

Magnolia state while enriching her knowledge on cultural diversity. Jalexis aspires to enroll into Tulane University and attend the Tulane Accelerated Physician Training Program and earn her medical degree. She plans to become a pediatric oncologist after attending medical school. She's yearned to be a doctor since the young age of three. Her love for children pushed her towards the field of pediatrics and her grandmother's fight with cancer led to her interest and passion for oncology. It also instilled within her a strong determination to find a cure for cancer.

She pursues success in her everyday life by continuing to be an example and role model to her sisters SaMaria, Clyse, and London.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jalexis Evans for her educational achievements and dedication to other youths.

COL DAMON MATHIS

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Colonel Damon Mathis on his retirement from the United States Army, and to thank him for his dedicated service to the United States of America.

A recipient of the Expert Field Medical Badge, the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the British Parachutist Badge, the Army Staff Badge, and a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit, Colonel Mathis is a proven leader in military health.

I've had the pleasure to serve with Colonel Mathis, in his assignment as Director of Reserve Affairs in the Office of the Surgeon General, and have greatly appreciated his leadership and expertise.

Congratulations to Colonel Mathis, and to his wife Jane, on a new chapter, and thank him for his mentorship and friendship.

RECOGNIZING CITRUS COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Citrus County Sheriff Mike Prendergast and the law enforcement officers who keep Citrus County safe every single day.

This week marks the annual observance of Police Week. Though we set aside one week a year to honor law enforcement, I encourage all Americans to join me not only this week, but every day, in recognizing the honor, courage, and commitment of America's law enforcement.

Our law enforcement are heroes in the community. They keep us safe, and are willing to put their lives on the line every day in the course of their duties. It is impossible to fully express our gratitude or adequately recognize the professionalism of the men and women who voluntarily put their lives on the line for our safety and security. It is with deep respect

that we pause today to honor the memory of the heroes who gave the last full measure of devotion and made the ultimate sacrifice.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Citrus County Sheriff Mike Prendergast and the law enforcement officers who bravely and selflessly serve Citrus County. It is an honor to recognize them and all men and women in law enforcement.

HONORING THE CEJA FAMILY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ceja family, Pablo, Juanita, Amelia, Pedro, Armando and Dalia who own and operate Ceja Vineyards in Napa, California. Passion and dedication led the Ceja family to the successes they see in their grape harvests and production of premium Carneros wines.

The dream to build Ceja Vineyards began in a small village in Mexico, where Pablo Ceja's family lived while he worked in the Brasero Program in "el norte." While working in California, Pablo came to understand what many people in our community have learned: in the Napa Valley, hard work and sacrifice in a fair system will result in great successes.

Pablo promised his family that he would bring them to a place "surrounded by vineyards growing the finest, sweetest grapes, where hard work is plentiful for those that are strong." In 1967, Pablo, Juanita and their six children left Mexico and settled in St. Helena, where they found work in the growing number of local wineries. In 1983, the Ceja family came together to purchase 15 acres and plant their own grapes. By 1988, the second and third generations of the family were celebrating their first harvest on "Ceja land." The family founded Ceja Vineyards, Inc. in 1999 and today own 113 producing acres.

The Ceja family understands the needs and realities of their workers. They provide a pesticide-free environment and treat their workers like family. Many of Ceja Vineyards workers are loyal to the company and stay on season after season. Their story is remarkable. The Ceja family traveled to Washington, D.C. this week as part of a group of Mexican-American vintners, not only to support the mission of the Smithsonian Institution, but also to further educate Congress about their vital contributions to our economy and community. Their stories of immigration, sacrifice and determination are what make America great.

Mr. Speaker, the Ceja family has built a successful business and are producing extraordinary wines. I am proud to have such a family working and living in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

DIPG AWARENESS DAY

HON. STEPHEN KNIGHT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. KNIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a terrible and almost uniformly

fatal form of pediatric cancer, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma, or DIPG.

DIPG is a tumor, located in the brain stem, that almost exclusively affects children and for which no treatment exists.

