

Though Alan's duties changed as Chief, he always put the people of Westborough first: spending time listening to residents, addressing their concerns, and communicating the work of the department to his neighbors. And he always led by example—ensuring that his officers had the tools, training, and compassion they needed to effectively do their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, all of Alan's professional accomplishments would be praiseworthy on their own. Alan's work has no doubt made Westborough a safer community and a better place to live. But what really makes Alan a model public servant—what really sets him apart—is how he goes above and beyond to give back to his community time and time again.

As President of the Westborough Police Patrolmen's Association, Alan started a program to provide food for the less fortunate on Christmas and Thanksgiving. As a volunteer at the Lighthouse Mission Soup Kitchen, Alan regularly served meals to the homeless in Worcester.

Alan continues to volunteer at the Boston Marathon, the Falmouth Road Race, and as a baseball umpire and basketball referee at Westborough Middle School and High School. And, he serves as the Police Department's liaison to numerous statewide boards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to Alan on his retirement, and our heartfelt gratitude to him and his family on behalf of the residents of Westborough and the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 3183—to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the "U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office", (Roll Call No. 92), I would have voted "aye."

Additionally, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 4406—to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 Macombs Place in New York, New York, as the "Tuskegee Airman Post Office Building", (Roll Call No. 93), I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber on Tuesday, February 13. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 70 and 71.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 26, 2018, and Tuesday, February 27, 2018 I was unable to vote on any legislative measures. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

(Roll no. 81) On passage of H.R. 1222—Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 82) On passage of H.R. 2422—Action for Dental Health Act, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 83) On motion to table the appeal of the PERSONAL EXPLANATION ruling of the chair, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 84) On ordering the previous question providing for consideration of 1865—Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 85) On adoption of the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1865—Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 86) On ordering the previous question providing for consideration of H.R. 4296—to place requirements on operational risk capital requirements for banking organizations established by an appropriate Federal banking agency and H.R. 4607—the Comprehensive Regulatory Review Act, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 87) On adoption of the combined rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4296—to place requirements on operational risk capital requirements for banking organizations established by an appropriate Federal banking agency and H.R. 4607—the Comprehensive Regulatory Review Act, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 88) On democrat motion to recommit, had I been present I would have voted no;

(Roll no. 89) On passage of H.R. 4296—to place requirements on operational risk capital requirements for banking organizations established by an appropriate Federal banking agency, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 90) On Walters of California Amendment to H.R. 1865—Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, had I been present I would have voted yes;

(Roll no. 91) On passage of H.R. 1865—Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, had I been present I would have voted yes.

HONORING OWEN J. ROBERTS SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER JAMES B. FREES II

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a true cham-

panion for students and a tireless advocate for educational excellence in the Owen J. Roberts School District.

James B. "Jamie" Frees II graduated from Owen J. Roberts High School in 1989. He began giving back to his alma matter in December 2009, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather by becoming a third-generation member of the Owen J. Roberts School Board.

With a background in banking, Jamie was instrumental in the annual budget process and served as Finance Committee Chairman. He was later selected as Board Vice President and Board President.

Jamie's contributions went well beyond serving as a School Board Member.

As an OJR Music Parents Organization member, Jamie spent many weekends driving the equipment truck for the Marching Band and serving as announcer at the Fall Preview and Annual Cavalcade of Bands.

In addition, he founded and served as president of the Coventry Rugby Football Club, was a member of the Famous Bucktown Boosters and a member of the board of the Charlestown Playschool.

Sadly, Jamie passed away unexpectedly on February 1st. His death is a profound loss for the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Owen J. Roberts community in mourning Jamie's passing, expressing gratitude for the countless ways he made the entire district better during his three terms on the school board, and extending my condolences to the Frees family.

RECOGNIZING THE TREMENDOUS SERVICE OF COUNCILMAN LANCE LIVERMAN

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous service of Councilman Lance Liverman as he prepares to retire from Princeton's Town Council this year.

Born at Princeton Hospital in 1962, Lance Liverman has been a lifelong resident of the town he loves. He was educated in Princeton public schools before attending college at Fairleigh Dickinson University and then transferring to Trenton State College, now known as the College of New Jersey so that he could be closer to home to help his ailing stepfather. After graduating college, Lance went into his stepfather's business before working for himself—first as a special courier and then in real estate.

