

in 2015, to modernize the facilities and increase cooperative working spaces. And the library even hosts a summer concert series.

The library's inspired initiatives and incredible progress were recognized by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which awarded the Waukegan Public Library with the National Medal in 2013, the highest national recognition for libraries.

In fact, it was at the White House award ceremony hosted by First Lady Michelle Obama that I first met Mr. Lee and his team. Since then, the Waukegan Public Library has been an important partner in my work for our community, including allowing us to host regular Neighborhood Office Hours to serve residents closer to home, as well as graciously providing the venue for a recent ceremony honoring local Vietnam Veterans.

In closing, I want to again thank my friend, Mr. Richard Lee, for his dedicated leadership, creativity, and passion over these last 15 years. I wish him the very best in his well-deserved retirement with family and friends.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIERRA SACRAMENTO VALLEY MEDICAL SOCIETY

**HON. AMI BERA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2018*

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society.

On March 18, 1868, twelve physicians formed the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement, which is known today as the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society.

The medical society's early goals of learning about diseases and cures, formulating public health, sanitation, and food safety ordinances, and supporting the principles and ethics of the medical profession continue to benefit Sacramento communities.

The Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society founded the Sacramento Board of Health and helped form the first State Board of Health in California.

SSVMS represents more than 3,500 physicians, medical students, residents and fellows. Thirteen SSVMS physicians have served as President of the California Medical Association and three have served as President of the American Medical Association.

SSVMS's RX Safe Physicians program has partnered with opioid task forces in Sacramento and El Dorado Counties to create a physician led coalition that is fighting opioid abuse.

As a member myself, I want to thank the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society for their work over the past 150 years.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society on 150 years of service to the Sacramento region.

HONORING SENSEI MARUYAMA

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2018*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Sensei Shuji Maruyama, the Founder of Kokikai Aikido, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his teaching Aikido in Pennsylvania. In so doing, I honor his achievements and the beneficial role that Kokikai Aikido has played in enriching the lives of the men, women and children of Bucks County, PA and the USA.

Kokikai Aikido is a self-defense training system that stresses timing, centering, and coordination, rather than meeting force with force. Aikido students strive to use minimum effort for maximum effect, making Aikido an effective self-defense method for people of all levels of physical ability and of all ages. Kokikai Aikido teaches that strength comes from one's mental state as well as from one's physical prowess. It provides a path for personal realization and ethical self-defense. Students learn that as they become stronger, a peaceful resolution of conflict becomes more, not less, possible. In this way Aikido students also become better citizens, as they work toward attaining their personal goals.

After 50 years of teaching in the USA, Sensei Maruyama continues to share his unbounded energy with his students. He constantly strives to improve and simplify his technique, and to find even more effective ways of teaching. Through his leadership, Kokikai Aikido has grown to include dojos all over the United States and the world. Keystone Kokikai Aikido has made his teachings accessible to hundreds of Southeastern Pennsylvania residents.

I offer congratulations to Sensei Maruyama on his achievement and congratulations to his students who are fortunate to celebrate this milestone with him. It is my hope that Kokikai Aikido will continue to flourish and that Sensei Shuji Maruyama will continue to bring his skills to the martial arts community for many years to come.

HONORING COMRADE WILLIE L. LINDSEY, JR.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Comrade Willie Lee Lindsey, Jr. who was born on February 23, 1936.

He enlisted into the United States Air Force on February 3, 1954 and was trained to be a Fire Fighter in the United States Air Force.

He obtained the rank of Airman 3rd Class (A/3C) during his 3 years and 10 months of service.

Comrade Willie L. Lindsey Jr. served 1 year and 10 months under imminent danger and hazardous duty conditions on the Korean Peninsula of South Korea.

He was awarded the National Defense Medal along with the Korean Service Medal during his time of service in the Air Force.

Airman 3rd Class Willie L. Lindsey, Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on January 7, 1958.

After serving his country as a Fire Fighter in the military, Comrade Willie L. Lindsey, Jr. transitioned into civilian life and worked and retired after 30 years of employment at Vickers, Inc. in Jackson, Mississippi.

In December of 1985, Willie Lindsey joined the Brooks, William, Stewart, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9832, in Jackson, MS.

