

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES
MAXIM

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Charles Maxim who is receiving his Honorary Degree from Wareham High School.

Charles is a lifelong resident of Wareham, Massachusetts. He was born on May 28, 1929 and grew up with seven sisters and one brother. Upon reaching the eighth grade, Charles left school in order to take care of his ailing mother because he believed that his mother's health was more important than finishing school.

In 1946, Charles joined the United States Navy. As a Seaman First Class, he served in Pearl Harbor and spent 45 days at sea on the LST 1135, surviving a typhoon, and eventually serving at Subic Bay in Manila. During his service, Charles played on a baseball team with future Major League pitcher Ray Scarborough, and enjoyed great camaraderie with his fellow sailors.

Charles had hoped to make a career in the Navy, but, for him, family was always the most important thing, so he returned to Massachusetts to care for his parents. After returning home, Charles worked for the town of Wareham for thirty-three years as a general foreman. He started a family of his own and today has three children, eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. One of his great-grandsons has followed in Charles' footsteps and now serves as a member of the United States Air Force.

Charles has dedicated his life to serving his family, his town, and his country. He now celebrates another great accomplishment by receiving an Honorary Degree.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Charles Maxim for receiving his Honorary Degree, following a career of dedication to his community. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating his accomplishments and wishing him many more years of health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, on January 30, 2018, I unintentionally missed a roll call vote on H.R. 4292, the Financial Institution Living Will Improvement Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 50.

HONORING IRMA HERNANDEZ

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take some time today and honor Irma Hernandez, a constituent I am immensely proud

of Mrs. Hernandez is retiring after serving the public for 36 years and serving the city of Orange for nearly 20 years. Mrs. Hernandez is retiring as the Deputy City Manager, and through her career she has set an example for all future municipal employees.

Mrs. Hernandez's personal qualities fit perfectly with the duties of a city employee—easygoing and personable with all walks of life, and determined and thorough with every single task required of her. Before her time with Orange, she served for the cities of Costa Mesa, Tustin, and Garden Grove. Her proficiency in handling the finances and budget of a city, coupled with her excellent communication skills, made her the ideal candidate for Deputy City Manager. Mrs. Hernandez represented the people of the city of Orange on the Metro Cities Fire Authority, Orange County Animal Care, and the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission. Mrs. Hernandez also represented all of Orange County's cities on the 800 MHz Governance Board, where her outstanding dedication has played a major part in the advancement of our state-of-the-art public safety radio system.

Mrs. Hernandez has enriched the community she lives in, not only through her career, but also through her fundraising for various causes. These include the Veterans' Memorial in Orange, and projects for Rotary International and the Chamber of Commerce. We are saddened that Mrs. Hernandez is leaving the city of Orange, but she has earned a long and happy retirement, and we wish her the best. Mrs. Hernandez will, without a doubt, be difficult to replace, but we are so fortunate to have had her commitment and drive. She exemplifies the best aspects of a government employee. I am honored to recognize Mrs. Hernandez for the positive role she has played in our community.

HONORING JACKIE BUSH ROORDA

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless action of Jackie Bush Roorda, of LaFayette. Jackie donated her kidney to a complete stranger, who would have died without a kidney transplant.

Jackie wanted to do something brave. She donated her kidney to Gary Schmidt, who she had never met before, and who needed a kidney transplant in order to live after a lung transplant. Jackie's altruistic act gave her recipient another chance at life.

Research shows that while most New Yorkers support organ donation, only 28 percent of New York's eligible population is enrolled as an organ donor.

I'm proud to honor Jackie today. Her selfless act made a real difference, and changed Gary's life forever.

RAMOS LAW

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Ramos

Law for receiving the 2017 West Chamber of Commerce Medium Business of the Year Award.

When determining what type of medicine to pursue, Dr. Joseph Ramos kept asking one question: "What kind of medicine can I do that everyone can get, regardless of race, religion, sexual preference or ability to pay?" And only one answer came to mind: emergency room medicine. Dr. Ramos strongly believes in inclusion, and the ER is the one place where a homeless man can be seen next to a gunshot victim or a wealthy CEO. After completing law school, Dr. Ramos began serving clients in the same way he treated his patients—with respect and inclusion.

As a business leader, Dr. Ramos understands the importance of investing in and giving back to his community. He routinely lectures at schools, donates significant resources to his church, supports programs for his neighborhood as well as overseas. In addition, he supports multiple sports teams and scholarship programs.

Dr. Ramos is an inspiration of how to achieve a dream with a great support system and a lot of hard work. He demonstrates focus, dedication and commitment to excellence. Regardless of the level of success he achieves, he's always putting people first.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Ramos Law for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber of Commerce.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on February 8, 2018, I was absent from the House and missed Roll Call votes 64 and 65.

Had I been present for Roll Call 64, on passage of H.R. 1153, the Mortgage Choice Act of 2017, I would have voted No.

Had I been present for Roll Call 65, on approving the Journal, I would have voted No.

HONORING HOMES FOR OUR
TROOPS OF TAUNTON, MA

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Homes for Our Troops, a nonprofit headquartered in Taunton, Massachusetts where I am proud to represent.

Since 2004, Homes for Our Troops has built accessible homes for veterans who require adapted housing to accommodate for the difficulties of the severe injuries they have sustained in service. Overseen by a board of civilian specialists and retired military personnel, nearly 90 cents of every dollar spent has gone directly to housing projects and services, helping Homes for Our Troops become one of the top-rated military and veterans' charities in the country by watch dog groups Charity Navigator and Charity Watch.

