over 2 miles of coastal trail. Under her leadership, a ban was instituted on foam containers and plastic bags in the city. She also led Fort Bragg to become the first city to allow food waste in yard waste recycling, and in becoming the first Bee City in California.

As the city manager, Linda has worked with 12 different councilmembers and three different mayors, and gracefully navigated a spectrum of politics, challenges, and crises. She has been responsible for implementing 78 ordinances and managing $33 million in capital improvement projects. Linda leaves the city with a stable and successful management team and a staff dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents of Fort Bragg.

In her spare time, Linda serves the public as a Rotarian, an active mentor for the Interact Afterschool Program, and she volunteers for many teen leadership events. She is also the mother of two children, Eli and Jasper Henderson.

Linda Ruffing has been a dedicated and effective public servant for 26 years, and I hope you will join me in recognizing her many accomplishments and sending her best wishes on her retirement.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, February 13, 2018, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on two Roll Call Votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

on Roll Call No. 70—YES; and Roll Call No. 71—YES.

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. On February 10, 2018, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce celebrated a century of strengthening local businesses and making invaluable contributions to the local economy.

Established in 1918, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce has assisted businesses through innovative programs that have helped grow and promote Brooklyn's economic landscape. In 1922, the organization expanded their outreach by hosting the Manufacturers Industrial Show, highlighting over 200 Brooklyn manufacturers and opened its membership to women. Just five years later, the chamber of commerce had become the second largest in the United States.

In the 1980's the United States Small Business Administration formally recognized the Brooklyn Chamber and their commitment to protecting and promoting the commercial and industrial components of the city and their outreach efforts, technical assistance and referrals on behalf of minority and women-owned businesses.

Under the leadership of Andrew Hoan, President and CEO of the Chamber has experienced considerable growth, exceeding over 2,000 members and launching several exciting initiatives across the borough. As an example, Explore BK, Brooklyn Made have allowed tourists and Brooklynites alike to connect with local businesses and provided businesses with a national platform. The continued success of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce would not be possible without the support and dedication of its faithful partners and members.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the history and legacy of this trailblazing organization and the many committed people who make it a success, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce on its 100th anniversary.

## RECOGNIZING FATHER MARTIN ELSNER, SJ

### HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Martin Elsner, SJ, who passed away on February 4, 2018. Father Elsner hailed from my hometown of San Antonio, and we will miss him deeply.

Father Elsner was born in St. Louis on September 1, 1931. He attended Jesuit High in Dallas and Price High in Amarillo and later continued his studies at St. Charles College. Father Elsner went on to earn a bachelor's degree in English at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama; a master's degree in Education; and studied theology at St. Mary's College in St. Marys, Kansas.

Prior to his ministry in San Antonio, Father Elsner began his priestly ministry in Shreveport, Louisiana, where he served as an assistant principal at Jesuit High School from 1964 to 1968. After, Father Elsner was appointed Rector-President at Jesuit High School in El Paso, Texas, where eventually he also served as both President and Principal. After three years in school administration in El Paso, he was Pastor for eight years at St. Joseph Church in Houston, Texas and was also a religious leader at the Metropolitan Organization in Houston.

Continuing his ministry in Texas, Father Elsner became a Pastor at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in San Antonio where he remained until just last year—serving twice as a Pastor and many years as an associate. Father Elsner was also active in the Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS) and was also spiritual director at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio from 2011 to 2017.

Father Elsner was a true pillar in San Antonio and to the state of Texas—always giving back to the community and making our state shine it's brightest. Father Elsner was very active in the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, as well as the Southside Consortium for Catholic Schools and Westside Catholic Schools. He also frequently served as a celebrant for the televised Mass on Catholic Television of San Antonio.

Throughout his lifetime, he received awards of Outstanding Leader recognition from the archdiocesan Department of Catholic Schools in 1997, and the Benetia Humanitarian Award from the Missionary Catechists of Divine Providence in 2013. These awards don't even fully explain what Father Elsner accomplished in his lifetime.

