could be an expert in her field. In 1990, she became a member of the UCSF Fresno faculty, and then became president of the medical staff at Valley Medical Center in 1996. Dr. Voris was integral in helping facilitate the transition of the medical education program to the Community Medical Center, which cared for indigent patients.

Dr. Voris lived an incredible life and she utilized her passion for medicine to help others long before she became a Dean. Dr. Voris contributed her summers to providing care to children in rural Mexico, which is something she was able to share with her husband, as he did similar work in Bolivia.

In 2002, Dr. Voris became Associate Dean of the UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program. During her service, she successfully increased the number of faculty from 77 to 229, as well as increased the number of residents and fellows trained annually by 70 percent. She not only helped her patients directly but helped protect future patients by ensuring that residents were well trained.

Dr. Voris' accomplishments and contributions to the Valley have not gone unnoticed. In 2010, she was recognized as one of the Top Ten Professional Women by the Marjorie Mason Center, and in 2012 she was awarded the Physician Community Service Lifetime Achievement Award from the Fresno-Madera Medical Society. Dr. Voris ended her term as the longest-serving associate dean in its history.

She is survived by her children, Beatrice Bezmalinovic-Dhebar and husband Anirudh Dhebar of Wellesley, MA, Margaret Bezmalinovic of Sacramento, CA, and John Bezmalinovic and wife Tracy of Fresno, CA; and grandchildren, Mia Bezmalinovic, Arun Dhebar, and Chetan Dhebar. It is my honor to join Dr. Voris' family in celebrating the life of this inspirational and hardworking woman. She truly led by example and improved the lives of others throughout her leadership.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Joan Voris, whose expertise and generosity will be truly missed.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
JAMES CODY

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize James Cody of Syracuse, New York, for his consistent and enduring dedication to serving our nation's veterans.

Mr. Cody began his work with the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1978 and has worked in multiple VA Centers across the east coast since then. For the last 17 years, he has served as the Director of the VA facility in Syracuse, while also overseeing its seven outpatient clinics. Mr. Cody oversaw an expansion of the facility's services, which included the construction of a Spinal Cord Injury Center, and during his tenure, approximately 48,000 veterans received the treatment they deserved.

I would like to thank Mr. Cody for his work providing an invaluable service to the veterans of New York's 21st District. The time and effort that James has put into assisting our servicemen and women speaks volumes of his character, and we applaud his years of service.

JOZLYNN MCCASLIN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jozlynn McCaslin for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Jozlynn McCaslin is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jozlynn McCaslin is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jozlynn McCaslin for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY SHERIFF  
PFC KEVIN DAVIS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent Deputy Sheriff PFC Kevin Davis for being named Outstanding Deputy Sheriff of the Year by the Rotary Club of West Springfield. PFC Davis joined the Sheriff's Office in 2009 after retiring from the U.S. Marine Corps as a gunnery sergeant. PFC Davis works in the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Civil Enforcement Branch, where he is responsible for the processing and service of civil documents on behalf of the courts and is assigned to West Springfield and Burke in Fairfax County.

PFC Davis and the other deputies have spearheaded efforts, both on and off the job, to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. This past summer they partnered with 17 Starbucks stores to collect toiletries and baby care items for Artemis House, Fairfax County's only 24-hour domestic violence shelter. PFC Davis volunteers for many other Sheriff's Office activities beyond his regular job assignment. He is a member of the award-winning Honor Guard team. He also participates in Project Lifesaver, which assists families and caregivers of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, Down syndrome, Alzheimer's, and related conditions and disabilities. During National Night Out he visited several community gatherings in West Springfield

and Burke and made an especially positive impression on young children and their families. Upon graduating from the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy, he was elected Class President by his peers and received the Instructor's Award for his outstanding leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating PFC Davis and in thanking him for his years of service to Fairfax County. He has demonstrated exceptional dedication to public safety and the mission of law enforcement, and for that, we owe him a special debt of gratitude.

HONORING MRS. KATIE FRIAR

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Katie "Kate" Mae McKennie Friar.

Mrs. Friar was born on July 22, 1929, in Holmes County, Mississippi. She was the third child of seven children born to Perry McKennie, Sr. and Mannie Pitchford McKennie.

Mrs. Friar began her Christian journey at a very young age at Rockport Missionary Baptist Church, Lexington, Mississippi. She later moved her membership to Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church, Lexington, Mississippi, where she taught at Lebanon School and started as an educator together, with her husband, the late Samuel Friar. She was a faithful member of Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church until her health declined. She was a Sunday School teacher, choir member, and chairperson of various ministries. She was an Ancient Matron of Court 172A of Heroines of Jericho for 30 years and a member of the organization for 60 years.

Mrs. Friar attended Rockport School, Ambrose School, and Mississippi Valley State University where she received a B.A. Degree in Elementary Education. She received various other achievements in education and taught school in Holmes County for 34 years before retiring in 1984.

Mrs. Friar was united in holy matrimony to the late Samuel Friar on May 24, 1953, and to this union two children were born: Shirley A. Friar, Lexington, Mississippi and Samuel L. Friar (Gwendolyn), McKinney, TX; two grandchildren: Stephen L. Friar (Christina), and Tamera K. Friar both from McKinney, TX; three great-grandchildren: Jaden F. Friar, Steele L. Friar, and Solomon L. Friar; six siblings: Leola Williams, Lexington, MS; Selena Shelton, Chicago, IL, Leslie McKennie, Sr., who preceded her in death, Perry McKennie, Jr., Nathan McKennie (Inez), Chicago, IL., Isadore McKennie, Chicago, IL., a host of nieces, cousins, and loved ones in Christ.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the memory of Mrs. Katie "Kate" Mae McKennie Friar for her hard work, dedication and strong desire to achieve.