

CATCHER'S UNIVERSITY BASEBALL 12U FINISHES SECOND AT THE 2018 NATIONS WORLD SERIES

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Catcher's University Baseball 12U team from Katy, TX for winning second place at the 2018 Nations World Series.

Catcher's University Baseball 12U team, under the coaching of head manager Rick Ruff, capped off a season of 34 wins, 9 losses and 2 ties with a second place finish at the 2018 Nations World Series. Team members T.K. Rollins, Blake Davila, Tanner Reese, Ty Garrett, Myles Jackson, Jackson Cleveland, Pablo Lazcano Jr., Jose DeJongh, Christian Jaquay, Kaden Reising, O.D. Denner, Charlie Radley, Aaron Brashear and Drew Leuders are all 11 and 12 years old. Their hard work has brought great pride to our Katy community and will be remembered by many for years to come.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Catcher's University Baseball 12U team from Katy, TX for winning second place at the 2018 Nations World Series. I look forward to seeing what y'all accomplish in the future on and off the field.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA LOWDEN

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Patricia Lowden of Acoma Pueblo in New Mexico for her role in the Pueblo Pottery Mug project and her success as a Native artist.

The Pueblo Pottery Mug project started as a collaboration between five Pueblo artists and the first Pueblo-owned Starbucks in New Mexico. The mugs were first sold in 2016 at the Starbucks store in Albuquerque. Each mug was hand-crafted by a different Pueblo artist to celebrate the opening of the new store and to symbolize the collaboration between New Mexico Pueblos and Starbucks. After quickly selling out of the unique mugs—selling over 6,000 mugs—the Shumakolowa gift shop collaborated with the artists to sell mugs at their location in the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Patricia was born into a family of potters from the Big Sun and Eagle clan of Acoma Pueblo. She learned the art of pottery at fifteen years old from the three generations of potters that came before her. Patricia uses traditional methods to create her pottery, which entails soaking chunks of clay that have been carefully selected, then drying and grinding the chunks of clay into powder.

Patricia is known for her famed Anasazi revival black-on-white and traditional Acoma orange, black, and white polychrome style pottery. Her work features modern interpretations of traditional Acoma symbols such as rain, clouds, mountains, and rain parrots.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Patricia Lowden for being a part of the Pueblo Pottery Mug

project. This project has given the community, as well as visitors to New Mexico, an opportunity to appreciate usable pieces of art that are inspired by Native culture and traditions. I look forward to seeing this project continue to flourish and support talented Native artists from Pueblos throughout New Mexico.

HONORING KEVIN J. KEEFE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Kevin J. Keefe for his 31 years of outstanding federal service, including as a civilian attorney for the Department of the Navy (DON) Office of the General Counsel (OGC).

In May 1987, Mr. Keefe was first appointed to federal service as an Attorney Advisor with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Office of Review and Appeals, where he remained until 1989. He went on to serve as Assistant Counsel at DON OGC from 1989 to 1995, and as Senior Advisor in the Executive Office for United States Attorneys at the Department of Justice (DOJ) from 1995 to 1998. Mr. Keefe returned to DON OGC in 1998 as Supervisory Associate Counsel for the Strategic Systems Program (SSP), where he spent the last 20 years representing DON in various roles.

Kevin J. Keefe quickly established himself for his great foresight in anticipating and evaluating legal issues, particularly in considering potential future implications for the DON. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Keefe earned and maintained the trust of senior leaders at SSP with his superb legal acumen and was well-known for his thorough litigation work. Mr. Keefe has secured numerous favorable decisions from the EEOC and the Merit Systems Protection Board on behalf of DON in his central practice area of civilian personnel law. Moreover, he has assisted the U.S. Attorney's office in representing DON when SSP personnel cases were appealed to the federal District Court or to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. In these instances, U.S. attorneys relied on motions and briefs drafted by Mr. Keefe to prevail in federal court.

Kevin J. Keefe's achievements have been celebrated throughout his career with a variety of awards for his outstanding work in the federal government. These include the DON Meritorious Civilian Service Award, a DOJ Special Achievement Award, a Letter of Recognition from the Director of SSP and other performance-related accolades.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Kevin J. Keefe, on the occasion of his retirement, for his many years of excellence in federal service.

UALR BIKE-SHARING PROGRAM

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Arkansas-Little Rock's

new bike-sharing program and to emphasize its leading example of advocacy for active lifestyles.

I appreciate the efforts of Jim Carr, Chair for the University's Committee on Sustainability, who lead the initiative to bring the bike share program to the Little Rock campus.

This program has provided students, faculty, staff, and visitors a convenient and healthy way to get around campus.

Nearly 200 bright-orange bikes have been delivered to UA-Little Rock and have been placed near high-traffic areas, such as dormitories and Ottenheimer Library.

As a long-time biker, I am pleased to see the campus work to provide an alternative and convenient transportation option to relieve congestion and promote a healthier campus.

As a former board member of Bicycles Advocacy of Central Arkansas, I am glad to see UA-Little Rock's bike-sharing program as one more step on the path to a more vibrant, healthy, and bike-friendly community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SAMUEL U. RODGERS HEALTH CENTER'S 50TH YEAR OF SERVICE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize and celebrate 50 years of service from the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center. This milestone embodies the vision Dr. Samuel U. Rodgers had for a foundation that would provide families with affordable health care. With over four decades of service Dr. Rogers' health center has been responsible for providing cost effective and quality health care to thousands of families in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

Dr. Samuel U. Rodgers' passion for serving low income families can be traced back to his early days in Kansas City when he first arrived as an intern for a then-segregated general hospital. During this time Dr. Rodgers witnessed firsthand the challenges minority and low-income families faced while trying to access quality and affordable health care. This experience would inspire him to go on to become the first African American OBGYN in Kansas City, and then later, the first African American to open a successful all-black medical practice. Dr. Rodgers' commitment to ensuring that all people, regardless of their ethnicity or economic background, receive affordable health care would later inspire him to open Missouri's first federally-recognized health center, the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center.

When Dr. Rodgers opened his health center, he did so with the intent to serve both individuals and families who otherwise would not be able to afford quality healthcare. Moreover, Dr. Rodgers emphasized the need to also provide patients access to resources that help maintain their long-term health.

Today, there are five Samuel U. Rodgers Health Centers located throughout the Greater Kansas City area. Each one continues Dr. Rodgers' legacy of compassion and equitable health care for all. The Samuel U. Rodgers Health Centers offer a variety of services that range from dental care to behavioral health

services. As fundamental pillars of the community, these health centers strengthen and contribute to the prosperity of my district and I have no doubt that Dr. Rodgers would be proud to see the sustained success of his vision.

Healthcare is one of the most critical factors a community needs to prosper. The Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center is truly a blueprint when it comes to demonstrating the power of arming communities with the access and resources necessary to maintain their health.

It is a privilege to stand today and recognize the half-century of service of the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center. Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking and honoring the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center for selflessly serving families across the Greater Kansas City area for 50 years.

CONGRATULATING GRACE SEIBOLDT ON WINNING THREE MEDALS AT THE 2018 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize Grace Seiboldt, an exceptionally talented young woman from the Sixth District of Illinois. Grace recently competed for Team Illinois in the 2018 Special Olympics USA National Games where she won two gold medals and one silver medal.

Grace started swimming when she was just five years old and began competing in the Special Olympics in 2007. After competing for the last 11 years at the state level, she qualified along with 46 Special Olympic athletes from Illinois to compete in the Special Olympics USA National Games. Grace joined with more than 4,000 athletes and coaches from across the United States in Seattle for the games and was incredibly successful. She earned gold medals in the 200 individual medley and the 4 × 100 medley relay, where she swam the butterfly leg. She also received a silver medal for her performance in the 400 freestyle. This is an incredible feat for someone competing at her first National Games.

Grace's prowess as an elite swimmer has not gone unnoticed. Her skills caught the eye of an assistant coach with the USA Paralympics, and she was invited to attend the national training camp in September at the University of Delaware. If chosen, Grace will join with 7,000 athletes from around the world to compete at the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi next March. This is a great honor and I have no doubt Grace would make the United States proud.

Mr. Speaker and my Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Grace Seiboldt for her remarkable achievements and all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MR. VALENTINE "ROCK" GRUNDMAN

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible contributions and life of Mr. Valentine "Rock" Grundman of San Antonio, Texas.