Father Elsner was a kind and humble man, dedicated to bettering the lives of the people in San Antonio and everywhere else he spent time. His footprint is everlasting, and his leadership as an educator and religious figure to many will be greatly missed.

## WELCOME SLOANE DACHISEN BRAVO

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Summer Buchanan Bravo and her husband, Matthew Edward Bravo, on the birth of their new baby girl, Sloane Dachisen Bravo. Sloane Dachisen Bravo was born on February 3, 2018, at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C. Sloane weighed seven pounds and eight ounces and measured 19 and ¾ inches long.

I would also like to congratulate Sloane's grandparents, Steve and Barbara Buchanan of Birmingham, Alabama, and Charles and Linda Bravo of Fairfax, Virginia. Congratulations to the entire family as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

## THOMAS REYNOLDS

### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend of mine, Thomas Reynolds, who passed away recently at the age of 68 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Tom was born in Muncie, Indiana on November 6, 1949. He worked for Delta Faucet in Greensburg with my Mom, for a total of 42 years until he retired in 2013, and was married to Amy Kay Fisher on April 15, 2000, who preceded him in death on November 26, 2015. Tom was a member of the YMCA for many years, and was an avid high school basketball fan that attended numerous boy's and girl's games over the years, who loved to watch his grandsons play baseball. Throughout his life Tom had a profound impact on countless Hoosiers.

On a personal note, Thomas Reynolds had a giant personality and was someone whose support and guidance I could always count on. He was supportive, as a baseball coach, early on in my life and I'm greatly appreciative of his friendship and leadership.

He will be mourned most by those who knew him best, and he will be missed by all. Tom is survived by three sons: Craig (Mandy) Reynolds; Cris (Angie) Reynolds; Bobby (Heather) Reynolds; brother, Steven Loyd; sister, Rita Reynolds; and six grandchildren, Cade, Sydney, Corey, Trevor, A.J., and Cole Reynolds.

## PITTSBURGH SUPERCOMPUTING CENTER RETIREMENTS

### HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note a major milestone in the life of the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, a federally supported research facility in southwestern Pennsylvania. Three people responsible for founding and building the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center are retiring after many years of stellar leadership there.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, an institution established and managed by Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, provides both public and private-sector researchers nationwide with access to high-performance computers for unclassified research. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center is also a leading partner in the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment, the National Science Foundation's cyber-infrastructure program.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center was founded in 1986 by two physicists, Michael Levine from Carnegie Mellon University and Ralph Roskies from the University of Pittsburgh, along with Jim Kasdorf, the Manager of Engineering Computer Services at Westinghouse. They believed that the Pittsburgh region needed a national high-performance computing center run by and for researchers.

Working with leading-edge suppliers, co-directors Levine and Roskies attracted and fostered a team that has designed and built highly advanced and productive high-performance computing systems. Back in 1986, Jim Kasdorf was the Manager for Engineering Computer Services at Westinghouse, where he was responsible for everything—planning, computer acquisition, systems programming, day-to-day operations, and user support. Despite those demands, he also took on spearheading Westinghouse's support for the new facility. Jim eventually joined the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center as Director of Special Projects, where he assisted with ongoing funding opportunities and technology developments.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center rapidly earned a reputation for acquiring, installing, and deploying systems that were ''serial number 1'' or ''serial number 2'' and/or the first to ship to a customer, making it a highly productive research leader. As a result, each new system enabled a new generation of research to be conducted:

In 1987, Levine and Roskies established a biomedical group that created a unique resource for exploring the subcellular structure of the nervous system and also developed unique capabilities in the growing field of bioinformatics and spawned formal graduate and undergraduate programs across the country.

In the 1990s, Roskies personally made arrangements for time to be set aside on the center's Cray C90 for tornado prediction efforts that led to today's tornado predictions—the first time a supercomputing center had dedicated time to a single application for such societally important, time-sensitive work.

