

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 175th anniversary of the incorporation of Carbon County.

DEPUTY JACOB PICKETT

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Jacob Pickett, who was killed in the line of duty in Lebanon, Indiana on March 2, 2018.

Deputy Pickett was born on December 20, 1983 to Marlin and Rebecca Pickett in Columbus, Ohio. He graduated from Brownsburg High School in Brownsburg, Indiana and started on his path to a career in law enforcement. He graduated from Marion County Sheriff's Office Training Academy in 2010 and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in 2014. After graduating, he went on to work at the Marion County Sheriff's Office from 2010 to 2013 as a detention deputy and participated on the sheriff's presentations corps. In 2013, he started working for the Tipton County Sheriff's Department and served as the Deputy until 2015. He then went on to serve with the Boone County Sheriff's Department as a Taser Instructor and K-9 Team Leader.

Deputy Pickett had a profound impact on those he served, evidenced by the outpours of support by Hoosiers across the state since his passing. He is remembered for his kind-heart, loyalty, selflessness and willingness to serve others, but most of all as a loving husband and father.

Deputy Pickett is survived by his wife, Jennifer Pickett, his two sons; Wade Matthew Pickett, Lincoln David Pickett, parents; Marlin and Rebecca Pickett, sister, Kristi M. Woo, niece; Hannah N. Woo, his K-9 partner, Brik, parents-in-law; Jon and Carol Lindstrom, brothers-in-law; Jeremy Lindstrom, Christopher Lindstrom and a host of other relatives and friends.

On behalf of all Hoosiers, I thank Deputy Pickett for his service and sacrifice to our great state. He represented his community, state, and country, with honor and dignity. We continue to pray for his family, friends, and all who knew him. Our hearts are with you. His service and sacrifice will always be remembered.

HONORING FETZER VINEYARDS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative JARED HUFFMAN, to honor Fetzer Vineyards upon the occasion of its 50th anniversary in operation.

Fetzer Vineyards was founded in 1968 by Barney and Kathleen Fetzer of Mendocino County, California. The couple produced wine under the company's flagship Fetzer label with the help of their eleven children. Though the family sold the business in 1992, Fetzer Vineyards has carried on its founders' legacy of

social responsibility. It is now the world's largest winery certified as a B Corporation, meaning the company meets high standards for environmental and labor practices.

For decades, Fetzer Vineyards has been a leader in organic farming and sustainability. In the 1980s, the winemaker converted all of its Mendocino County vineyards to organic methods. Of the 960 acres Fetzer Vineyards has in cultivation today, 700 are certified as organic and the other 260 are biodynamic, which means no chemicals are used in the grape-growing process. In 1999, Fetzer Vineyards became the first vineyard to operate on 100 percent green power. It reported and verified its greenhouse gas emissions to The Climate Registry, a non-profit, as early as 2005. By 2014, Fetzer Vineyards had become the first winery to achieve TRUE Zero Waste certification. These achievements and others are a shining example for the agricultural community. They prove that economic success and environmental conservation go hand in hand.

Fetzer Vineyards knows that a business only thrives when workers do too. The company is enormously proud of its diverse management team, half of which is made up of women or people from underrepresented groups. All 300 of the vintner's employees earn above a living wage, receive health care benefits and are incentivized to volunteer in the community. In addition, Fetzer Vineyards encourages worker initiative. Many of the company's landmark environmental achievements were made possible by employee projects like internal waste audits. In this way, Fetzer Vineyards shows what can be accomplished when businesses do more than take care of the bottom line. Fetzer Vineyards' workforce investment pays for itself through the ingenuity of its employees.

Mr. Speaker, Fetzer Vineyards is the type of socially responsible company that every American business should strive to be. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Fetzer Vineyards here today.

ALLY BUCKNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ally Buckner for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ally Buckner is a student at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ally Buckner is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ally Buckner for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for the vote on the Passage of H.R. 4607 (Roll Call No. 95). Had I been present, I would have voted no.

I was also absent for the vote on the Passage of H.R. 1119 (Roll Call No. 101). Had I been present, I would have voted no.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOME RULE NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2018

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Home Rule Non-Discrimination Act of 2018 to end the unique applicability of the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA) to the District of Columbia. My bill will protect the District's right to self-government, as well as LGBTQ and reproductive rights in D.C.

RFRA, which provides more protection for religious exercise than the First Amendment, applies to the federal government, the D.C. government and the territorial governments, but not to state governments. As RFRA does not apply to the states, under the principles of home rule, it should likewise not apply to the District.

While RFRA was designed to be a shield to protect religious freedom, it is being used, as evidenced by the Supreme Court's 2014 Hobby Lobby decision, as a sword to discriminate against the LGBTQ community and women. Members of Congress have used RFRA as a justification for trying to overturn D.C. antidiscrimination laws. Republicans have voted three times since 2015 to nullify or block the District's Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Act (RHNDNA), which prohibits employers from discriminating against employees and their families based on reproductive health decisions, claiming, in part, that it violates RFRA. However, it appears that no one has challenged RHNDNA's legality under RFRA in court.

My bill ensures that District residents are treated the same as residents of the states under RFRA. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES JAY DELANEY, RECIPIENT OF THE 2018 GREATER PITTSSTON FRIENDLY SONS' SWINGLE AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Jay Delaney, who will receive the W. Francis Swingle Award from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Jay will be honored formally during the

Friendly Sons' 104th annual celebration on March 17, 2018. He has been part of the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department since 1981 and has served as the city's fire chief for the past 13 years.