This past Saturday, Homes for Our Troops celebrated the completion of their 250th home

in Temecula, California, built specifically for Sergeant Cristian Valle, a husband and father of four who was part of the first wave of U.S. troops to enter Iraq in 2003. In October 2005, Sergeant Valle suffered a life-altering injury when an enemy grenade left him without the use of his legs. After returning to the United States, Sergeant Valle faced challenges adjusting to his new life, but through the services of Homes for Our Troops, he and his family will receive a new home specially adapted to his needs to help him focus on recovery and restore independence and stability to his life.

While our veterans face many challenges, none should have to endure returning from service to a home that is inaccessible to them. I join Governor Baker of Massachusetts in bringing attention to this important organization, and call on the House to honor Homes for Our Troops and the valuable work they do serving those who have sacrificed so bravely so that we may enjoy a life of peace in the United States.

DEBRA HANEY NAMED SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Debra Haney for her appointment as superintendent of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Catholic Schools.

Debra has served in the Archdiocese for 25 years. She previously served as the interim superintendent and principal of St. Laurence and St. John Paull II Catholic Schools. The Archdiocese's district spreads across 10 counties and serves 18,700 students, making it the largest private school district in Texas. Using her wealth of knowledge and experience in the Archdiocese, Haney is committed to improving the district by raising funds for programming and technology. She is also focused on helping the district recover from Hurricane Harvey.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Debra Haney on her new position. I'm excited to see what she accomplishes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on February 9, I was unable to vote on Roll Call votes 67 and 68. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call 67—Yes.

Roll Call 68—Yes.

RECOGNIZING MS. HOLLY ADAMS FOR HER INTERNSHIP WITH THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Holly Adams, Holly has been an intern in my Washington, D.C. Congressional office since the beginning of January, through the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme (UCWIP).

For the past 19 years, the program has paired students from nearly a dozen partner universities in Australia with offices on Capitol Hill, giving hundreds of students the opportunity to work in the halls of Congress. I have been honored to host a number of extremely talented interns through the UCWIP. Holly is, of course, no exception.

Holly is currently enrolled at Deakin University in Geelong, Victoria, where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Law Degree and a Bachelor of International Studies Degree. As a student of International studies, she has already travelled extensively, participating in international politics study tours in Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, New York, as well as Tokyo.

Holly has proven herself to be a very hard-working and dedicated individual. Throughout her internship, she has interacted extensively with my constituents, by drafting correspondence, helping to address questions, comments, and concerns for those contacting or visiting my office. She has also attended a number of hearings and briefings on a wide range of topics facing our nation and world. Indeed, Holly proved herself to be so capable, she prepared a FY2019 Programmatic Request letter for circulation throughout the U.S. House of Representatives on rail safety. It is no wonder that she was chosen by her classmates to give the 'valedictory' speech at her program's closing reception.

Last year, Holly was accepted to study international human rights at Kings College, London, have no doubt that she will do great as she continues her studies. I am proud to congratulate Holly on all of her achievements, and to thank her for everything that she has done for my office, my district, state, and our country. She has a very bright and exciting future ahead of her, and I wish her the very best.

IN MEMORIAM—WILLIAM STRAUS, 1949–FEBRUARY 10, 2018

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Mr. William (Bill) Straus who passed away at the age of 69 on February 10, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ. Bill was a beloved community leader in the Phoenix area. He dedicated his life to the preservation of civil rights and spoke his mind—even when the truth was hard to hear.

Bill worked for many years on local radio station KTAR where he headlined his own

show Straus' Place. On his show, he discussed hot-button issues that faced our state and often invited lawmakers to join him. Bill was a solution-focused man. He wanted to get things done and he wanted people to be honest about their prejudices. He was a no-nonsense individual and was quick to tell callers that called into his radio show where he stood on issues. He did not waver.

Bill's enthusiasm was contagious. In 2001, he was selected to lead the Arizona Anti-Defamation League. During his 13 years as director of the ADL, Bill dedicated himself to protecting at-risk groups. He stood up against immigration raids and helped lead the fight against the controversial Senate Bill 1070, commonly referred to as the "Show me your papers bill," which targeted minority communities. Community groups and leaders loved Bill. He did not balk at the opportunity to fight alongside them as they sought inclusion within our state. Many of us—including myself—drew from Bill's strength and leadership. He was a fine man and will be missed dearly.

Bill and I worked together at the Arizona State Capitol during my tenure as a state legislator. We collaborated on numerous pieces of legislation aimed at creating fair solutions for people often excluded by many of the laws designed to protect them.

Bill is survived by his son Charlie, daughter Jenni and his three grandchildren Max, Matty and Maci.

BILL MARINO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bill Marino for receiving the 2017 Steve Burkholder Diamond Legacy Award from the West Chamber of Commerce.

Bill Marino came to Colorado in 1995 with his wife, Jane, and two children. While they came here on vacation, they decided to stay. While his private ventures have taken him to London, San Francisco and Sydney, his touchstone for 20+ years has been Lakewood, Colorado. His willingness to service his community started when he served as president of his local neighborhood group. He was asked by then-Lakewood Mayor Linda Morton to be a part of a community discussion on land use, which resulted in his appointment to the Planning Commission, where he served for eight years. During the time, Bill oversaw the planning and development of Colorado Mills, Creekside on Colfax and Belmar.

Bill has now worked with four consecutive Lakewood mayors. While serving as Planning Commission Chair, former Mayor Steve Burkholder appointed him to his Blue-Ribbon Committee on West Colfax that developed the West Colfax Action Plan. In 2009, he was asked by former Mayor Bob Murphy to lead the charge to form a much-needed Business Improvement District along West Colfax, an initiative that had failed twice before. Most recently, he has worked with Mayor Adam Paul and local community leaders to develop and implement the West Colfax 2040 Vision Plan.

Bill currently serves as the Chief Executive of the Lakewood-W. Colfax Business Improvement District, Board Chair of 40 West Arts