

has been truly a gift to the people of Prince George's County, Maryland. Chief Marc Bashoor retired in February after leading the Prince George's County Fire Department for the past six years and following a career in the fire service that has lasted more than three decades. Throughout that time, he has won well-deserved praise from county, state, and national officials for his skill at management and his efforts to streamline operations and provide steady leadership. Chief Bashoor has also received high marks from residents across the county, grateful for the peace of mind that comes with a well-run fire department.

Chief Bashoor, a native of Bowie in Prince George's County, came to the fire service at the young age of sixteen, when he began as a volunteer firefighter there. It was there at Station No. 39 that he met his wife, Laura, a fellow volunteer firefighter. Their wedding celebration prominently included a County fire truck, naturally. Chief Bashoor became a paid firefighter with the Prince George's County Fire Department in 1987 and served until 2004, when he retired and took a job as Director of Homeland Security for Mineral County in West Virginia. Thankfully, Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker was able to convince him to return in 2010 as Fire Chief. I, and so many in my district, am very glad that he did.

During his tenure in office, Chief Bashoor oversaw a major expansion to meet the needs of the growing county. He hired more paid firefighters, recruited more volunteers, purchased more vehicles and equipment, and worked to bring new fire stations online. He advocated for the Department to have a budget increase of 30 percent. It paid off, with response times to emergency calls going down measurably. We cannot even begin to speculate how many lives and properties were saved as a result.

I've been fortunate to work closely with Chief Bashoor throughout his tenure. As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I've worked to increase F.I.R.E. and S.A.F.E.R. grants and ensure that the Prince George's County Fire Department and departments all across the country have the resources they need to keep their communities and their personnel safe. I've also joined with him to advance the work of ensuring that the families of fallen firefighters receive the benefits they deserve as well as the honor and gratitude they are owed.

Mr. Speaker, our nation counts on dedicated fire service leaders like Chief Bashoor every day, and I join in thanking him and all who work or volunteer on the fire line. I hope my colleagues will join me in wishing Chief Bashoor well in his retirement and in thanking him for his extraordinary service to Prince George's County, the State of Maryland, and our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF DOROTHY A. SMITH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I recognize the significant and rich life of a beloved

woman, Dorothy A. Smith. Mrs. Smith was a religious woman, whose dedication to the many churches and communities she was a part of in her life was outweighed only by her constant warmth.

She was born on August 11, 1930 in Meridian, Mississippi to her parents, Otis and Maggie. Dorothy was one of eight children. She married Edward in Meridian, MS on February 8, 1948 and they had 6 children from this union. She was educated in the public schools in New Orleans, LA. She worked for the Department of the Army for 40+ years when she retired as a Hospital Medical Records Specialist in 1993. She spent the last 15 years as a resident of Wylie, Texas. Dorothy was a member of Secondary Missionary Baptist Church in Junction City, KS; Fifth Street Baptist Church in Meridian, MS; Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Farmersville, TX; and at the time of her death a member of Christ Unveiled Ministries, Garland, TX. Dorothy enjoyed working as a Deaconess, Trustee, Choir Member, and an Usher in the churches she attended. She spent most of her time encouraging Senior citizens and young people to have a better quality of life.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her loving husband, Edward. She will be remembered by her loving children Gloria Richardson of Manhattan, KS; Mae Smith of Bossier City, LA; Edward R. Smith, Jr., Cedar Hill, TX; Audray Lincoln (Charles) of Rowlett, TX; and James Foster, Sr. of Colorado Springs. She is also survived by 20 grandchildren, 63 great grandchildren, 2 great, great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and many "adopted kids" of all ages. She was preceded in death by her son Joseph F. Smith; her daughter Lue E. Foster; her grandchildren Joseph Smith and Tiphonie Lincoln, her sisters Pauline Phillips and Josephine Smith, and her brother Robert Gordon.

Dorothy passed away peacefully on April 1, 2017, and will be missed dearly.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 that occurred while I was attending a meeting at the White House. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes on Roll Call 185 (the motion to recommit H.R. 1101), No on Roll Call 186 (passage of H.R. 1101) and Yes on Roll Call 187 (passage of H.R. 1238).