A native son of Princeton, Lance has given 30 years of public service to his community. For the last 15 years, Lance Liverman has served as a member of the Princeton Town Council where he has been hands on in addressing the issues facing residents.

With his deep understanding of how Princeton works and with his charitable nature, Councilman Liverman has been a great asset on his council assignments. On the Affordable Housing Board, the Councilman uses his real estate knowledge to benefit the community, while he provides counseling for youth and their families dealing with alcohol and drug addiction on the Princeton Alcohol & Drug Alliance.

All of Councilman Liverman's colleagues have called him, "a truly unique Princeton citizen and a great human being." Another member of the council has called him "Princeton's Hero," as he not only serves on the council, but also through his church, working with youth, and through his constant presence around town. This is why the local paper has described him as the "Son of the Community."

Though Councilman Liverman will be stepping down from his seat at the end of this year, this does not end his service to his community. He has pledged that he will continue to serve the community and help make Princeton a model for social justice. He will also use his time away from the council to spend more of it with his wife LaTonya and his three daughters, Kelsey, Ashlyn, and Savannah.

I urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the tremendous work of Councilman Lance Liverman and to wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR H.R.
620

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I supported H.R. 620, the ADA Education and Reform Act last month on the House floor. The bill will improve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and curb lawsuit abuse. H.R. 620 requires the Department of Justice to develop a program to educate state and local governments and property owners on strategies for providing improved access to public accommodations for persons with disabilities. The legislation also gives owners and operators of public accommodations, after receiving written notice of ADA violations, an opportunity to address those violations before being sued.

The bill's notice and cure provisions apply to the owners and operators of public accommodations just like the underlying ADA statute. They are in the best position of control over the condition of their premises and compliance with the ADA. It is appropriate that disabled individuals who have been subject to discrimination in violation of the ADA should seek redress from owners and operators.

This does not affect the ability of owners and operators to seek indemnity from design and construction entities. However, such intent is not meant to authorize direct lawsuits against design and construction entities with or without compliance with notice and cure requirements on owners and operators under H.R. 620.

HONORING THE WORK OF MIRAH
HOROWITZ

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the special leadership of Mirah Horowitz, the Founder and Executive Director of Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, and include in the

RECORD an article entitled, Southwest and Lucky Dog Animal Rescue Fly Plane to Puerto Rico to Save 62 Pets and Donate 14,400 lbs. of Supplies that was published by People Magazine. This article outlines the rescue mission embarked on by Southwest Airlines and Lucky Dog Animal Rescue.

It was the extraordinary leadership of Mirah Horowitz that this rescue effort was launched and coordinated with Southwest Airlines. I'm exceedingly proud of my constituent for her professionalism, dedication and compassion. Mirah has built an organization that is highly respected, and it is her determination that led to the nationally recognized rescue of animals in Puerto Rico, bringing them to their new homes in the United States.

I salute Mirah and all the volunteers involved in this historic effort. In this unique undertaking, they demonstrated the very best of America.

[From People Magazine]

SOUTHWEST AND LUCKY DOG ANIMAL RESCUE
FLY PLANE TO PUERTO RICO TO SAVE 62
PETS AND DONATE 14,400 LBS. OF SUPPLIES

(By Kelli Bender)

On Saturday Jan. 20, Lucky Dog Animal Rescue and Southwest Airlines drastically changed the lives of 62 Puerto Rican animals, flying the homeless, furry passengers up the East Coast to a new life.

It was a trip long in the making, powered by dozens of brilliant, compassionate animal lovers, who asked for nothing in return except the chance to change an animal's life.

Southwest Airlines has a history of helping those in need, especially after natural disasters. So when Washington D.C.-based Lucky Dog Animal Rescue approached the company about flying out homeless pets stranded in Puerto Rico following the devastation of Hurricane Maria, Southwest responded immediately.