In 2001, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's Terascale Computing System ranked number 2 on the Top 500 list of the world's most powerful computing systems.

In 2010, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center formed an internationally respected Public Health Applications Group.

Today, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's systems have increasingly focused on Big Data analytics, empowering a new generation of research in artificial intelligence, the life sciences, the social sciences, and the digital humanities.

The retirement of these three pioneers from their leadership posts at the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center offers an occasion for reflecting on their role in furthering the science of high-performance computing, expanding STEM and economic opportunities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and contributing to the region's expanding role as a hotspot for computing innovation.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's work has had a profound impact on the Western Pennsylvania region and the Commonwealth as a whole. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has established a tradition of using the latest information technologies for the advancement of research, education and corporate competitiveness in the region and the state. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's culture of encouraging innovation and entrepreneurial activity enabled the creation of the Three Rivers Optical Exchange, which today provides high-bandwidth research networking and/or low-cost commodity Internet to a growing list of institutions in the region and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including universities, research facilities and high schools.

To help build the region's STEM workforce, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center offers educational programs for students and teachers at the K–20 level. Open education resource materials (available on the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center website at www.psc.edu) are offered online as well as by many of these programs. The Bioinformatics Education for program STudents exposes teachers to modem molecular biology concepts by incorporating computational biology and bioinformatics into high school curricula. The Bioinformatics Education for program STudents curriculum has been adopted at 15 regional high schools.

In economic impact, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has brought over $500 million in outside funds into Pennsylvania, empowering high-performance computing-driven research findings at Carnegie Mellon and Pitt, as well as many of the region's other universities. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has been responsible for generating 1,600 jobs and over $200 million in annual economic activity. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's impact also includes helping to meet the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's need for a growing STEM workforce.

In addition to supporting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has put the state ''on the map'' in the high-performance computing community. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has innovated high-performance computing software and architecture that has helped drive research around the world. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's work in networking has helped provide the critical connections that enable researchers to make productive use of powerful resources that their individual institutions would never be able to afford. Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center software researchers have created a family of open-source tools that are helping to power Big Data analytics on a similar scale. Its biomedical and Public Health groups are fueling the fine-scale exploration of brain structure and revolutionizing public health efforts by optimizing medical supply delivery and revealing how offering people more options can encourage vaccination. And its championing of the creation of supercomputers tailored to new communities of researchers with Big Data needs—typified by the new Bridges system, which has set new standards for accessibility to researchers without supercomputing experience—have supercharged research efforts in fields that never before used high-performance computing.

This innovative approach to high-performance computing has touched scientists, engineers, and humanities researchers across the country and the world. In collaborations such as the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment, the National Science Foundation's network of supercomputing centers, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has played a leading role, providing computational, storage, and human resources that continue to power research projects coast to coast. The result has been a host of tremendous scientific advances made possible by its high-performance computing systems.

In the educational sphere, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's NIH-funded Minority Access to Research Careers bioinformatics program helped 12 minority-serving institutions across the country institute classes or full curriculums in bioinformatics, preparing their students for 21st-century life sciences careers; the Minority Access to Research Careers program's summer institute offered summer recess projects to undergraduate and graduate students at these institutions as well.

Levine and Roskies created an environment for innovation at each stage: assembling the team that won the first National Science Foundation award; hiring key people with unique skills; and then empowering them to make innovative contributions. Their 31 years of service in leading the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center fostered a community of scientific and computing researchers that enable scientific discovery by re-thinking the architecture and software of the systems they make available.

I want to commend Dr. Levine, Dr. Roskies, and Mr. Kasdorf for their more than 30 years of important contributions to science and the economy of Southwestern Pennsylvania. I want to congratulate them on a well-earned retirement and wish them the best in the years ahead.

## IN HONOR OF MINISTER OLLIE W. TARVER

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to a dedicated woman of God, community servant, and friend of longstanding, Minister Ollie W. Tarver, who is celebrating her 82nd birthday on Saturday,