

leadership as club president and the extraordinary number of hours he has volunteered to ensure the club continues to thrive in the 21st century. In fact the only thing that might be more apparent than Ed's dedication to the Taminent is the universal respect and admiration that the club's members show for Ed. While Ed Babor may be stepping down as president, I am confident that he will always be a proud member of the Taminent. For decades, Ed has offered his advice and mentorship to younger generations of Western Queens advocates including incoming Taminent president, Loren Amor.

Ed Babor serves on a host of civic, political, cultural, and service organizations in the Astoria and Long Island City neighborhoods. Along with his work with the Taminent, Ed is on the board of the Powhatan and Pocahontas Regular Democratic Club, another Astoria political organization. He has been an active member of Queens Community Board Number 1 for over a decade, and is currently the Executive Secretary. Ed also serves on the boards of the Astoria Civic Association, which advocates for the needs of Astoria residents and runs the successful Judge Charles J. Vallone Scholarship Fund, and SHAREing and CAREing, a nonprofit dedicated to working with cancer patients and their families without regard to insurance status to provide education on prevention and wellness, links to cancer treatment and practical needs, and ongoing cancer support.

In his career, Ed Babor has demonstrated the same commitment to community and public service. Ed Babor worked for the New York Department of Motor Vehicles for over thirty years. Ed has been an invaluable addition to my staff for over eight years. He has an encyclopedic knowledge about the neighborhoods of Western Queens and the issues which they face. This institutional knowledge comes both from the fact that Ed is at every meeting that takes place in Western Queens and from his sincere interest in the neighborhoods' well-being, because Ed truly loves Queens.

Ed lives in Astoria with his wife Patricia Babor, to whom he has been married for 39 years. Ed and Pat are active parishioners at Immaculate Conception Church in Astoria. Ed has been actively involved with Catholic War-Veterans Post No. 1, having served with the National Guard. Proud of his Czech heritage, Ed is involved with several cultural organizations including the Czech Catholic Union and the Bohemian Historical Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many accomplishments of Edward Babor. His hard work, character, and love for his community and the people who live there, make him an outstanding leader and an incredible friend.

HONORING CORPORAL RICK COSTELLO

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent, Corporal Rick Costello, who will be departing from his role with the Purcellville Police Department after over 15 years of service to our community.

Corporal Costello's commitment to serving others did not start until 1999 when he began volunteering with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office. In fact, he served with the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War before starting his career for a building supply company, where he worked for over thirty years. As a volunteer with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Corporal Costello served as a member of the community advisory committee, assisting police officers in Loudoun County, but soon afterwards, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office offered him a position on the force. Despite his age difference with the majority of the other trainees, Corporal Costello passed the six-month, rigorous training and served for three years with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office and twelve more years with the Purcellville Police Department.

As an officer, Corporal Costello became well known for his information technology skills, helping advance the Purcellville Police Department's communications systems and managing the department's accreditation process. In fact just last month, The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission unanimously voted to award the Purcellville Police Department with its second re-accreditation certificate, largely due to the framework that Corporal Costello has set up over the years.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 10th District, I thank Corporal Rick Costello for his dedicated career of service to Loudoun County, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a truly commendable public servant. I wish him and his family all of the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY KRUPIARZ FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE WITH THE MICHIGAN TRAILS AND GREENWAYS ALLIANCE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nancy Krupiarz for her outstanding career working on behalf of the State of Michigan and its residents. As Executive Director for the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, Ms. Krupiarz has helped promote a healthy and more prosperous Michigan by making it one of the foremost trail states in the country.

Originally founded in 1986, the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance is a nonprofit organization that promotes the development of non-motorized trails throughout Michigan and provides a statewide voice for users of these trails. The group consists of approximately 1,000 members and provides information for Michiganders about trails throughout the state. Additionally, it advocates for assistance at the state and federal level to safeguard state and federal funding for the preservation of Michigan's natural heritage and the upkeep of its trails. As a result of the efforts of the MTGA, Michigan has built and maintained a comprehensive network of over 3,000 miles of non-motorized trails throughout the state. These include cross-state trails from South Haven to Port Huron, as well as from Ironwood to Belle Isle.

Ms. Krupiarz has served as the organization's executive director since the group's founding and has been a catalyst for the growth and success of MTGA. Her tireless efforts have helped create a cohesive and effective organization that has effectively served the people of Michigan by coordinating efforts to build trails and preserve Michigan's natural areas. Due to her leadership and efforts, Michigan now boasts the most trail miles out of any U.S. state and is widely recognized for its conservation efforts and outdoor recreation offerings. Ms. Krupiarz's career with MTGA has left a lasting legacy, and it is my hope that the new leadership of the organization continues to build on her work in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Nancy Krupiarz for her leadership with the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance. Her career has resulted in a more livable state for Michigan's residents.

BERNADETTE KIBERINKA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bernadette Kiberinka for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Bernadette Kiberinka is a student at Everitt Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Bernadette Kiberinka 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 Bernadette Kiberinka for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE MATTATUCK DRUM BAND

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mattatuck Drum Band, which this week commemorates the 250th Anniversary of its founding. This band is our nation's oldest continuously active fife and drum band and is a celebrated institution of our Waterbury, Connecticut community.

The Mattatuck Drum Band was founded in 1767, and over the past two and a half centuries, the band has been an invaluable group in supporting our country's battles and preserving the heritage of our state and country. The band was first formed to play martial music for military training exercises in the towns of Farmingbury and Waterbury. The fifers and drummers were some of the earliest patriots to join the American Revolution in the

spring of 1775, at a time when musicians and drummers were instrumental in maintaining order and routine for military camps.

The band joined many parades in support of President Lincoln's 1860 campaign, and then joined recruiting efforts to support the Union's fight in the Civil War. Almost a century later during World War II, despite gas rationing and the deployment of many members, the band still turned out to play in parades to support our country's service members and maintain solidarity during a difficult time for the country. Today, the dedicated members of the band keep musical tradition alive, and the band's performances are an essential part of our community's celebrations.

Mr. Speaker, the Mattatuck Drum Band celebrates our history in Connecticut and America, and its dedicated musicians and leaders have preserved an important part of our community's heritage for the past 250 years. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor the band and everyone who has ensured its preservation and success here today.

RECOGNIZING PRIYA VULCHI

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Priya Vulchi—a remarkable young woman who, this year, earned the 2017 Congressional Gold Medal.

A resident of Princeton, Ms. Vulchi demonstrated an immeasurable passion for the education and advancement of our nation's leaders. Working with Princeton Public Schools, Ms. Vulchi created a racial literacy tool to assist educators initiate dialogues around race-related topics in the classroom. Ms. Vulchi is also a co-founder of Princeton CHOOSE—a student-led organization that aims to overcome racism and inspire harmony through exposure, education and empowerment. Further, Ms. Vulchi is a published author of a racial literacy teaching tool that was piloted in Princeton Public school in the spring of 2016 and officially used by all 5th grade teachers in the school district for the 2016–2017 school years.

Along with her commitment to education, Ms. Vulchi pursued journalism and became the Head Copy Editor for her school's monthly newspaper. Finally, Ms. Vulchi crossed the country in her travels to Hawaii to visit the Haleakal National Park. There she visited the Eats Maui Volcano and learned more about volcanism and the ecosystems of the National Park.

Beyond the Congressional Gold Medal program, extraordinary individuals like Ms. Vulchi exemplify the best and brightest of our nation's future. As a resident of New Jersey's 12th Congressional District, I couldn't be more proud of her for taking up such a difficult challenge and making a positive change for themselves in their community.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Ms. Vulchi on her amazing accomplishment.

HONORING STEVE SHISSLER ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN 26 YEARS OF SERVICE IN LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere congratulations to my constituent, Lieutenant Steve Shissler, on his upcoming retirement after more than 26 years of service to the Hampden Township Police Department in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

Lt. Shissler climbed the ranks of the Hampden Township Police Department, starting as a patrolman, then to Corporal, Sergeant and, ultimately, Lieutenant. He has been in charge of the Department's Criminal Investigation Division for the last several years.

Lt. Shissler's tireless dedication, professionalism and sacrifice has touched the lives of countless people and challenged all with whom he served to be the best. His legacy of service to our community truly is admirable.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and congratulate Steve Shissler on his service to our Nation and wish him and his family continued great success in their future adventures.

IN RECOGNITION OF SEAN RATTAY ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Sean Rattay of Monclova, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Sean's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Sean brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio, Sean was a member of the National Honor Society, a peer tutor and a school ambassador.

Throughout high school, Sean participated in varsity football, earning numerous achievements and accolades along the way. Sean also led Christmas on Campus and volunteered at Swan Creek Care Center, an assisted living center in Toledo, Ohio. I am confident that Sean will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sean Rattay on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest

military training and education available. I am positive that Sean will excel during his career at Annapolis, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

DANTE PORCHETTA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dante Porchetta for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Dante Porchetta is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dante Porchetta 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 Dante Porchetta for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

JEFFREY PASSANTINO

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jeffrey Passantino, who was drafted by the Chicago Cubs in the 2017 Major League Baseball draft. Passantino is an alumnus of Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers, and most recently played at Limpscomb University.

This season at Limpscomb, Jeffrey had a 4–3 record with a 3.09 Earned Run Average and 95 strikeouts. During his career at Bishop Verot, he helped lead the Vikings to three straight state title appearances, which included one championship in 2011. It was during this time that he also posted an impressive 22–4 record on the mound.

I would like to congratulate Jeffrey for his hard-work, dedication, and leadership on and off the field. I look forward to hearing about his future accomplishments.

HONORING TONY NAPOLI

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take some time today to honor one of my constituents, Mr. Tony Napoli, for his immense dedication to serving Santa Ana's youth.

Mr. Napoli is an accomplished businessman with a background in technology, having graduated from the Connecticut College of Electricians as an electronic technician. But Mr.