

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHELLE ASH'S 25 YEARS OF HOUSE SERVICE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the longtime service of Michelle Ash to the House of the Representatives. Michelle is leaving Congress after 25 years of distinguished service.

For 25 years this institution has greatly benefited from Michelle's passion for protecting consumers. Over the last decade, as the Energy and Commerce Committee's Chief Counsel for Consumer Protection, Michelle has been at the helm for many policy issues that directly impact consumers. Whether it be developing the guidelines for ensuring that autonomous vehicles are safe, keeping unsafe toys off the shelves, ensuring safe packing of toxic substances, fighting to protect Americans' personal data from abuse and misuse, or protecting consumers from scams, Michelle always puts consumers first.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Michelle decided soon after graduating from law school that a career in a law firm was not where she saw herself making a difference. Instead, she wanted to be involved in crafting policy, and there was no better place to do that than here in Washington.

Michelle began her career in the House in the office of then-Congressman Ben Cardin of Maryland. There she focused on foreign affairs, the judiciary, Social Security, and congressional ethics. In 1997, she served for a short time as counsel for the House Ethics Reform Task Force.

In 1998, she joined the staff of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee as Chief Legislative Counsel for then Ranking Member Henry Waxman. At OGR Michelle focused on legislative initiatives that brought more transparency to government, including initiatives to protect whistleblowers.

Ten years later, in 2009, when Congressman Waxman became Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Michelle moved over with him to serve as the Committee's Chief Counsel on Consumer Protection.

Over the last ten years, Michelle has been a determined consumer advocate, pressing federal agencies to put safety first by using all the tools and authorities at their disposal to protect consumers and holding companies accountable when their actions harm consumers. She has pushed the Consumer Product Safety Commission to take swift action to protect Americans, and particularly children, from furniture tip-overs, dangerously strong magnets that were being swallowed by kids, liquid nicotine improperly packed and being ingested by kids, and much more.

She has continuously fought to give the Federal Trade Commission more authority to fulfill its mission to prevent harm to consumers, not just taking enforcement action after harm has already been done. She has also worked to advance the cause of auto safety—urging more effective and expedient action on deadly unintended acceleration and brake failures, faulty ignition switches that prevented airbags from deploying, and exploding airbags that turned a safety device into a

death device. And at the same time, she has been a mentor to many young staffers, sharing with them the benefits of her experience and expertise.

Having spent 25 years working on Capitol Hill, there have been many late nights and weekends spent negotiating legislative language and preparing for committee hearings, and I want to acknowledge the support Michelle has received from her husband, Doug Klein, and children, Erin and Sasha.

Mr. Speaker, American consumers are safer today thanks to Michelle Ash's 25 years in Congress. I wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES KINS FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charles Kins of Eureka, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Kins answered his country's call to service by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps in 1967, during the Vietnam War. He served four years on active duty, stationed mainly in Japan, and two years as a Marine Corps Reservist.

Mr. Kins is a proud supporter and member of his local American Legion Post 74 in Eureka, and a dedicated volunteer and advocate for seniors in his community. He is actively involved with the Tobacco Valley Senior Citizens Center providing hot meals for seniors and maintenance of the community center. In 2016, his dedication earned him the Senior Center's "Senior of the Year" award. Even though he's nearing his 70th year, Mr. Kins continues to dedicate himself to serving others in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Charles Kins for his dedication and service.

RECOGNIZING THE NAZARETH ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR THEIR 2018 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WIN

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Nazareth Academy Roadrunners football team on winning their third state championship in 5 years. The players' commitment in reaching this goal is truly commendable. On November 24th, Nazareth Academy won the Class 7A Illinois state football championship with a 31-10 victory over Saint Charles North High School at Memorial Stadium in Champaign. I would like to recognize all of the time the players, staff, and families have put in to this endeavor, and commend them on their dedication and persever-

ance. I also want to congratulate Coach Tim Racki and the Principal of Nazareth Academy, Jim Meredith, for mentoring these young men and leading them to victory.

During the championship game, senior receivers Michael Love and Diamond Evans finished the game with 166 and 125 all-purpose yards respectively. They were supported by sophomore quarterback J.J. McCarthy who completed 15 of 24 passes, for 201 yards.

This victory completed a near perfect 13-1 season for the Roadrunners, allowing Nazareth to claim their third championship in five years, adding this 7A title to their ones in the 6A and 5A divisions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Nazareth Academy Roadrunners football team and to congratulate them on their IHSA Class 7A State Championship. And I wish each player continued success as he moves forward.

HONORING THE WATKINS HORNETS AND RIDGE ROAD TITANS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing two District of Columbia-based organizations, the Watkins Hornets Youth Association and the Ridge Road Titans Youth Coalition, on winning the American Youth Football National Championships.

On December 7, 2018, the Watkins Hornets and the Ridge Road Titans traveled to Florida to compete in the American Youth Football National Championships for their respective age groups, ranging from nine to 13 years old. Each of these student athletes, as well as their parents and coaches, persevered through a long season, balancing school, football and other extracurricular activities to become national champions.

Watkins Recreation Center and Ridge Road Recreation Center, which house their respective football teams, are among the elite when it comes to football. They place a strong emphasis on players as students first and athletes second. Located in the heart of the District's Wards 6 and 7, these organizations have been vital to their surrounding communities, providing programs to at-risk youth and families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating these student athletes, parents and coaches on a job well done, as well as in acknowledging the work of both of these organizations in being community strongholds.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on December 12, 2018, I missed Roll Call Vote 434. As I argued on the floor during debate on the rule for the bill, had I been present, I would have voted YES on the farm bill conference report.

SHARON HAISLIP RETIREMENT
FROM JPL GOLDSTONE DEEP
SPACE COMMUNICATION COM-
PLEX

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions that Sharon Haislip has made throughout her forty years of service towards the JPL Goldstone Deep Space Communication Complex (GDSCC).

Sharon began her career in Logistics at the GDSCC, and was promoted several times until becoming Production Control Specialist, and eventually served on the CSOC contract working as Property Coordinator. Her hard work and commitment led to expanded responsibilities as she developed a detailed knowledge of government property management. In the Property Office, Sharon was responsible for a wide range of logistics including government reporting and inventory of NASA property. Her work provided valuable records for gathering and tracking information on the history of an asset, including its status and performance capabilities. This information was critical to insure continued operation of telecommunications equipment across multiple sites as it was moved from location to location around the Goldstone complex.

Sharon Haislip retires on December 20, 2018. Her diligence towards her work has contributed significantly to the success of JPL NASA's Deep Space Network as each manned spaceflight mission, landing and planetary encounter has contributed towards humankind's understanding of the solar system and beyond. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I thank Sharon for all her contributions towards our local community and the future planetary advances that will result from her work.

RECOGNIZING MELISSA KLOIBER
FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CON-
GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-
MENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melissa Kloiber of Great Falls, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for her service to her country and leadership in her community.

With a family tradition of service in our country's armed forces stretching back generations, Mrs. Kloiber joined the United States Air Force immediately after high school. She served our country's men and women wounded in action as an Aeromedical Evacuation Technician from 1992 to 1996 on both active duty and in the Air Force Reserves.

In 2011, Melissa's 6-month-old daughter Jacey was diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. Doctors said it was unlikely Jacey would make it to her second birthday. But with undaunted spirits, Melisa and her husband Allan, also an Air Force veteran, helped Jacey beat the odds, and, thankfully, Jacey started 2nd grade this year.

Mrs. Kloiber is using the knowledge and experience she gained in helping her daughter to help others. She started Jacey's Journey, a non-profit organization that provides education and assistance to families with children suffering from neuromuscular disorders. To assist Jacey, the Kloiber's developed a unique mobility device known as an Angel Arm, and through Jacey's Journey, more than 200 of the devices have been provided for children around the world.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Melissa Kloiber for her dedication and service.

RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENT
TRANSPORTATION NETWORK OF
AMERICA FOR PROVIDING ONE
MILLION RIDES

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the Independent Transportation Network of America (ITN) for the selfless feat of providing one million rides to elderly and visually challenged people across the United States. This House Resolution commends ITN, a nonprofit, for serving the common good and making it possible for people to continue to be active participants in their communities after they can no longer drive safely.

ITN America founder Katherine Freund and her son were in a near fatal car accident. Rather than blame the other driver, an elderly man, Katherine realized that there were too few public transportation options available for elderly or visually impaired individuals to navigate their communities. In 1995 the Independent Transportation Network of America was born to respond to this critical community need. Because of Ms. Freund and her colleagues' passionate study of resources, logistics and technology, ITN to grow into a national consortium of thirteen affiliates in twelve states.

In my district, ITN America is much more than a taxi service. Drivers go above and beyond to ensure clients have a positive door-to-door experience while accommodating for luggage and other needs. ITN is constantly lauded for their outstanding customer service and prompt availability around the clock. In a letter to the editor of the Portland Press Herald, an ITN client effused her relief that she no longer has to worry about how she would make it to appointments or simply drive to the ocean on the weekend. ITN has restored the dignity of countless persons who have retired from driving or never had the privilege to drive—granting them agency over the life they deserve.

I was pleased to introduce H. Res. 851 earlier this year, which further recognizes the substantial achievements of ITN America and its valuable contributions to countless communities. Again, I congratulate the Independent Transportation Network of America and their incredible team for their exemplary leadership in achieving the milestone of one million rides. Remarkably, this marker hardly quantifies the transformative impact they have had on so many lives and I look forward to supporting ITN's continued advocacy for the elderly and

those unable to drive in Maine and across our nation.

HONORING DOGGER DICKEY

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Dogger Dickey for his contribution to our state and our District.

Dogger works for Hillenbrand Capital Partners and has been making the trains run on time for years. He has always been involved in Indiana politics and has continuously volunteered his time and resources toward improving the quality of life for his fellow Hoosiers. It has been an honor to work with him.

On a personal note, Dogger was among my earliest and most vocal supporters. He is a loyal confidant and wise adviser. I want to thank him for his friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish Dogger continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family.

HONORING BARBARA BAILEY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Barbara Bailey, an extraordinary leader who will be remembered for her tireless advocacy for LGBTQ communities and communities of color.

Barbara was a prominent Seattle presence, having run the independent bookstore Bailey/Coy Books for many years. Over that time, her Capitol Hill bookstore served as a key safe haven, and an inclusive space for LGBTQ individuals—particularly, during an era when prejudice, stigma, and discrimination against the LGBTQ community remained rife.

During the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis, Barbara was part of a courageous group of activists who founded the Pride Foundation, with the vision of creating a community of shared humanity and expanding opportunities for LGBTQ peoples. With her passion, volunteerism, and conviction, Barbara helped lead the Pride Foundation at a critical moment in history, and helped to cultivate it into one of the leading LGBTQ organizations in the Pacific Northwest. To date, the Pride Foundation has remained on the forefront of pursuing equity and positive systemic change in our society.

Barbara remained resolute in her tireless advocacy for equality throughout her life. Whether fundraising for organizations, supporting local candidates who shared her values, advocating on the Lambda Legal Board of Directors, or serving as a member of the Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA), Barbara Bailey's activism and principles paved the way for LGBTQ people in the region. Her legacy lives on through the Barbara Bailey Scholarship Fund, which will empower a new generation of leaders.