

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

clerk. During her 39 years of service she has witnessed many changes in the office and the way records are kept. Today, almost everything is electronically filed, but the office still handles some paper forms. Sheila said the greatest part of her job was “working with all the people, I’ve met a lot of people over the years, and made a lot of friends.”

Mr. Speaker, Sheila has made a difference in her community by helping and serving others. I am honored to recognize her today and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in applauding her accomplishments and in wishing her nothing but the best in her retirement.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE WILSON, DEAN OF THE CAPITOL HILL BLACK PRESS, AND INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT AND EYEWITNESS TO HISTORY

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 pioneer and trailblazer, George Wilson, the Dean of the Black press on Capitol Hill.

George Wilson, a veteran journalist and broadcaster whose reports were heard on radio outlets across the country for decades will be remembered as a powerful voice with a witty intellect.

George Wilson was born in New Orleans on October 10, 1947, to George II and Rose Wilson and raised in Washington, D.C.

After graduating from Calvin Coolidge High School, George Wilson attended Howard University before graduating from North Carolina A&T.

As a Capitol Hill correspondent for over three decades and host of Sirius XM’s “GW on the Hill,” George Wilson’s velvet voice was unmistakable over the airwaves.

During his time on air, George Wilson served as “Black America’s voice on the Hill.”

George Wilson’s character and reputation paved the way for other African American journalists in Congress.

George Wilson’s passion for journalism led him to stories around the world and particularly cultivated sources in the international and diplomatic community.

Wilson covered the fall of apartheid in South Africa, the reinstatement of former Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide, and chronicled the many revolutions in African countries.

George Wilson’s work made him more than a local reporter, he was an international journalist.

George Wilson will be missed greatly, not just in the hallowed halls of Congress but throughout the world.

George Wilson is survived by his wife Iris, his mother Rose, six children, seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, aunts, cousins and a host of other relatives and friends.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of George Wilson.

RECOGNIZING MARES STELLFOX

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mares Stellfox, a Springfield High School graduate who relentlessly pursued her dreams to become a professional Open-Wheel race car driver.

From an early age Mares dreamed of proving herself in the male-dominated world of race car driving. It was no easy path to get there. She experienced barriers and setbacks. But Mares pushed forward, helping change auto-racing culture and becoming a model for other aspiring women.

When Mares first entered open-wheel auto racing, she set ambitious goals—to finish in the top ten in points her first year and the top five her second. She accomplished both and returned a third year to capture first place. She would go on to join The Outlaws racing club as the only woman among nearly 100 members, earning herself the nickname the “Lady Outlaw.” She continued to break stereotypes as she earned numerous honors and awards during her tenure, even landing on the cover of Open Wheel Magazine, a first for a woman.

I applaud Mares for her successful career and everything she has done to be a trailblazer for women. She has well-earned the Woman of Achievement Award.

IN RECOGNITION OF JENNA KILL ON HER 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 Jenna Kill of Sylvania, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Jenna’s offer of appointment permits her 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.

Jenna brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2022. While attending Northview High School in Sylvania, Ohio, Jenna was a member of the National Honor Society and was ranked in the top five percent of her class.

Throughout high school, Jenna participated in soccer, and was captain for both the cross country and track and field teams, earning varsity letters in all three sports. Jenna also served as a co-leader for the NASA Student Launch Team, was involved in leadership academy, and participated in competitions such as Team America Rocketry Contest, and

S4 Satellite Rocketry Team. I am confident that Jenna will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jenna Kill on her 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 Jenna will excel during her career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO SHAWN THOMPSON

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 Shawn Thompson of Sidney, Iowa for receiving the 2017 Iowa Football Coaches Association John Taft Memorial Junior High Award. Shawn is the junior high football coach at Sidney High School in Sidney, Iowa.

Shawn was nominated by Sidney High School Head Coach Donnie Sears. Coach Sears said, “Shawn had four undefeated seasons and four additional seasons with just one loss. But, his impact goes far beyond the field.” Shawn goes above and beyond to help his struggling students; he arrives very early in the morning at school to tutor them and help them set up appointments with other teachers to help with their studies. Shawn said, “I was shocked when I found out and wondered, why me? My biggest thought was and still is, why am I being rewarded for doing something I love to do. Coaching is very rewarding to me.”

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Shawn for receiving this outstanding award. He is a shining example of how hard work and dedication can affect the future of our youth. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Shawn and in wishing him nothing but continued success in all his future endeavors.

MOUNTAINS COMMUNITY RIM OF THE WORLD HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS AWARDED NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rim of the World Historical Society, which has been selected by the Lake Arrowhead Communities Chamber of Commerce as its Non-Profit of the Year. The Society is dedicated to collecting, preserving and sharing the history of the Western San Bernardino Mountains communities.

The Rim of the World Historical Society was founded in 1986 as the Crestline Historical Society. The early organization provided temporary history exhibits and programs. Over time, the name changed to the Rim of the World Historical Society the focus shifted to