He was elected VFW Post 9832 Commander in 1988 and served in that position from 1988 to 2008. He also served as VFW 5th District Commander during his time as VFW Post 9832 Commander.

In 2006 through 2007, Willie Lindsey became the first African American in the State of Mississippi to be elected and serve as State Commander of the Department of Mississippi's Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Comrade Willie L. Lindsey, Jr. was a member of Shady Grove Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. He is survived by his son Roderick Odems.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Comrade Willie L. Lindsey, Jr. for his dedication to serving his country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID ROUZER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2018*

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to make it back to Washington, D.C. to vote on the evening of 1/8/2018 due to inclement weather conditions. Had I been present, I would have voted Present on Roll Call No. 1.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF EMMA COUTURE

**HON. CHARLIE CRIST**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2018*

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Emma Couture, a remarkable and talented young woman who tragically left us too soon.

At 19 years old, Emma accomplished a great deal more than many of us could hope to in a lifetime. And she did it with an open and giving heart that inspired everyone she met. Emma exemplified the best and the brightest of our Pinellas community: a brilliant student, gifted actress, and a thoughtful, selfless individual.

From a young age, Ms. Couture showed a keen interest in the theater. In high school, she used her role as District Broadway Cares Representative to draw attention to AIDS research, organizing a donation drive and raffle at her local thespian competition. Emma used her unique talent on the stage as a platform to advocate for LGBTQ rights and other important issues, orchestrating a theatrical production that raised thousands of dollars for charity and drew performers from all over the country.

Emma's dedication to good works was matched only by her impressive intelligence. She was a victor on the television game show

Kid Jeopardy, serving as a source of civic pride for Pinellas County and an inspiration to little girls across the community. As a fellow Green Devil, no one better represented St. Petersburg High School and its motto of loyalty and service to God, country, and home.

After graduation, Emma realized her dream of working on the stage in New York City as a student at Marymount Manhattan College. She spent her final moments doing the very thing she loved most: directing her first college theater production, helping a fellow performer rehearse their lines.

Emma's passing due to unexpected heart failure was a sad day for Pinellas County. To her dedicated, loving parents Wilma and Peter, and her older sister Hannah, our hearts go out. I thank them for bringing such an incredible young woman into this world. She has left an indelible mark that will never be erased; her spirit will live on in the hearts of everyone whose life she touched.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully include in the RECORD my intended votes for November 28 through December 1, 2017. I was feeling under the weather, and at the advice of my doctor I was told to rest and avoid air travel for the duration of the week.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017

H.R. 2768—Fowler and Boskoff Peaks Designation Act (Sponsored by Rep. SCOTT TIP-TON/Natural Resources Committee)—This legislation would designate two mountain peaks in the Uncompahgre National Forest in Colorado as "Fowler Peak" and "Boskoff Peak" in honor of two philanthropists—Charlie Fowler and Christine Boskoff—whom supported athletic schools, women's education, global literacy, and gender equality. They passed away when an avalanche struck while they were attempting to climb Genyen Peak in Tibet in November 2006. Roll no. 638—Yes

H.R. 3115—Superior National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2017 (Sponsored by Rep. RICK NOLAN/Natural Resources Committee). This legislation would facilitate a land exchange between the United States Forest Service (USFS) and a private entity—6,650 acres of federal land in the Superior National Forest would be exchanged for 6,690 acres of private land in the same forest. The proposal has been under strict review by the National Environmental Policy Act for seven years, and requires permitting through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Minnesota after the bill's enactment. Roll no. 639—Yes

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017

Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 631—Procedural vote on the combined rule providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 3017—Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017, and of the bill, H.R. 3905—Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act. Roll no. 640—Yes

Adoption of H. Res. 631—Procedural vote on the combined rule providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 3017—Brownfields En-

hancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017, and of the bill, H.R. 3905—Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act. Roll no. 641—Yes

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

H.Amdt. 487 to H.R. 3905, Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, GRIJALVA (D-AZ) Amendment—Increases the royalty rate by 16.66 percent for mineral leases in the Superior National Forest. Roll no. 642—No

Passage of H.R. 3905—Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act (Sponsored by Rep. TOM EMMER/Natural Resources Committee)—This bill restores mineral rights in Minnesota, and opens the permitting process for mining in the state. Roll no. 643—Yes

Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 635—Procedural vote on the combined rule providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4182—Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017 and of the bill H.R. 1699—Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017. Roll no. 644—Yes