Chief Delaney is a longtime resident of Avoca, Pennsylvania and a graduate of St. John the Evangelist High School. He attended Luzerne County Community College to study Fire Science Technology. He has completed advanced course work at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland and at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. He is also a certified paramedic.

In addition to his role as chief, Delaney serves as Wilkes-Barre's Emergency Management Coordinator. Under Chief Delaney's leadership, the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department's ISO Public Protection Classification was elevated to Class 2, which put Wilkes-Barre in the top 1 percent of fire departments in Pennsylvania. He has been responsible for securing a substantial amount of federal support and has made multiple upgrades to the city's emergency response operations and equipment.

Chief Delaney has earned appointments by Governor Ed Rendell to the Pennsylvania Game Commission Board of Commissioners and by Governor Tom Wolf to the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing, and Conservation.

He resides in the Miners Mills section of Wilkes-Barre with his wife, the former Valerie Sakaduski. They have three children, Sarah, Jamie and Megan and seven grandchildren.

It is an honor to recognize Chief Delaney as he accepts the W. Francis Swingle Award. I am grateful to him for having spent his entire career in service to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania. His 37 years as a fire fighter is an outstanding contribution to the community. I wish him all the best this St. Patrick's Day.

ROWANCHAYSE CLEVELAND

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rowanchayse Cleveland for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Rowanchayse Cleveland is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Rowanchayse Cleveland is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rowanchayse Cleveland for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

AVERY HUDDLESTON

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Avery Huddleston, a first grader in my district from Mechanicsburg, Illinois.

Avery, along with his classmates at Tri-City Elementary School, collected more than twenty pounds of school supplies for students in Puerto Rico—where schools are still recovering after Hurricane Maria.

Avery was so excited to help students in Puerto Rico that he asked his friends to bring school supplies instead of gifts to his seventh birthday party. Soon, his whole class got in on the fun.

When Avery's mom learned that local Ameren crews were scheduled to go to Puerto Rico, she arranged for Ameren to take the box of donations with them. But when the crews dropped off the donations, they discovered that the school was still experiencing problems with electricity. Within thirty minutes, Ameren workers were able to restore the school's light and air conditioning after nearly six months without power.

Thanks to the kindness of a special seven year old and his classmates, students in Rio Grande not only have new school supplies, but now have their lights back on.

I'm very proud of Avery and inspired by his ambition to help others. He's a perfect example of the kindness we should show our neighbors every day.

Keep up the good work, Avery.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY GREEN, HOUSTON CITY COUNCILMAN AND A SPECIAL HUMAN BEING WITH AN UNSURPASSED EXUBERANCE AND PASSION FOR THE PEOPLE OF HOUSTON

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Houston City Councilmember Larry Green who passed away suddenly on March 6, 2018, at the age of 52.

I was shocked and saddened to learn of the death of my dear friend, Councilman Larry Green, and my heart goes out to his family and loved ones.

Although the years of his life were short, the life lived in those years by Councilman Larry Green was vibrant, dynamic, purposeful, and directed toward service to others.

Larry Green was an extraordinary human being with an unsurpassed exuberance and passion for our city, its neighborhoods, its future, and most of all, its people.

Councilman Larry Green was devoted to providing opportunities for his constituents, indeed all Houstonians, to realize their potential and their dreams.

Larry Green worked as my District Director, and in this role he helped me to serve the constituents of the 18th Congressional District.

I am proud to have served as one of his mentors.

In fact it was during this service to my office that I observed first hand his dedication to the community that claimed him, because he was one of Houston's own.

But as anyone who knew Larry Green can attest, you also learned a lot from him because he was so generous with his knowledge and expertise.

Larry Green was a lifelong Houstonian.

You often hear it said that greatness is measured by the magnitude of one's service. By that measure there is no greater public servant than Larry Green, whom we lost entirely too soon.

Larry Green proudly served the citizens of District K on Houston's City Council for almost six years.

Larry Green was a native Houstonian; a graduate of Madison High School, the University of Houston, and the Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

It was in my office that Larry Green honed the skills for which he is well known for: hard work, long hours, attention to details regarding the lives of those he serves, getting the job done, and making sure that the needs and interests of the poor and vulnerable would never be forgotten.

As the shock and grief over his untimely death recedes, left in its place is our memory of his dedication as a public servant; his sense of humor when faced with a challenge; his tireless work for the people of District K, and omnipresence at community meetings was legendary.

In fact, it was at those community meetings where his love for his constituents shined brightest.

As members of the community attested after he passed: "Larry was everywhere—he's at the civic club meetings; the coalition meeting; he was like your friend. I'd call him all the time."

The loss of Larry Green's leaves is heart breaking.

I am reminded of the common refrain that "all death teaches us is that nothing is promised, but only that life was worth it."

Larry Green lived that wisdom and always sought to give back and live a life worth it.

Among his numerous contributions and accomplishments, it is Larry Green's dedication to his constituents that stand tallest, and will stand the test of time.

Larry Green knew the value of viewing neighborhoods and towns as communities—rather than districts—and sought to make the everyday lives of people better.

Larry Green educated people about how to become citizen activists so that they could improve the quality of their communities or their own lives.

Larry Green sought to remedy blighted neighborhoods by attracting development; he helped neighbors set up civic clubs and taught them how to beautify their neighborhoods.

And as the rough waters of life have stilled his body, his soul lives on and his legacy will not be diminished.

Larry Green will be remembered always as a fearless advocate; a tireless champion; a true friend; a man whose passion for Houston was contagious.

Scripture teaches us that blessed are those that mourn, for they will be comforted.

To his entire family, who shared him with us for 52 years, on behalf of all Houstonians, we thank you.