

than 27 years. Her work was always stellar, and she consistently went above and beyond the call of duty to help constituents with whatever problems they had. She had a hard time saying no to assisting individuals in need. Helping others is, and I believe will always be, her passion.

Although she has worked on a number of casework areas, Awilda primarily focused on immigration issues. Awilda's knowledge of our immigration laws likely outstrips that of many immigration attorneys, and other elected officials frequently sought out her advice and assistance on casework issues. It is not an exaggeration to say that she has helped literally thousands of my constituents obtain citizenship, resolve visa issues, and help family members living at home and abroad. I cannot tell you the number of times that people relate stories to me about how she helped them or a close family member resolve a problem.

Awilda's passion for The Bronx is evident in her work and in her commitment to our community. She has lived in The Bronx all her life and raised both of her children in our borough. Today, she is a mother of two, Octavia Rivera and Jazmine Velez, and grandmother to Timothy, Noah, Camille and Andre.

Awilda comes from a musical family. Her father plays the guitar and her son, Octavia Rivera, is a well-known artist who goes by Toby Love. Her brother is also a musician. Awilda loves music, dancing, and—above all—her family. In fact, she plans to help care for her father in Puerto Rico in the future.

My constituents will deeply miss Awilda's advocacy, her compassion, and her selflessness. She is a legend in the community. I am deeply grateful for Awilda's dedication to helping others, and to the work that she has done for my office and my constituents. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Awilda Rivera for her distinguished service and extensive contributions to The Bronx and to the Nation.

HONORING TYLER SILVEUS

HON. LUKE MESSE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. MESSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Tyler Silveus for his contribution to our state.

During my entire tenure in Congress, Tyler has been a loyal friend and wise adviser. Tyler is also a leader in Indiana's agriculture industry, serving as an executive at Silveus Insurance Group. He also served as a member of the 6th District Agriculture Advisory Committee where he met with my team regularly to discuss emerging agriculture issues. Our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Tyler is a brother in Christ. I have appreciated his prayers and encouragement over the years. I would like to thank him for his friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for Tyler and his family.

HONORING FONDA MAGEE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues I rise today to honor a worthy member of our society, Mrs. Fonda Magee.

She earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from Alcorn State University. After graduating with a degree in Accounting she worked for the IRS in Atlanta. She moved back to Mississippi and worked as a project manager for Skytel for 9 years. She taught 6th grade and 8th grade math at Siwell middle school.

Later, she opened her own accounting firm named LKT Professional Tax where she has been in business for 18 years and her business continue to grow each year.

Mrs. Magee founded a young girls group called YLOTS where she mentors girls and has a girls only summer camp. Her passion is working with the youth and helping to make changes in this world. She takes countless number of youths all over the states on HBCU tours, encourage each student to attend college as well as educating them of the many choices out there. Mrs. Magee serves on the Youth department at her church Emmanuel Baptist to help raise money to send students to college. Mrs. Magee has been married for 25 years and together they have two girls and three foster sons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Fonda Magee.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, I was inadvertently detained on roll call vote 418. Had I been present to vote, I would have voted "nay."

CELEBRATING THE ASIAN AMERICAN PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATION'S PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR DR. LIVELEEN M. GILL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise to acknowledge the extraordinary achievements of Dr. Liveleen M. Gill who is recognized by the Asian American Physician Association (AAPA) as the Physician of the Year. AAPA is a not-for-profit organization comprised of 100 doctors of Indian origin. Their efforts help to utilize their expertise as physicians to serve the community by holding free health fairs and enabling inner-city students the opportunity to experience the many medical advancements in today's practice.

Dr. Gill's passion for medicine started a world away in India where she excelled in biol-

ogy-related coursework. She was a gold medalist on her Higher Secondary Exam and she went on to complete an M.B. B.S. curriculum at Delhi University. Prior to the start of an internship, Liveleen met Harbinder Singh Gill who was visiting India from the United States. History took its course and Liveleen joined Harbinder overseas in America.

Dr. Liveleen Gill represents the best of the Western New York community. Dr. Gill wasted no time in becoming a diligent practitioner of medicine, starting her residency in Internal Medicine at Millard Fillmore Gates Circle. Although a relatively unknown physician at the time, Dr. Gill's medical skills quickly won her the respect and admiration of her colleagues. Dr. Gill went on to a rotation at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and because of her hard work and expertise, she earned a fellowship. Dr. Gill established herself in the community by creating her own practice starting in a series of part-time, rented office spaces and growing that into her private practice which contains several examination rooms, an infusion room, nursing, billing and administrative staff.

Dr. Gill is Board Certified in Medical Oncology and Internal Medicine earning her New York State Medical License in 1982. She belongs to the AAPA and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Gill's practice thrived thanks to her impressive clinical skills, her conservative approach to treatment and the many wonderful relationships she developed in the field. On top of her tremendous professional success, Dr. Gill is also the proud mother of 2 grown children Jay and Sabrina.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to take a few moments to recognize Dr. Liveleen M. Gill. Her story of success showcases the vibrant and talented immigrants we have here in Western New York who work tirelessly to support our diverse community. I am honored to recognize the many wonderful contributions that Dr. Liveleen Gill has made to the medical field and thank her for the great care she has shown so many fellow Western New Yorkers.

HONORING HATTIE YOUNG

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Pastor Hattie Young.

Pastor Young was born and raised in Grace, Mississippi. Her parents migrated to Scott, Mississippi and later to Greenville, Mississippi.

Pastor Young defied all odds as high school dropout who dared to dream and through many heartaches and pains as a single parent with three children dug her way out of poverty through faith in God.

Pastor Young has received her Bachelor and Master of Science degree in Elementary Education (Mississippi Valley State University), Master of Science degree in Administration and Supervision (Delta State University), and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies (Exodus School of the Bible).

After retiring as a principal in the Greenville Public School District where through her leadership at Weddington Elementary School she received high scholastic marks with local, regional and state recognition.

Moving forward, Pastor Young became an entrepreneur. She is the owner of Hattie's Kitchen. Also, she founded Word of God Ministries, Inc. seventeen years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Hattie Young for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER FRANCIS COOK FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Firefighter Francis Cook for fifty years of active service with the Crown Point Fire Department.

Firefighter Francis Cook has been an instrumental member of the Crown Point Fire Department since he joined in 1968. He has held numerous positions in the Department, including Fire Chief for two years. Throughout his 50 years of service, Firefighter Cook demonstrated a superb work ethic and a commitment to becoming an outstanding firefighter. In 2018 alone, he responded to 96 emergency calls and attended 43 training events, totaling just over 223 active hours. He also took advantage of opportunities to become a card holder for CPR and First Aid to assist with first response calls, and earned multiple NYS Firefighting Certifications.

Mr. Cook devoted 50 years of his life to fire protection, and is an exemplary member of his community. On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Firefighter Cook for a lifetime of sacrifices and dedication to keeping the Crown Point and the surrounding communities safe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Friday, November 16. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 419 (Passage of H.R. 5787, the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 420 (Passage of H.R. 6439, the Manage our Wolves Act): NO.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. JIM PAGLIARINI, PRESIDENT & CEO OF TWIN CITIES PBS

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jim Pagliarini, on his remarkable 21 years as the President and CEO of Twin Cities PBS or Twin Cities Public Television (TPT). Under Jim's leadership, TPT has become one of this nation's most successful,

innovative and prolific public television stations. While not only launching and producing popular programming and community facing initiatives, the successes of TPT have gone on to become nationwide models for how other PBS stations interact with their audiences and the communities they serve.

After seeing the power that television has to educate communities, and children especially, Jim earned a Master's degree in education from Temple University and went on to found the PBS station in Reno Nevada. He was one of the youngest station leaders in the nation at 29 years old. After successfully running the Reno PBS station, he was encouraged to apply for the position of President and CEO of TPT here in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His arrival in Saint Paul in 1997 marked the beginning of a new era for TPT.

Jim is often spoken of as a keen listener who cares about the thoughts and visions of those around him. His strategic vision, as well as the staff and leadership team he oversees, has enabled TPT to be a national leader in serving the community with a variety of offerings both on television and the web. Twin Cities Public Television is consistently one of the most viewed stations in the country and excels in offering programming and content to people at every stage of life, spanning from early childhood to later adulthood. Jim has not only been an enormous positive force for TPT, but has leveraged his talents and knowledge for the betterment of public broadcasting nationwide. In addition to serving and being re-elected to the national PBS board, in 2006 he took a partial leave of absence to lead strategic planning for all public television stations around the country.

One of the many successes that TPT has had during Jim's tenure as President and CEO has been a partnership with the state's nonprofits to help them use the power of media to broadcast their values and missions to viewers across Minnesota. This initiative helped to launch the Minnesota Channel in 2003, which became a national model for public broadcasting community partnerships. During Jim's time at TPT, the station completed a \$40 million campaign to modernize their headquarters and invest in new digital work. It was the most ambitious campaign in TPT's history.

Under Mr. Pagliarini's leadership, Twin Cities Public Television has thrived and grown into a model public broadcaster. TPT is a shining jewel for Minnesota, and the Fourth Congressional District, where it is located in Saint Paul. Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Jim all the best in his retirement, and to honor him for his years of educating and enriching the lives of Minnesota residents through his work at Twin Cities Public Television.

HONORING SCOTT SILVEUS

HON. LUKE MESER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. MESER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Scott Silveus for his contribution to our state.

During my entire tenure in Congress, Scott has been a loyal friend and wise adviser.

Scott is also a leader in Indiana's agriculture industry, serving as an executive at Silveus Insurance Group. Our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Scott is a brother in Christ. I have appreciated his prayers and encouragement over the years. I want to thank him for his friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for his family.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF A PLACE CALLED HOME

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of A Place Called Home, a nonprofit organization in South Los Angeles which provides a safe, nurturing environment for local youth and families.

Debrah Constance created A Place Called Home in 1993 to provide a safe haven for teens needing to escape gang violence on the streets of South Central L.A. From its humble beginnings in the basement of a church, the organization has grown into a beacon of hope and opportunity that has served more than 20,000 young people and their families.

Today, under the leadership of executive director Jonathan Zeichner and a committed board of directors and staff, A Place Called Home offers programs that prepare young people for employment or higher education. These young people also receive opportunities to access counseling, tutoring, college scholarships, vocational preparation, and internships. The organization offers classes for parents as well.

A Place Called Home is a focal point for many community activities. Its Marion Brucker Community Auditorium hosts a theater program, as well as cultural events, town hall meetings, and candidate debates. The organization also hosts events for the community throughout the year, including meals and distributions of food, beds, clothing, books, toys, and school supplies.

In addition, A Place Called Home teaches the importance of civic and community engagement, and provides opportunities for community service throughout the year. It also features three gardens where young people grow and harvest organic fruits, vegetables and flowers.

As A Place Called Home reaches 25 years of service, it remains fully committed to elevating the lives and futures of young people growing up in challenging circumstances, so they can become the leaders, healers, teachers, scientists, farmers, and builders our country needs. The organization embraces social and economic justice for all. It stands for the rights and well-being of all peoples, no matter who they are, where they come from, or how they worship.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of all the students, families, and communities helped by A Place Called Home, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating this distinguished organization on its 25th anniversary. I wish A Place Called Home the very best as it continues its mission of helping underserved