Adoption of H. Res. 635—Procedural vote on the combined rule providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4182—Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017 and of the bill H.R. 1699—Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017. Roll no. 645—Yes

H.Amdt. 489 to H.R. 4182, Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017, Hastings (D-FL) Amendment—Exempts alumni of the PeaceCorps, AmeriCorps, and other national service programs under the Corporation for National and Community Service from the two-year probationary period. Roll no. 646—No

H.Amdt. 491 to H.R. 4182, CONNOLLY (D-VA) Substitute Amendment—Strikes the provisions of the bill and replaces it with a study and report by the Comptroller General of the United States. The study and report will be on those agencies that have lengthened the employee probationary period from 1 to 2 years, and any impact of an existing two-year probationary period at the agency. Roll no. 647—No

Passage of H.R. 4182—Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service Act of 2017—This legislation would extend the probationary period for new federal employees (civil service) from one year to two years. The bill addresses the findings from a 2015 GAO report which found that supervisors often do not utilize the probationary period for its intended purpose, and need more time to complete a full assessment of work performance. Roll no. 648—Yes

Passage of H.R. 3017—Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017 (Sponsored by Rep. DAVID MCKINLEY/Energy and Commerce Committee)—This bill reauthorizes the Brownfields Program to provide grants and technical assistance to communities, states, and tribes to assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse contaminated properties. There are more than 450,000 brownfields in the United States, and each of these sites has the potential to encourage economic development with federal assistance. Roll no. 649—Yes

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017

Democrat Motion to Recommit on H.R. 1699—Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017 (Sponsored by Rep. ANDY BARR/Financial Services Committee)—Roll no. 650—No

Passage of H.R. 1699—Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2017 (Sponsored by Rep. ANDY BARR/Financial Services Committee)—This bill would help low-income families gain access to banks loans to purchase mobile homes. Roll no. 651—Yes

Approval of the Journal Roll no. 652—Yes

#### HONORING THE WEST SENECA WEST VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the West Seneca West varsity football team for their remarkable achievement of winning the 2017 New York State Public High Schools Athletic Association Class A Championship with a 14–6 victory over the Section I Champions, Yorktown High School, at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse on November 24, 2017.

The West Seneca West football team earned the distinction of being ranked No. 1 in large schools by the Buffalo News. Head Coach Mike Vastola was selected Coach of the Year and senior quarterback Matt Myers was selected Player of the Year and Connolly Cup Winner, an award given to one outstanding varsity football player from Western New York each year.

Myers accounted for 264 of West's 290 yards in total offense. The defense performed well under pressure to lay a strong foundation for the biggest victory in the history of West Seneca West football. This incredible season comes on the heels of a 12-year playoff drought, which displays the dedication of these players and coaches to building a championship team.

I'd like to thank former coach and current president of the West Seneca Teacher's Association, Joseph Cantafio, for inviting me here today to recognize the young men and the football organization that has brought this community together, inspiring a great sense of pride for West Seneca's accomplishments both on and off the field. The team's spirit of hard work, camaraderie and incredible sportsmanship has moved this community to believe that anything is possible when you come together as a team.

Every player on the roster deserves to be recognized for the efforts, from freshmen to seniors. The efforts of Liam Scheuer, Josh Clifton, Justin Johnson, Mike Velasquez, Josh Karmazyn, Bryan Ball, Mitch Bednarz, David Beard, Jacob Wagner, Dillon Weir, Nick Knowles, Luke Wilhelm, Kyle Bauer, Kyle Haettich, Jordan Mackiewicz, Jake Cooper, Nicolai Lowman, Dylan Kasic, John Speyer, Cody Chambers, Jake Wood, Corey Snyder, Jebadiah Braunscheidel, John Cantafio, Josh Wilson, Bradley Claycomb, Nick Fazio, Jeremy Cuthbert, Daniel Cantafio, Robin Block, Nick Cooper, George Newcomb, Tremar Brice, Chris Ignasiak, Tavian Brooks, Dustin White-Wagner, Mike Glinski, and Trevor Stoddard earned West Seneca West the state championship, led by Captains Jesse Broad, Matt Myers, Vinny Draper, Coach Mike Vastola, Assistant Coaches Dave Recor, Matt Marinaro,