"We had a goal to do something for each of the hurricanes. The situation in San Juan was a little different because our employees and their families were affected, and with the electricity being out, we couldn't focus on the animals right away," Lisa Tiller, Southwest's Senior Communications Manager told PEOPLE.

But just because they couldn't fly pets out, didn't mean Southwest wasn't bringing help in. The airline routinely shipped planes loaded with supplies to the island, much of which is still without running water and electricity. Many of the runs included pet essentials to help rescuers in Puerto Rico look after animals.

In January, three months after the hurricane hit, things were finally in a place where Lucky Dog Animal Rescue and Southwest could put their plan into action.

For the mutt-filled mission, Southwest took one of its planes out of service and staffed it with some of its finest employees, all of whom chose to donate their time to this effort.

The plane's cargo hold and overhead bins were filled with supplies Puerto Rico's humans and animals needed before taking off from Baltimore-Washington International airport at 5 a.m. on Saturday.

"The morning started off with Lucky Dog getting Starbucks for everyone," Lucky Dog Animal Rescue's founder and Executive Director Mirah Horowitz said of the day, which began at 3:45 a.m. "The pilots brought doughnuts. My parents brought doughnuts. We had a lot of doughnuts on that flight, a lot of sugar."

After three hours and 45 minutes in the air, the volunteers landed in San Juan and began unloading the 14,400 lbs. of much-needed supplies they brought with them.

"Everyone was just so nice and helpful. The minute we landed, Lucky Dog volunteers were unloading, Southwest volunteers were unloading, the cargo staff on the ground was unloading," Horowitz recalled. "Everyone jumped in to help. It was truly amazing how wonderful everyone meshed for two groups that had never met before."

Next it was time to handle the precious cargo. Sixteen cats and 46 dogs looking for forever homes were carefully loaded into carriers off the tarmac and prepared for their flight to a new life.

"Everyone was jubilant. I was shocked! For as long of a day as it was, and as early as it started, people were just in the best moods the whole time," Horowitz said.

The furry passengers were a mix of pets from different circumstances. Some were living in foster homes before the storm hit, others were abandoned by their previous owners once Hurricane Maria touched down. But it was the rescuers of PR Animals who were caring for these pets before Lucky Dog Animal Rescue and Southwest arrived. And it was these rescuers who were there on the ground to greet the volunteers and say their goodbyes.

"It was very emotional; the rescuers putting their dogs in the crates and saying goodbye to them, because these are animals they have been caring for through very difficult and traumatic times—whether they were caring for them before Maria and weathered the storm with these people, which were a few of the dogs, or whether they were rescued in the immediate aftermath," Horowitz added.

While the rescuers had to say goodbye to the animals they sacrificed so much for, they didn't leave empty-handed. All of the PR Animal rescuers present left in vehicles packed with donated supplies. Important items like batteries, bottled water, towels and tarps were given to the rescuers, more than half of whom are still living without running water and electricity.

"It wasn't about taking the pets off the island, it was about giving hope and physical help to people and reminding them that we haven't forgotten them," Horowitz said of the trip's mission. Once the pets were packed up, they were loaded on to the plane with their carriers securely strapped into the seats.

You might think a plane packed with 62 pets in the cabin would be a bit of a circus, but there were only a few howls upon landing.

"Amazingly during the flight, the hum and vibration kind of put them all to sleep," Horowitz said.

With carriers of kittens and puppies aboard, not everyone stayed in their crate during the trip. Horowitz admitted that the volunteers and flight attendants couldn't resist getting some quality puppy-holding and kitten-cuddling time in during the trip back.

"It was great," the Lucky Dog Animals Rescue founder said of the ride back to BWI. Even the pilots got a chance to hold the pups.

Back on the mainland, the dogs and cats were loaded into transport vans and driven to Dogma Dog Bakery in Virginia, where a crowd was waiting to welcome the animals, including several new pet parents.

Nine dogs and two cats were adopted right off the transport vans by animal lovers who had falling in love with the pets' pictures online.

An adoption event the following day found homes for 10 more of the Puerto Rican natives. By the end of the weekend, 21 of the 62 pets were with their forever families. The rest spent some time in foster homes before being moved to local rescues, including Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, where they will surely find their own pet parents soon.