As any parent knows, there is no worse feeling in the world than learning your child has been diagnosed with something fatal and there is nothing they can do about it.

Today, May 17, is a special day for advocates who are working hard around the world to raise awareness for resources and research to combat the disease.

Earlier this year, two research groups, from Northwestern University and the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, published separate studies with groundbreaking insights into the genetic mutation that occurs in 80 percent of DIPG cases. The next set of research will test therapeutic strategies to treat the mutation.

Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER and I introduced H. Res. 69, to formally recognize DIPG Awareness Day in the House of Representatives.

I'd like to thank Congresswoman SPEIER and the 18 other Members who are helping promote DIPG awareness, the researchers who are investigating cures and treatments, and the families and friends of DIPG victims who are working to search for a cure.

HONORING LYNN MAURICE STINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynn Maurice Stinson, who is a chairman, leader, and educator.

Lynn Maurice Stinson was born in Grenada, MS in 1947 to Minnie Louise Stinson and Sam Metcalf. He was raised by his maternal grandparents, Willie B. and Susie Stinson. His early education was at Grenada Colored School and Willia Wilson Elementary in Grenada. Stinson graduated from Carrie Dotson High School in Grenada, MS in 1966.

Stinson's desire to continue his education led him to enroll in Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, MS where he earned an Associate of Arts degree. Stinson then attended Jackson State University in Jackson, MS where he earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Education. Stinson returned back to his home area and began his career in education at Stone Street Elementary in Greenwood, MS. His first position was teaching the integrated study of the Social Sciences and humanities to promote civic competence to 7th and 8th grade students. Stinson's passion was to help each student reach their full potential. He always reminded his students to dream big and work even harder.

A few years later, Stinson transferred to Threadgill Elementary in Greenwood, MS where he taught Social Studies. He later transferred to Greenwood Middle School and eventually retired in 2003 with 30 years of service. Stinson has been a strong supporter of education and those committed to working in the field of education. He is a past president of the Mississippi Association of Educators (MAE) in Greenwood, MS. Stinson also used his skills to help adults in his hometown, Grenada, by teaching GED night classes for several years.

In Stinson early years, he was a participant in the Civil Rights Movement as the community worked to secure equal rights for all citizens. The reality of past conditions and his firsthand knowledge of the effort to open doors to African Americans has driven Stinson to continue his service to the community after his retirement.

Stinson presently holds the position of Election Commissioner for the City of Grenada. He has served in this position since 2005 with a top priority of assuring that the election process in Grenada is fair to all, and with the highest level of integrity. Stinson also serves on the Board of Trustees for Holmes Community College where he is the chairperson of the Insurance Committee.

Stinson is a proud member of the 100 Black Men of Grenada, Inc., where he serves as the chairman of the Education Committee. Stinson is involved in supporting youth and young adults as they strive to prepare themselves for their future and the workforce.

Stinson is a dedicated member of Belle Flower Missionary Baptist Church in Grenada, MS, and has served many years on the deacon board. He also serves as chairman of finance for the Grenada Baptist District Association Men's Department.

When he is not volunteering and participating in church activities, he enjoys traveling and playing golf.

He has been married to Queen Brooks Stinson for 43 years. They have one daughter, Monica Stinson, who resides in Brandon, MS.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Lynn M. Stinson, a Chairman, Leader and Educator for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

HONORING EMILE HADDAD FOR RECEIVING THE ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Emile Haddad for receiving the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations. Recipients of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor are individuals who embody American ideals such as patriotism, diversity, and tolerance. Receiving such an honor is well deserved by a man who embraces American principles while upholding his traditions of ethnic heritage.

Mr. Haddad was born and raised in Beirut, Lebanon prior to the beginning of the civil war. In his early years, Mr. Haddad attended American University in Beirut, where he studied to become a civil engineer. As a young professional in a country of instability, Mr. Haddad made a courageous decision to flee his homeland to start a new life in the United States of America. On March 3, 1986, Mr. Haddad and his now wife Dina, along with other family members, made their way to Ventura, California to join his younger brother and begin a new life.