BILL ORCHARD, REBEL RODRIGUEZ, RANGER AND DOT MILLER, RON SLINGER, BOB DYER, ANDREW HEESAKER, JILL HARTMANN, MADDIE SCHMIDT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bill Orchard, Rebel Rodriguez, Ranger and Dot Miller, Ron

Slinger, Bob Dyer, Andrew Heesaker, Jill Hartmann and Maddie Schmidt for being honored by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce for their service and dedication to the community.

Man of the Year Bill Orchard: The Man of the Year Award is a long standing tradition in Arvada recognizing an outstanding man for his amazing community involvement, generosity and overall impact on Arvada. Bill Orchard is being honored by the Arvada Chamber for his years of dedication and support of the community through Arvada Gardener's, Arvada Festivals Commission, Bike Friendly Arvada and much more.

Woman of the Year Rebel Rodriguez: The Woman of the Year Award is a long standing tradition in Arvada recognizing an outstanding woman for her amazing community involvement, generosity and overall impact on Arvada. Rebel Rodriguez is being honored by the Arvada Chamber for her years of dedication and volunteerism serving children at Ralston House and supporting homelessness efforts in Olde Town Arvada.

Image Award Ranger and Dot Miller: Image Award winners are selected for their commitment to Arvada and the overall positive image they portray within the community. Ranger and Dot Miller are being honored by the Arvada Chamber for their commitment to Arvada through their outstanding community leadership and volunteerism with countless organizations including Jefferson County Business Education Alliance, Arvada Vitality Alliance and Blues and BBQ for Better Housing.

Image Award Ron Slinger: Image Award winners are selected for their commitment to Arvada and the overall positive image they portray within the community. Ron Slinger is being honored by the Arvada Chamber for his commitment to Arvada through his engagement with countless organizations including Arvada Vitality Alliance, AWRSA, Red Rocks Community College, Arvada Chamber of Commerce and many more.

Pioneer Award Bob Dyer: The Pioneer Award is given to an exceptional leader in the community who has served Arvada for many years and contributed in ways that are unprecedented. This award is only given as needed and is regarded with the highest level of accolades for the recipient's accomplishments. Bob Dyer is being honored by the Arvada Chamber for his incredible commitment to Arvada through civic and community leadership with the City of Arvada, Arvada Vitality Alliance, The Arvada Center For The Arts and Humanities, The Arvada Chamber of Commerce and much more.

AYP Leadership Award Andrew Heesaker: The AYP Leadership Award is based on the selected individuals innovation, entrepreneurship, professional accomplishments and/or community leadership. Andrew Heesaker is being honored by the Arvada Chamber for his extraordinary leadership and volunteerism with organizations including Arvada Chamber of Commerce, Arvada Young Professionals and Arvada Economic Development Association. Andrew also works with countless local non-profit organizations to support their events and efforts through Arvada Rent Alls.

AYP Leadership Award Jill Hartmann: The AYP Leadership Award is based on the selected individuals innovation, entrepreneurship, professional accomplishments and/or community leadership. Jill Hartman is being honored for her willingness to contribute to her community and provide exceptional Leadership within

the Arvada Chamber of Commerce, Arvada Young Professionals and at Jefferson Center For Mental Health.

Rising Star Award Maddie Schmidt: Each year the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and the Arvada Young Professionals select a High School student who lives or attends school in Arvada who has exemplified extraordinary skills in entrepreneurship, innovation, community impact and leadership. Maddie Schmidt is being honored for her incredible involvement at Pomona High School and in her community through Westminster Youth Advisory panel, Denver Homeless Shelter, Baton Twirling and the Executive High School Internship Program.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bill Orchard, Rebel Rodriguez, Ranger and Dot Miller, Ron Slinger, Bob Dyer, Andrew Heesaker, Jill Hartmann and Maddie Schmidt for these well-deserved honors by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and their outstanding commitment to the community.

TRIBUTE TO MARILYN AND LARRY LARSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Marilyn and Larry Larsen of Underwood, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on January 28, 2017.

