

me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LINDA BROWN, CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER, PILLAR OF COMMUNITY, AND LEAD PLAINTIFF IN LANDMARK BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION CASE THAT CHANGED AMERICA

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance of a civil rights icon, Linda Brown, a schoolchild who transformed the country.

Linda Brown was born on February 20, 1942, in Topeka, Kansas, to Leola and Oliver Brown.

As a schoolgirl Linda Brown, was at the center of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case that rejected racial segregation in American schools.

Linda Brown was 9 years old in 1951 when her father, Oliver Brown, tried to enroll her at Sumner Elementary School, then an all-white school near her Topeka home.

When the school blocked her enrollment, Oliver Brown partnered with the NAACP and a dozen other plaintiffs to file a lawsuit against the Topeka Board of Education becoming the landmark Supreme Court case, of *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

By the time of the ruling, Linda Brown was in junior high, a grade level that had been integrated before the 1954 court ruling.

Linda Brown went on to attend Washburn and Kansas State universities.

Linda Brown was always conscious of the importance of standing up for one's Constitutional rights.

Linda Brown realized that with rights, come responsibilities that is why Linda Brown toured the country telling her story and advocating for increased educational opportunity for all Americans.

Faith was also important to Linda Brown because as she knew as the gospel hymn goes, "we've come this far by faith."

While Linda Brown's faith and devotion could be found on display at St. Mark's African Methodist Episcopal Church, where she played piano and taught children how to play.

While Linda Brown's name will forever be a part of American civil rights history, her contributions to the community after the case should be remembered as part of her legacy.

Linda Brown continued to speak out against racial segregation and reopened the Topeka case with the American Civil Liberties Union in 1979, arguing that the district's schools still were not desegregated.

Linda Brown will be missed greatly, but her contributions to America will live on forever.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Linda Brown.

RECOGNIZING LINDA HOULDIN

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I posthumously recognize Linda Houldin of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. Linda was a longtime resident of Delaware County and a pillar of her community.

She served as the Executive Director of the Delaware County Historical Society and co-founded the Delaware County Veterans Memorial. Linda's countless hours spent helping others left a profound and undeniable impact on everyone around her and the community she loved. She was a strong, passionate, and dedicated woman who touched many lives—particularly veterans, children, and society's most vulnerable.

Linda is to be inducted into the Delaware County Women's Commission Hall of Fame, and rightfully so. She showed us how an individual with energy and commitment to community can enrich the lives of friends and strangers alike.

Her absence will be felt by those who knew her and the many she helped through her generosity and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAMERON SMITH ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Cameron Smith of Maumee, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Cameron's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2022. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of a lifetime.

Cameron brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2022. While attending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Cameron served as Student Council treasurer, secretary for the Interact Club, participated in National Honors Society and is ranked fifth in his class.

Throughout high school, Cameron performed in the All-Nationals Honor Band, Symphonic Winds, and OMEA All-State Honor Band. Cameron also served as an officer in the environmental club, is an Eagle Scout, and participated in the Spanish club. I am confident that Cameron will carry the lessons of his student and extra-curricular leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Cameron Smith on his offer

of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Cameron will excel during his career at Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO LUCILLE AND RON JONES

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lucille and Ron Jones of Afton, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on January 19, 2018.

Lucille and Ron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

HONORING JACQUELINE LINDA BLASDEL

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Jacqueline Linda Blasdel, who recently passed away at the age of 80 in Greensburg, Indiana.

Jackie married Bill Blasdel on September 27, 1963, and they moved to Greensburg, Indiana in 1968. Bill and Jackie were both very active in the community. Jackie's extraordinary civic leadership included service as president of the American Cancer Society, a founding member of both Tree County Players and Tree City Singers, board member of Tulip Trace Girl Scout Council, Vice Chair of the Decatur County Republican Party, and President of the Chamber of Commerce. Jackie was also a 30 year member of the United Methodist Church and a member of the Greensburg Wesleyan Church.

In 1974, Jackie started the WB Panel company with Bill, which was later incorporated with an industrial oven company to form Blasdel Enterprises. Jackie was the CEO for over 35 years. In 2007, she was awarded the Distinguished Hoosier Award from Governor Mitch Daniels and a state recognition from the Republican Party. In 2010, Jackie and Bill were recognized with the Greensburg Decatur County Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award.

I got to know Jackie during her time as Vice-Chair of the Republican Party. Jackie and

Bill have both been supporters and friends throughout my political career. Jackie was a wise mentor—always encouraging, never ruffled and quick to offer her advice with a smile. I will miss her.