Beginning as a construction worker, and after multiple jobs, Mr. Haddad developed a passion for homebuilding and land-development. With an established career and now

Chairman and CEO of Five Point Holdings LLC, the largest builder of mixed-used, master-planned communities in California, Mr. Haddad has helped redefine the unique global vision of twenty-first century communities for thousands of Californians.

Mr. Haddad's inspiration for his work stems from his fundamental importance on a strong family unit. Married and a proud father of two now adult children, the communities Mr. Haddad builds reflect his vision for helping people live, work, play, and connect with one another. Additionally, his visions drive his commitment to education, which is why he serves on the advisory and leadership boards of four major institutions of higher learning: The University of California, Irvine, University of California, Berkeley, Claremont Graduate University, and the University of Southern California. To further his impact, Mr. Haddad's charitable giving also reflects his beliefs in giving back to the community. Over the years, he has received multiple personal honors, notably the Father-of-the-Year award from the American Diabetes Association and the Man of Character award from the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Haddad continues to leave an influential mark as he remembers his journey to America and the path he has taken towards success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lifelong achievements of Mr. Haddad. I congratulate Mr. Emile Haddad for this great achievement and ask that you join me in wishing him and his family continued prosperity.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WINTECH

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate WinTech, Inc., on receiving the Missouri Impact! Award for Continuous Improvement in Manufacturing Excellence from Missouri Enterprise.

WinTech, located in Monett, Missouri, is an employee owned company founded in 1991. This company specializes in making some of the most cost-effective windows around. As someone who represents this part of Missouri, I couldn't be more proud to have this business in Missouri's 7th Congressional District.

The Missouri Impact! Award is an award given to businesses that have gone above and beyond in areas that include manufacturing excellence, innovative technology development, environmental solutions and contributing to Missouri business and community/state economic development.

I am honored to recognize WinTech and its dedication to not only southwest Missouri, but the many communities throughout Missouri. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating WinTech on receiving this award.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF JELLYSTONE PARK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Jellystone Park in North Hudson, New York.

Since 1992, Jellystone has provided families from New York and beyond with excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation. Located in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains, the park allows campers to take in some of the most scenic lakes and forests that the North Country has to offer.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to wish Jellystone Park many years of continued success as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary.

HONORING BRIAN LOUGHMILLER, MAYOR OF MCKINNEY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Loughmiller, Mayor of the City of McKinney, Texas. Brian and his wife, Donna, have lived in McKinney for almost 30 years. In his professional career, Brian is the managing partner at the law firm of Loughmiller Higgins P.C., which is based in McKinney. He holds a bachelor's degree from Illinois State University and graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Despite a busy professional career, Brian has been very active in serving the McKinney community. He is a past president of the Collin County Bar Association and has served on the McKinney Board of Adjustment, the McKinney Independent School District Community Redistricting Committee, and the McKinney Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Brian has also devoted his time to the Sunrise Rotary Club, Relay for Life, and the American Cancer Society.

Brian was first elected to the McKinney City Council in 2002, and he served as a Council Member for six years. In 2009, Brian was elected Mayor of McKinney, and he was re-elected in 2013. During his tenure, McKinney has been one of the fastest growing cities in the country. Today, it boasts a thriving population of 168,000. Most importantly, McKinney has achieved and managed its growth in a way that has earned the City national recognition for its exceptional quality of life. In 2014, Money Magazine ranked McKinney as the #1 Best Place to Live, and the City has received numerous accolades that recognize it as an outstanding community, including being one of the best places in the nation to start a family and to buy a home. Brian has also overseen the revitalization of the City's Historic Downtown, which has become a beautiful, thriving center for the community.

Having served on the City Council for 14 years, including eight years as Mayor, Brian will be stepping down in May due to term limits. While this role ends for him, he has positioned McKinney for a bright future.