Rock's service to the United States began in 1957 when he received a commission as an Air Force Judge Advocate General Officer. From there, he served as counsel at the Federal Trade Commission, and as an advisor to Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

Throughout his career, Rock Grundman remained active in the military, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1992. During this service, he successfully defended the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force in the first anti-trust case brought against the U.S. Government. For these efforts, he received the Meritorious Service Medal in 1980. While serving in the Air Force Reserves, Rock also served as Adjunct Faculty at the University of Texas at Dallas Graduate Business School.

Rock Grundman lived a life of public service that extended well beyond his career and military service. He was a member of the vestry and senior warden for St. William Laud Episcopal Church and President of the Pittsburg Rotary Club. His leadership and service to his community are truly a testament to the character and spirit of Texas's 23rd Congressional District.

Rock Grundman passed away on June 13, 2018, leaving behind an extraordinary legacy and family. While we mourn the loss of Rock, his reputation and the values he represented will live on through his family, his friends, and community. I would like to extend my most sincere condolences to Mr. Grundman's family during this difficult time and am proud to recognize all that he did for the great state of Texas and the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA ROMERO

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Martha Romero of Nambé Pueblo in New Mexico for her role in the Pueblo Pottery Mug project and her success as a Native artist.

The Pueblo Pottery Mug project started as a collaboration between five Pueblo artists and the first Pueblo-owned Starbucks in New Mexico. The mugs were first sold in 2016 at the Starbucks store in Albuquerque. Each mug was hand-crafted by a different Pueblo artist to celebrate the opening of the new store and to symbolize the collaboration between New Mexico Pueblos and Starbucks. After quickly selling out of the unique mugs—selling over 6,000 mugs—the Shumakolowa gift shop collaborated with the artists to sell mugs at their location in the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Martha learned the practices of pottery-making from her mother, Rosa Alice Baca. After

taking a hiatus from pottery, she took up the work once again, an experience which helped her reconnect to an art form closely tied to her Pueblo, tradition, culture, and mother. In the words of Martha, "I am spiritually awakened when creating pottery! It brings me closer to my mother who has completed the circle. In relearning what she taught me, I find a connection to my mother and our beloved Nambé."

Martha's unique unpainted pieces demonstrate the clay's natural shine and have a beautiful connection with her Indian name Kwahtenbay, which means rainbow. Using hand-gathered micaceous clay and traditional coiling methods, she crafts simple yet elegant designs that echo traditional utilitarian Nambé techniques.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Martha Romero for being a part of the Pueblo Pottery Mug project. This project has given the community, as well as visitors to New Mexico, an opportunity to appreciate usable pieces of art that are inspired by Native culture and traditions. I look forward to seeing this project continue to flourish and support talented Native artists from Pueblos throughout New Mexico.

CELEBRATING IDYLLWILD'S TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL "JAZZ IN THE PINES"

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 10, 2018

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Idyllwild's "Jazz in the Pines" festival, a celebration of music, art, and community in my congressional district.

Jazz in the Pines is one of my family's favorite traditions. It's a chance to marvel at the handiwork of local artists, catch up with friends, and listen to the sweet, sweet sounds of smooth jazz. Every year, we join our neighbors in the San Jacinto Mountains to celebrate the natural and cultural beauty that makes Idyllwild unlike any other place on earth.

The proceeds of this yearly celebration benefit the Idyllwild Arts, a foundation that teaches adults and children of all ages to realize and develop their artistic talent. Through summer camps and college preparatory courses, Idyllwild Arts is enriching the lives of students from Idyllwild and across the country.

This year's Jazz in the Pines is particularly special. Not only does it mark the festival's twenty-fifth year—it comes in the wake of and in spite of the largest wildfire to threaten the community of Idyllwild in nearly five years.

The Cranston fire burned more than 13,000 acres, destroying buildings, closing major roads, and forcing thousands from their homes. But no matter how large the fire grew, our mountain community's passion for celebrating music and the arts burned brighter.

We owe this year's festival to the incredible first responders who risked their lives to protect Idyllwild, Pine Cove, Mountain Center, Fern Valley, and many surrounding communities. I am also grateful to the hundreds of musicians, artists, and volunteers who made this year's event possible.

Jazz in the Pines was born from conversations around a kitchen table. Today, it demonstrates what we can achieve when neighbors, local businesses, and non-profits work