

## TRIBUTE TO VIC BELGER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Vic Belger. Mr. Belger was inducted into the Creston High School Hall of Fame as Faculty Representative on Thursday, September 20, 2018.

Vic served as guidance counselor, driver's education teacher and head baseball coach in Creston for two decades starting in the early 1980's. His overall record as head baseball coach was 920–319, which ranks 27th all-time nationally for career victories. He also coached basketball at Creston for 9 seasons. He was named Iowa Coach of the year in 1990 and was inducted into the Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1995. Vic and his wife, Pat, now live in Wauke, Iowa, where they attend their grandchildren's activities and Vic still teaches driver's education.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Vic Belger for this award, and for providing the youth in Iowa's Third District the education and direction that they will need to be successful. I am proud to represent him and Creston Community Schools in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Vic Belger and wishing him nothing but continued success.

HONORING BATTALION CHIEF  
JAMES NELSON**HON. ANDY BIGGS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor the life of my constituent Mr. James Nelson. Mr. Nelson dedicated his life to public service, his community, and first and foremost, his family. He will be greatly missed by everyone that was lucky enough to know him in the East Valley.

James grew up in Tempe, Arizona where he played football and basketball for Marcos De Niza High School. His competitive nature and out-going personality led to future success in leadership positions in his 25-plus-year career serving others. He began his fire service career in the East Valley and was a founding member of the Gilbert Fire Department in 1993. For most of his professional life he served as Captain, later promoted to Battalion Chief.

James was a consummate professional and mentor to many other fire fighters. It is hard to imagine how many lives have been improved because of James' guidance and advice. He was a pillar of strength for his family, friends, and the fire service. I express my sincere condolences to his wife Kerry, his three daughters, Sydney, Shelby, and Shealy, his parents Ken and Nancy Nelson, his brother Paul Nelson, his sisters Sherri Nelson and Tricia Nelson and his other surviving family members.

IN HONOR OF JILL TANNER FOR  
NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER  
AWARENESS MONTH**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Jill Tanner, an ovarian cancer survivor from Owensboro, Kentucky. September is National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. Ovarian cancer accounts for 2.5 percent of cancers in women, and sadly, the American Cancer Society estimates that this year, about 22,240 new cases will be diagnosed in the United States. Jill has taken her experience fighting ovarian cancer and has become a fierce advocate for funding and research to fight this disease. I have met with Jill on a number of occasions to discuss what more Congress can do to help those with ovarian cancer, and I want to thank her for her advocacy.

## TRIBUTE TO LOUISE SIMPSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Louise Simpson of Shenandoah, Iowa on her 100th birthday. Mildred celebrated her birthday on September 11, 2018.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Louise's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Louise has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-five Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Louise in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Louise on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

HONORING WHITE PLAINS  
HOSPITAL**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor White Plains Hospital as it hosts its 125th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, September 29, 2018.

White Plains Hospital is a not-for-profit health care organization aimed at providing quality and affordable health care to Westchester County and the surrounding areas. In the year following its founding in 1893 by 22

women and three men, the hospital treated 31 patients. Today, it has a staff of 1,100 and treats more than 200,000 patients a year. White Plains Hospital has truly become a cornerstone of our community.

White Plains Hospital not only provides both inpatient and outpatient services, but also aims to improve the health care of the local and professional communities and the business sector. It greatly expanded access to care by opening locations across Westchester County with excellent physicians in, but not limited to, primary care, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, dermatology, geriatrics, cardiology, medical & surgical specialties, and urgent care.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have worked alongside White Plains Hospital to support quality health care for area residents. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this organization and applauding its 125 years of service to our community as it celebrates this quasiquintennial anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASHLAN  
BORSARI AND CHILDREN'S CAR-  
DIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS  
MONTH**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sincere recognition of Ashlan Borsari of Plymouth, Massachusetts, and to recognize September as Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

Ashlan Borsari was diagnosed at birth with a rare, chronic, and degenerative heart disease called hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. By the time Ashlan reached kindergarten, her heart had left her barely able to climb a flight of stairs, and keeping up with her friends was impossible. Ashlan underwent her first open heart surgery at the age of five, and for the next nine years, she lived close to a typical life. Unfortunately, at the age of 14, she experienced a series of sudden cardiac arrests which required her to be revived through CPR. Ashlan was airlifted to Boston Children's Hospital where doctors implanted an internal defibrillator.

Children and infants diagnosed with cardiomyopathy face some of the worse outcomes in pediatric cardiology. Forty percent of patients diagnosed with pediatric cardiomyopathy die at a young age or undergo a heart transplant within the first two years of their diagnosis. Despite this, little is known about the causes of this disease and there currently is no cure. While there is tremendous variation in symptoms among the four different types of cardiomyopathy, each case poses enormous challenges and dangers to those who suffer from the disease. As Members of Congress, we need to do all that we can to get the word out about this little understood, yet life-threatening autoimmune disease.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ashlan Borsari for her remarkable spirit and perseverance, and in recognizing September as Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month. Her story reminds us that through education, awareness, and research, we can better understand pediatric cardiomyopathy. I

pledge to continue to raise awareness and do what I can to secure the resources needed to build upon the steady strides already achieved in understanding and finding a cure for cardiomyopathy.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

**HON. TOM EMMER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 107th National Day of Taiwan. The United States and Taiwan have enjoyed a fruitful partnership for decades, and I would like to wish the people of Taiwan a very Happy National Day.