Jackie is survived by her husband, Bill; two sons, Jack (Pam) Blasdel and Tim (Carol) Blasdel; three daughters, Jill Blasdel, Beth (Greg DeWitt) Blasdel, and Becky Blasdel; three grandsons, Todd Blasdel, Matt (Sara) Blasdel, Michael (Brittany Nicole) Blasdel; three granddaughters, Brittany K. Blasdel, Grace Vanderbur and Olivia Vanderbur; four great grandchildren, Miles, Bailey, Malcolm, and Jace Blasdel; two sisters, Eleanor Lorton, and Marjie Bauer; and several nieces and nephews.

**MATTHEW SHOCKEY RECOGNIZED
AS SUGAR LAND POLICE OFFICER
OF THE YEAR**

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Officer Matthew Shockey for being named the Sugar Land Police Officer of the Year.

An eight-year veteran of the Sugar Land Police Department, Officer Shockey is the Head Firearms Instructor/Rangemaster and oversees the Taser Program and Ti Simulator Training program. He is a Master Explosive Breacher and is also a grant advisor and serves as the agency 1033 Program Liaison. Before pursuing a career as a police officer, Shockey served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years. He was deployed to Iraq twice and spent the last year of service as a Combat Marksmanship instructor Trainer at the Division Marksmanship Training Unit.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Officer Shockey for this great honor. I thank him for his commitment to keeping our community safe.

FOREIGN POLICY

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the United States and its allies are aware that the Russian government is engaging in ongoing information warfare against democracies around the world. Beyond its targeting of the U.S. election systems and critical infrastructure, Russian influence efforts have been reported in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Serbia, Latvia, Ukraine, Spain, and Mexico, among others. Most recently, the United Kingdom has been attacked physically by Russia through its use of nerve toxins against perceived enemies of Russian President Vladimir Putin on British soil.

The Kremlin needs to hear clearly that we will not tolerate its continuing bad acts.

The Department of Treasury's newest sanctions against the businesses, entities, and

people included in special counsel Robert Mueller's February 16th indictment is an important step in holding Russia accountable for its interference in the American election process. My colleagues and I passed the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act last summer with this purpose in mind.

The Kremlin Report list published by the Treasury Department currently names businessmen like Yuri Shefler, who has been protecting his company, SPI Group, against Russian attacks for almost twenty years.

I urge the administration to develop a broader policy response to Russian interference in American politics. A strong first step to accomplish this goal is publishing a report on businessmen who are actually close to the Kremlin.

**IN RECOGNITION OF AUSTIN STONER
ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT
TO ATTEND THE UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY**

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Austin Stoner of Toledo, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Austin's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2022. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of a lifetime.

Austin brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2022. While attending Whitmer High School in Toledo, Ohio, Austin participated in the National Honors Society, earned the T.R.A.C. All Academic Award, and earned the Top 15 Award.

Throughout high school, Austin served as a captain of varsity baseball and participated in the 5 Minutes for Life and Ping Pong clubs. Austin also served as President of Student Council, Commander for the Pep Club, and a Math Honorary. I am confident that Austin will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Austin Stoner on his offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Austin will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DENISE HOAG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Denise Hoag of Council Bluffs, Iowa for receiving the 2018 IOWA STEM Teacher Award. Denise is a computer science and business teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs.

IOWA STEM promotes science, technology, engineering, and mathematic programs, with a mission to grow the future workforce. As a STEM teacher, Denise demonstrates innovative methods, has a passion for education, helps students see the world around them, and engages students academically inside and outside the classroom. Todd Barnett, Principal at Thomas Jefferson High School said, "Denise isn't just a STEM resource, she is a leader in the School District and State of Iowa."

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Denise for receiving the IOWA STEM Award. She is a shining example of how hard work and dedication can have a lasting impact on the future of students and their education goals. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Denise and in wishing her nothing but continued success in all her endeavors.

**TRIBUTE TO WARD W.
McCARRAGHER**

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ward W. McCarragher, who has served in many capacities with the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the last quarter century, including the last 20 years as the Chief Democratic Counsel to the Committee. As a Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I have had the privilege of working with Ward for the last 25 years, and most closely since 2015 when I took over as Ranking Member of the Committee. As Ranking Member, I have come to rely on his expertise in both transportation policy and Congressional process in advancing important policy measures to improve the lives of American families.

Hailing from Kenosha, Wisconsin, and a proud Wisconsin Badgers and Green Bay Packers fan, Ward started his Congressional service back in 1989 as a foreign policy analyst for the Congressional Research Service. After subsequently attending law school and serving as a legal intern to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Ward returned to Washington, D.C. in 1993 as an intern for Chairman Norman Y. Mineta (D-CA) and the Committee on Public Works and Transportation. That same year, he was appointed by Chairman Mineta as Associate Counsel of the Committee's Economic Development Subcommittee and, in 1995, he