

Active in his community, Darrell served as Putnam County Republican Party Chairman. He held the position for 29 years where he met Presidents Ford, Reagan and H.W. Bush. Beyond his political activity, Darrell was a leading member of the Granville Rotary Club where he received the club's prestigious Paul Harris award and maintained perfect attendance up until his passing.

Darrell was an avid baseball fan and worked to share the sport with his family, friends and community as a whole. He built what he called the "Alleman Field of Dreams" on his farm where local baseball teams could play and practice. It has since become a community icon where every year for the past 4 years a charity baseball game is held and Field of Dreams the movie is shown and enjoyed by all.

We mourn the passing of this hard working and dedicated family man, farmer and community activist. Please join me in honoring and celebrating this life well lived.

HONORING JACOB ANDREW
MAGYAR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Magyar. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MARCELO DEFREITAS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marcelo Defreitas as the 2018 Honorary Alcalde for the City of Sonoma, California. Mayor Madolyn Agrimonti nominated Mr. Defreitas as Alcalde, the Spanish word for mayor, in recognition of his contributions to our community.

Mr. Defreitas is from the Southern part of Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul, in the city of Uruguiana. He grew up on a cattle ranch with his parents, Jurema De La Vega Rodrigues de Freitas and Homero Maydana Rodrigues de Freitas and two older brothers, Homero and Jose Mario.

Mr. Defreitas studied public relations in college in Brazil and began working in his field at

the largest publishing company in South America. In 1984, he moved to San Francisco to finish his degree and to learn English. After graduating from the University of San Francisco with a degree in graphic arts, he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Academy of Art University. In 1988, he joined Primo Angeli Inc., and worked his way up from junior designer to art director.

Mr. Defreitas has served as the President of the Board of Directors for La Luz Center since 2016. He has been instrumental in organizing fundraisers such as "Noche de Moon," which has furthered the Center's role in the immigrant community. He has also fundraised and organized committees to support local nonprofits, including the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, Jack London State Park, Lyon Ranch and Sonoma Valley Fund.

Recently Mr. Defreitas' service has expanded to include helping victims of the October wildfires. Through his 10 to 12 hour work days at La Luz Center, he helped distribute \$1.2 million in disaster unemployment assistance, individual assistance disaster relief funds, rent assistance and other services. This is not out of character for him. As he says, "service is my passion."

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Defreitas is the hard working leader and dedicated community member we should all strive to be. He has seamlessly blended his professional and personal passions, leaving a legacy of community collaboration. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Marcelo Defreitas as Sonoma's 43rd Honorary Alcalde.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. SCOTT TAYLOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD remarks on behalf of my constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman. Rabbi Zoberman is the Founding Rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Born in Chu, Kazakhstan (USSR) in 1945, he is the son of Polish Holocaust Survivors.

"What a joyful milestone the 70th anniversary celebration of the world's only Jewish State and only democracy in the Middle East is, shouldering the 4,000 year old loaded legacy of a restored Jewish people to full dignity! The historic return into sovereign Jewish statehood of an ancient people deprived of its homeland for 2,000 years of a trying experience that almost upended it in the Holocaust should be applauded by the entire human family. No other people exercised such a comeback. The Jewish people have proved its authentic bond with its birthplace the Land of Israel, which has served as the daily focus of its prayerful supplications and soulful aspirations. It has never abandoned its prophetic promise that Israel was destined to survive and thrive that it may continue to bless humanity.

A narrow stretch of land along the Eastern Mediterranean Sea is saturated with the Biblical Book of Book's undying memories of a covenanted Jewish people determined to turn human passion into heartfelt compassion and life's wilderness into an oasis of love. The miraculous ingathering of the exiles from the earth's four corners, including

close to a million Jewish refugees from Arab lands, a revitalized Hebrew language and flourishing culture, creating an amazing start-up nation from most humble beginnings, while fatefully and successfully tested in costly wars—are all testimony to the unyielding power of the human spirit to turn adversity into advantage, pain into promise and violence into vision.

Wherever disaster strikes on the globe, whether man-made or natural, you find Israelis on challenging humanitarian missions, at times first on the scene. This was showcased last February when Israelis assisted with trauma counselling (sadly Israel has much experience in this field) following the shooting of 17 students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida; and reached out when an earthquake hit Papua, New Guinea. A Jewish state is bound to reaffirm the thundering call of its prophets, philosophers and poets, anchored in its 1948 Declaration of Independence, to establish a model society for all its citizens, narrowing economic and social gaps, rejoicing in Jewish religious pluralism, and protecting the disadvantaged as well as endangered refugees.

Israel is a model of heroic courage and uplifting audacity in the face of stubborn non-acceptance, with finally Egypt, the largest Arab country, and Jordan breaking the circle of enmity. It is ever ready to embrace all its Arab neighbors and particularly the Palestinians in the peace of Shalom and Salaam to jointly transform shared pain into wellsprings of creative hope for future generations, thus fulfilling Israel's fondest prayer. In resolving the 150 year old tragic conflict with the Palestinians, Israeli security more than ideology should be paramount, though the two may overlap. The Zionist enterprise regarded realistic compromise with the recalcitrant Arabs as essential while guarding against untenable messianism.

With adverse demography in mind, Israel's major concern is to remain both Jewish and democratic. The Palestinians, who have been abused as pawns by their Arab brethren, need yet be educated by courageous leaders to give up their destructive and improbable dream of replacing Israel, and not be financially rewarded for brutal terrorism which postpones peace. Gaza's ruling Hamas would do better spending outside funds to help their impoverished people whom they use as human shields, rather than waste it on rockets and tunnels aimed at Israel. We recall the disturbing collaboration with Hitler of the Palestinian Grand Mufti Haj Amin al-Husseini.

Israel is the only country whose very existence is being questioned, with signs of radicalization in its sizable Arab Israeli community. Terrorizing and nuclear ambitious Iran, which denies the Holocaust, and its Lebanese and Palestinian proxies are near Israel's borders. The United Nations falsely singles Israel out for constant rebuke while sheltering culprit regimes which violate basic human rights. The United States through indefatigable Ambassador Nikki Haley stands tall with Israel, its true ally and trusted friend in the shrinking community of democracies. However, the Iranian Shiite menace to both Israel and the Arab Sunni world has opened a venue of opportunity exemplified in Saudi Arabia allowing Air India to use its territory to fly to Tel Aviv, Israel which is also a first for India's airlines!

President Trump Jerusalem Declaration (what an anniversary gift!) that Jerusalem is indeed Israel's rightful capital will resonate in long Jewish memory where friends and foes are never forgotten. President Donald Trump's proud act of conscience finally lends a superpower's support for Israel's indisputable glorious links to both earthly and

heavenly Jerusalem that is being denied by the West's tenacious enemies. How moving that the American Embassy is relocated from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Israel's capital, on May 14, 2018, exactly 70 years following Jewish independence. It is a poignant reminder that President Harry Truman was the first world leader to recognize the new state, only eleven minutes following Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's delivering the Declaration of Independence of a redeemed people. It was Jewish history's greatest hour after the Holocaust's lowest mark. Venomous anti-Semitism is on an alarming resurgence in the United States and particularly in Europe, home of the Holocaust. Poland regrettably attempts through a new punitive law to distance itself from the painful truth that there were far more Poles who collaborated in the merciless destruction of Jewish lives than those righteous Poles who sacrificially rose up to protect their assaulted Jewish neighbors, including my own family, who had lived in their midst for a thousand years!

The Syrian tragedy weighs heavily on Israel whose people emerged from the Holocaust, with both Jews and Syrians abandoned by a callous world. The gassing with impunity of innocent Syrian civilians, including children, so close to Israel as Syria's civil war is into its seventh year, is most revolting. Israel reaching out to medically save over four thousand Syrians is praiseworthy. I concur with Rabbi Israel Lau asking Israel to even do more for Syria's suffering people. He is Israel's former chief rabbi, currently chairman of Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust World Center Council and the youngest survivor at age eight of the Buchenwald Concentration Camp. Much is demanded though not all can be expected from a now powerful but still vulnerable people enduring the unfathomable and facing a complex Middle East scenario. President Trump's order to send fifty-nine Tomahawk missiles toward a Syrian air base was appreciated. The most recent airstrikes by the U.S., U.K. and France at Syria's illegal chemical weapons operation in light of the Syrian lethal chemical attack in Douma, is encouraging. How could Russia be complicit in Bashar's genocidal machine when losing over twenty million Russians under Nazi Germany? The presence of the USS Bush Carrier homeported in Norfolk, Virginia which I witnessed, on July 4, 2017 in Haifa, Israel, following the bombing of ISIS targets in Syria, was reassuring.

May Israel's significant anniversary of a tumultuous homecoming usher in renewed hope that its founders' inspiring naïveté of being welcomed and appreciated for their pioneering efforts in a problematic region, yet bear good fruit for all."

PICOCYL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor PICOCYL for being recognized as the 2017 Business Recognition Award winner by the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation (Jeffco EDC).

The Business Recognition Award shows appreciation for a local company who has shown exceptional growth in primary employment, sales and/or capital investments in the last year. PICOCYL designs, develops and manufactures very small compressed gas cylinders

for drug delivery systems, self-injection devices, and the delivery of medical gases. Their patented pic-o cylinders feature accurate and consistent gas fill levels, extremely low puncture forces, and precision sealing surfaces. PICOCYL's proprietary manufacturing systems and processes have earned their position as the sole global provider of such components to the Life Sciences industry.

Congratulations to PICOCYL for this well-deserved award, and I thank them for their contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE PHILADELPHIA PROGRAM OF VITAS HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEERS

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize all the volunteers with the Philadelphia Program of VITAS Healthcare, who graciously give their time and talents serving neighbors in need throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania.

VITAS Healthcare has been a pioneer in hospice care since 1978 and has the distinction of being the nation's largest provider of end-of-life care. The Philadelphia Program of VITAS launched in 1993 and currently operates three in-patient units serving the five-county Philadelphia region.

More than 60 volunteers in the Philadelphia Program serve a vital role in helping VITAS Healthcare deliver quality care and support to more than 200 hospice patients and their families every day. Volunteers of all ages and from diverse backgrounds carry out a variety of tasks, ranging from running errands and placing reassuring phone calls to spending quality time with hospice patients in their homes, hospitals and skilled nursing facilities.

VITAS will honor these outstanding volunteers during an annual luncheon on April 28, 2018. The event is part of National Volunteer Appreciation Week, which was established by President Richard Nixon in 1974 to highlight the invaluable contributions of all volunteers and the incredible difference they make in the lives of those they serve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in expressing our sincere gratitude to all the volunteers with the Philadelphia Program of VITAS Healthcare for their selfless service to individuals and communities in southeastern Pennsylvania. May their exemplary dedication and generous spirit inspire all to give back to others and strengthen our communities through volunteerism.

TRIBUTE TO A'JA WILSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding young lady and great South Carolinian, Ms. A'ja Wilson. Ms. Wilson is a student at the University of South Carolina (USC) in Columbia, South Carolina. USC's athletic teams are nicknamed the "Fighting

Gamecocks," and A'ja is a member of the Gamecock's women basketball team.

During her tenure at USC, A'ja played in 138 games, averaged 17.3 points per game, had 8.7 rebounds and blocked 2.6 shots per game. In 2017, Ms. Wilson led the Gamecocks to their first ever NCAA Women's Basketball Championship and was named the Tournament's Most Outstanding Player.

This year, A'ja was named the Southeastern Conference's (SEC) Player of the Year for the 3rd consecutive year, and led the Gamecocks to a record 4th straight SEC Tournament Championship. She also became the all-time leading scorer in USC women's basketball history and was a consensus first-team All-American for the 3rd consecutive season.

A'ja was named 1st team All-SEC all four of her years at USC. She has swept every one of the National Player of the Year awards as the best player in women's college basketball in 2018. Last week, A'ja capped off her college athletic career by becoming the first player drafted by the Women National Basketball Association (WNBA).

A'ja Wilson was born in Hopkins, South Carolina to Roscoe and Eva Wilson. She graduated from Heathwood Hall Episcopal High School in Columbia and led the school to the state championship as a senior in 2014. Perhaps more important than her statistics; A'ja Wilson has been a leader for her teams—both on and off the court—and in her community.

USC's President Dr. Harris Pastides, Athletics Director Ray Tanner and Women's Head Coach Dawn Staley have all praised A'ja the person as well as A'ja the player. President Pastides recently told The State newspaper, "A'ja [is] the person who never turned down an autograph, a selfie, a high five . . . A'ja has never said no to anybody, and that is because she loves this community, she loves the fans."

Mr. Speaker, I agree with Dr. Pastides, and I hasten to add that the basketball fans and citizens of her hometown and state love her back.

H.R. 2901, TO MAKE PERMANENT VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2901, to make permanent the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) matching grant program.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program assists low-to-moderate income, elderly, disabled, and limited English speaking taxpayers in preparing and filing their federal income tax returns.

Since fiscal year 2008, Congress has used the appropriations process to provide funding for the Community VITA matching grants program for tax return preparation assistance.

But Congress has not authorized the VITA program to receive grants through the tax-writing process.

This bill puts the VITA grant program on more solid, permanent, and predictable footing.