Marilyn and Larry's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th 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 50th 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.

CONGRATULATING GYONGI "PIKA" PILAR FEJERAN ON RECEIVING THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S 2017 WOMEN IN BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Gyongi "Pika" Pilar Fejeran on her selection as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2017 Women in Business Champion for Guam. This award honors an individual on Guam who, as an advocate for women entrepreneurs, has fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of women's business ownership.

Pika graduated from St. John's School in Guam and later from the University of South-

ern California. She worked as an urban planner and project manager in Pasadena, California before returning home to help fulfill her husband's dream of owning a restaurant.

Pika and Lenny opened Pika's Café in 2010 and in 2015 they opened Kitchen Lingo with their partner Lingo Quichocho. Pika is the President of Pika's Café and Managing Partner/Secretary-Treasurer of Kitchen Lingo. Since entering the Guam restaurant scene six years ago with her husband and business partner, Lenny, they have since inspired a restaurant evolution in Guam. In these short six years, the restaurant space has tripled in size, while opening a second location. Pika's businesses are known for "buying local" and are known for preparing food with the freshest ingredients on the island. Pika's success is coupled with her family focused philosophy. Upon opening the first restaurant, Pika and Lenny made a conscious decision to only open for breakfast and lunch Monday through Thursday. They chose to close on Sundays and at dinner throughout the week to ensure they always had time to spend with their three children. Pika is also deeply involved with several community organizations on Guam and is a staunch supporter of women in business. She is a board member of the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce. Pika believes in promoting sustainable economic growth and the development of women to help them integrate into leadership roles. Her service in the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce is evidence of her commitment to supporting the promotion of women in business on the island. Pika was recently nominated by the Guam Business Magazine for the Industry Influencer Award for her restaurants' support of buying from and supporting local farmers and businesses. Pika is also a member of the Imagine Guam Core Values Committee and Policy team, creating a vision and planning for Guam in 2065. She also serves as a Commissioner of the Chamorro Land Trust.

I join the people of Guam in congratulating Gyongi "Pika" Pilar Fejeran on her selection as the SBA's 2017 Women in Business Champion for Guam. I commend her for her many contributions to our island and community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, I was not present for roll call vote 215. If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted: Yea on roll call vote 215.

CELEBRATING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 38th An-

niversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, key legislation that was signed into law on April 10, 1979.

The Taiwan Relations Act has served as the foundation of U.S.-Taiwan relations for 38 years as Taiwan's democracy has flourished in peace and social harmony. This extraordinary and historic relationship between countries has been possible, to a large extent, because of the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act.

Chinese President Xi Jinping will visit the United States this week. I see the summit between President Trump and President Jinping as a constructive opportunity to continue to build diplomatic relations between the U.S. and China. However, I believe it is imperative that the vital interests of our security partner Taiwan not be marginalized through these meetings.

Taiwan is a great friend of the United States. It is appropriate and just that we continue to value our relationship and honor our commitments made in the Taiwan Relations Act and President Ronald Reagan's "Six Assurances".

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL RETIREMENT PLANNING WEEK 2017

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Retirement Planning Week. This is the perfect opportunity to remember that planning for retirement is not just an issue for older Americans.

The National Retirement Planning Coalition has consistently provided support and resources to engage people of all ages to encourage them to ensure their financial future is planned and protected. Preserving Americans' access to income options and workplace savings plans will restore and improve our society's financial security.

I am truly grateful for the hard work of everyone who made the events and activities of this week a success in motivating individuals across the country to plan for retirement. In today's economy, it is more important than ever that Americans start saving for retirement early. Through National Retirement Planning Week, the National Retirement Planning Coalition has created an innovative approach designed to help us 'Rethink Retirement.'

National Retirement Planning Week is an important initiative that is sure to have a positive impact on many lives. The educational opportunities throughout this week will provide a foundation for the invaluable asset of early, holistic financial planning.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the National Retirement Planning Coalition for encouraging early and responsible planning, and for working with my colleagues and me to find bipartisan solutions to make it easier to plan for retirement.