Taiwan is a critical partner of the United States and my state of Minnesota. Over the last decade, Taiwan has shown and continues to be a prosperous nation characterized by strong economic growth, a commitment to democracy and respect for basic human rights and freedoms.

Where trade and economic prosperity are concerned, our two countries have made great strides. In 2017, Taiwan was ranked as the 11th largest trading partner of the United States, the 11th largest U.S. export market overall and the 7th largest market for U.S. agricultural products. Taiwan imported \$3.57 billion of food and agricultural products from the U.S., representing more than 28 percent of total imports of those products.

Taiwan regularly sponsors trade missions to the United States in pursuit of agricultural products. Last year, those missions culminated in the signing of letters of intent to purchase approximately \$2.8 billion in U.S.-produced grains between 2018 and 2019. Just in late September, another trade mission from Taiwan visited the United States with the intent to purchase \$300 million in soybeans and other agriculture products. The mission also traveled to Minnesota, one of the biggest agriculture and soybean producing states in the U.S. In fact, Taiwan is Minnesota's 5th largest export market in Asia, with over \$450 million in goods exported in 2016. Our two countries will continue to seek avenues where we can work together, and I hope my colleagues will join me in promoting this cooperation wherever possible.

Minnesota and the rest of the country benefit from our relationship with Taiwan and continuing this important partnership. It is my privilege to congratulate the celebrants of the "Double Tenth Day," and I look forward to celebrating this important event for many years to come.

CARR & DUFF

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Carr & Duff, Inc, its founders Edward Duff and Harold Carr, and the tireless lineman they employ, as the company celebrates the 60th anniversary of the company.

I have a special connection to this company—as a young man, Edward Duff and Harold Carr were gracious enough to hire me. I worked in a variety of roles for the company, including journeyman, foreman and high voltage lead splicer. I can tell you firsthand that Carr & Duff is a company that truly sets the industry standard in hard work and dedication. And as I moved on to other positions in my life, the skills I acquired in my time with Carr & Duff stayed with me—shaping me as a leader and providing me with an invaluable foundation and experience.

The story of Carr & Duff is one not only of business success, but also unsurpassed excellence in the field of community service. The men and women employed at this company have shown us time and time again that they are willing to go above and beyond in the name of excellent customer service, and they have been a lifeline to both of our districts, as well as the Tri-state Area, throughout the company's history.

The company is renowned for going the extra mile in times of emergency. During storms, floods, and severe snow, the incredibly skilled electricians at Carr & Duff have proven themselves invaluable—working long hours to restore power to impacted communities. Carr & Duff has such a large supply of transformers and generators that they are often able to loan out their stock to local utility companies in times of need. The people of Carr & Duff think nothing of it—it's just another opportunity for them to help their neighbors any way they can.

I ask you to join me in celebrating the impact that Carr & Duff Incorporated has made during its sixty-year history, and honoring the transformative legacy of a company that has truly shaped the Camden and Philadelphia area for more than half a century.

RECOGNIZING COACH AL LESLIE

**HON. TIM WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Al Leslie of Saline, Michigan who was recently named the ALL-USA Boys Track and Field Coach of the Year.

Al has been a track coach for 17 years—the last 12 of which have been at Saline High School, home of the Hornets.

This past season, the Boy's Track Team won their 8th straight conference championship, their 8th consecutive regional title, and placed third at the state championship. Later, at a national competition, the Hornets won the 800 and 1600 medley relays.

Coach Leslie's commitment to excellence, as well as the unity and team spirit that he seeks to promote, has created a winning formula at Saline.

In fact, his favorite quote, attributed to Bo Schembechler, is "The team, the team, the team."

In addition to his success as a track coach, Al is also a beloved assistant football coach at Saline, where he currently teaches 8th grade history.

Once again, I wish to congratulate Coach Leslie on this impressive achievement. The investment he makes in the lives of young peo-

ple, both on and off the field, will impact our community for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY STRING OF PEARLS PROJECT OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA CONSERVATION TRUST

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor very special landowners in northern Virginia who are the latest contributors to the Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Project of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust. The trust adds to and sustains places in our communities that enhance our natural, historical and cultural value, by assisting private landowners and local jurisdictions conserve and care for our natural and working lands and waters.

On November 16, seven newly conserved properties have been added to the 62 other parcels that make up the String of Pearls in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. These treasured private lands are in Great Falls, McLean and Oakton, and are the first conserved lands to be honored in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

As the member of Congress representing this area, I want to express my deep appreciation to these visionary landowners who have preserved their land forever, thus "saving nearby nature" to benefit current and future generations of Virginians and Americans. I also want to express my gratitude to the leadership of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, who, over the past 20-plus years has conserved 6,500 acres in the region and has been such an invaluable resource for conservation management, through its stewardship of protected land, encouragement of volunteer conservation activities, and critical technical assistance to local governments as they implement their comprehensive plans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me and all the people of the 10th Congressional District, in recognizing and thanking the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust and the sixty-nine conservation landowners of the Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Project for their everlasting contributions to the quality of life of the residents of Northern Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

TRIBUTE TO MAXINE AND BOB HAMM

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Maxine and Bob Hamm of Clarinda, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on September 14, 2018.

Maxine and Bob's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies