

plays the cello and Lauren Yang was given the award for her dedication to visual arts. These two outstanding students will be recognized during the 2018 class of Young Masters during an awards ceremony and concert on April 16th at Austin's ZACH Theater.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Lauren Mathews and Lauren Yang for achieving this great artistic accomplishment. I am proud and confident of their continued success.

THE KILLING OF STEPHON CLARK  
OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committees on Homeland Security and the Judiciary, and Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, I rise in remembrance of Stephon Alonzo Clark, who died on March 18, 2018 after being shot 20 times by a Sacramento Police Department officer.

I also rise to call upon the Department of Justice to investigate the use of force that took the life of Stephon Clark.

Once again I am disheartened by the shooting of yet another unarmed young man of color at the hands of law enforcement.

Stephon Clark was a proud graduate of Sacramento High School.

Stephon Clark was affectionately known as "Big Papa" and "Zoe" to his friends and family.

Stephon Clark loved to watch football and Netflix shows with his fiancée Salena Manni and their two young sons.

Stephon Clark enjoyed waking up in the morning to make oatmeal for his children before they would go to school.

Stephon Clark was only 22 years old when he was tragically shot and killed in his grandmother's backyard.

Stephon Clark laid for six minutes, bleeding to death.

As Stephon Clark drew his last breath, officers handcuffed his dying body.

Officers claim that Stephon Clark had a gun, but no weapon was found at the scene.

Stephon Clark only had a cell phone.

I have long been a strong supporter of law enforcement, and know first-hand the great work performed by officers all across the country.

But this incident raises troubling questions about the practices and policies of the Sacramento Police Department.

I am concerned that the audio on the police officers' body cameras was intentionally turned off.

This act defeats the purpose of police body cameras, erodes trust within the community and adds greater concern to an already regrettable and preventable tragedy.

Stephon Clark and the family that survives him deserve justice.

Unfortunately, this incident fits a troubling pattern.

While the names of the young men killed and the cities in which they die change, regrettably the critical facts seldom do.

Mr. Speaker, I demand that this Administration conduct a comprehensive review of this matter by all appropriate law enforcement agencies, and I call upon the United States Department of Justice to determine whether local police violated the federal civil rights of Stephon Clark.

Far too often, the demand for justice for those like Stephon Clark go unheard.

This cannot go on.

It is time to LISTEN and ACT.

That is why we in the Judiciary Committee formed the House Bipartisan Policing Strategies Working Group, of which, I am a Member.

I have introduced and supported legislation to help reform how youth and juveniles are treated to reduce contact and recidivism within the juvenile and criminal justice system; to help protect them from a system that turns them into life-long offenders.

These efforts include:

H.R. 3158, "The RAISE Act," which provides judges new and different options when a young offender comes before them, ensures that young offenders receive specialized programs and separate housing tailored to their needs, and advances efforts to rehabilitate them.

H.R. 3155, "Kalief's Law," establishes more humane rules for young offenders and juveniles when detained or confined, particularly in the areas of pretrial detention, bail, use of force and segregation or solitary confinement.

H.R. 3156, "Fair Chance for Youth Act," which creates effective opportunities for juveniles and young offenders to seal and expunge their records.

Just as we need to minimize the overcharging, wrongful conviction, and excessive incarceration of innocent people, we must address the unnecessary loss of life like that of Stephon Clark this past week in Sacramento.

We must curtail the escalation of violence that can result from police and civilian interactions.

Effective law enforcement requires the confidence of the community that the law will be enforced impartially and equally.

There is no higher priority than improving the peacefulness of these interactions and rebuilding the trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve and protect.

To address many of the current flaws, I plan to reintroduce the "BUILD Trust Act" which is designed to increase public confidence in local law enforcement by decreasing excessive reliance on traffic fines and court costs to fund local government.

I ask my colleagues to join me in support of these measures so that in addition to our thoughts and prayers, we take decisive action to prevent tragedies like the death of Stephon Clark from happening in the first place.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT  
OF COLUMBIA JUROR PAY PARITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Juror Pay Parity Act of 2018 to require that D.C. Superior Court

jurors receive pay for jury service equal to that received by federal jurors.

Currently, D.C. Superior Court jurors are paid \$30 per day, and, under the D.C. Home Rule Act, only the D.C. courts and Congress have the authority to increase Superior Court juror pay. My bill would require that Superior Court jurors receive pay equal to that received by federal jurors.

In the fiscal year 2018 omnibus appropriations bill, Congress included a pay increase from \$40 to \$50 per day for federal jurors, the first increase to federal juror pay in 28 years. My bill would give Superior Court jurors the same pay.

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105-33), Congress took responsibility for paying for the D.C. courts and most other state-like functions. The D.C. courts, however, have always been under the control of Congress, even when they were funded by the District. The Home Rule Act prohibits the District government from enacting any law regarding Title 11 of the D.C. Code. Title 11 provides that the Board of Judges of the Superior Court sets juror pay, but that the pay may not exceed the pay of federal jurors. Therefore, this bill, or action by D.C. courts, is necessary to increase Superior Court juror pay.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLE RAGAN  
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 Cole Ragan of Whitehouse, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Cole'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.

Cole brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2022. While attending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Cole was a member of the National Honor Society and 4.0 honor roll, as well as an academic letter winner.

Throughout high school, Cole participated in football, wrestling, and track and field, earning many honors and serving as captain of the football team. I am confident that Cole 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 Cole Ragan on the offer of his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I

am positive that Cole 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.

RECOGNITION OF ELENI M.  
ROUMEL

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Eleni Marie Roumel for her dedicated service to the House of Representatives and specifically to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Eleni has been with the House Office of General Counsel since October 2012, during which time she has provided invaluable counsel to House Members, Officers, and staff on a variety of legal issues. She has vigorously defended the institutional prerogatives of the House, and greatly assisted the Committees in fulfilling their important constitutional oversight roles.

Of special importance to the Committee on Ways and Means, our staff came to rely on her expertise and guidance in connection with many of the Committee's investigative and oversight activities, as well as in connection with the Committee's interactions with the Executive Branch. Eleni was a trusted advisor on many aspects of the Affordable Care Act, and worked tirelessly to ensure the Committee's investigative efforts in overseeing the enforcement of the law were successful. Eleni has been instrumental in the Committee's efforts to combat Executive Branch overreach and vindicate the House's Appropriations Clause authority. In addition, Eleni has exemplified the role of counselor to Committee staff as someone who was eminently reliable, knowledgeable, creative, and genuinely a pleasure to work with. She will be greatly missed.

This month, Eleni will continue her distinguished career of public service by commencing her new role as Deputy Counsel to the Vice President of the United States. Eleni served the House with great distinction, and we know she will serve the Vice President with that same level of distinction. On behalf of the many Members of the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee staff, who benefitted from her insightful counsel, I say thank you. We extend to her our very best wishes for her continued success.

CRYSTEL WARE NAMED  
EDUCATOR 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 Crystel Ware for being awarded the 2018 Texas Alliance of Black School Educators (TABSE) Educator of the Year.

Crystel is the math and science facilitator at Williams Elementary School in Rosenberg, TX. The TABSE Educator of the Year award is gifted to teachers who truly make a difference

with their students and demonstrate an unparalleled commitment to enhancing the quality of classroom instruction by using innovative teaching techniques. Ware also previously received the Educator of the Year award from the Houston Area Association of Black School Educators in 2017. Her achievements were recognized on February 25th at the TABSE's annual conference in Houston.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Crystel on receiving this honor. We thank her for her dedication to her students and look forward to seeing what she accomplishes in the future.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
SHANTHI VISWANATHAN

**HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 5, 2018*

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, like so many Americans, I was deeply moved by the school shooting in Parkland, Florida. The tragic loss of 17 lives to a gunman was another devastating reminder of the danger of too many guns being readily available in our culture.

In the face of the Parkland shooting, I would like to pay special recognition to Mrs. Shanthi Viswanathan, an Algebra teacher at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Known as "Mrs. V" to her students, Mrs. Viswanathan's quick thinking and firm and resolute actions very likely helped save the lives of her students.

As the Miami Herald reported, Mrs. Viswanathan knew something wasn't right when she heard the second fire alarm of the day sounding shortly before classes were to end on February 14th.

Mrs. Viswanathan immediately put paper over the window so no one could see inside. She then told her students to take cover and get on the floor in the corner of the room.

When the SWAT team came to the outside of Mrs. Viswanathan's classroom and told her to open the door, she opted not to take any chance that it could have been a trick by the gunman.

"Knock it down or open it with a key. I'm not opening the door," Mrs. Viswanathan said.

It was indeed the SWAT team, and they knocked down the door and ushered the students to safety.

When Mrs. Viswanathan knew there was danger, she exemplified the truest form of the Hindu concept of dharma, or duty, in protecting those she was responsible for. These actions were brought to my attention by the Hindu American Foundation which continues to support the victims as part of its broader commitment to Ahimsa, the Hindu concept of nonviolence.

I recently visited Broward County where I had the honor to speak at the Hindu American Foundation's annual gala. The Hindu American Foundation, or HAF, has stood up during the ongoing public debate over guns in our society and has supported legislation to, among other things, repeal the ban on allowing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from conducting research into gun violence in

the United States. In taking its policy positions, HAF is guided by both public policy concerns and ethics, along with Hindu scripture.

It is my sincere hope that the days and weeks ahead, Congress shows the same commitment to dealing with gun violence that Mrs. Viswanathan and the Hindu American Foundation already have.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS HILT  
ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT  
TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES  
MILITARY 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 Thomas Hilt of Whitehouse, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Thomas' offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military 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.

Thomas brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2022. While attending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Thomas was a member of the National Honor Society, received the school's academic award, and participated in DECA and German Club.

Throughout high school, Thomas participated in rowing, where he served as team captain and received his varsity letter and coaches award. I am confident that Thomas will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Thomas Hilt on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Thomas will excel during his career at West Point, 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 SHEILA KUNZE

**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 Sheila Kunze of Lewis, Iowa on her retirement as the Cass County Clerk of Court. Sheila began her duties in the Clerk's office in 1979, and has served the citizens of Cass County for almost 39 years.

Appointed as the Cass County Clerk of Court in 2001, Sheila said when she joined the Clerk's office she was hired as an office