

FRAN BAKER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Fran Baker for receiving the West Chamber's Jefferson County Hall of Fame Award. This award honors outstanding individuals who have had significant and long-lasting impacts on Jefferson County's economy, community and legacy.

Fran Baker is the Executive Director of Enrichment for the Gold Crown Foundation where she oversees program development, community outreach and fundraising efforts. However, Fran's first love is fashion. She started her career as a fashion buyer for May Company in Denver, after receiving a marketing degree from The Fashion Institute of Technology at NYU. She left the fashion industry and dedicated several years to raising her children. While raising her children, she returned to school to receive her BA in Early Childhood Development and teaching certificate from Metro State University.

For nine years, she worked as a Title One Reading Teacher and Literacy Coach in Jefferson County. From there, she went on to lead a needs assessment for the planning, designing and implementation of the Enrichment programs for the Gold Crown Foundation's Field House. Under Fran's direction, Gold Crown Enrichment was awarded licensing for the international after school program, "The Clubhouse." She worked to develop the relationship with Jefferson County schools to establish programming during the school day, which has served thousands of students from neighboring elementary and middle schools. After providing Enrichment programs for 14 years at the Field House, Gold Crown recently opened a second Clubhouse in Edgewater. Fran currently serves on the board for the Clubhouse Network, which includes 100 Clubhouse sites in 19 countries.

Congratulations to Fran Baker for this well-deserved award, and I thank her for her continued dedication to our community.

HONORING RISE AWARD
RECIPIENT, KIM KARNOFSKI

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kim Karnofski, a constituent of mine from Castle Rock, Washington. Kim is receiving the prestigious Recognizing Inspirational School Employees Award for her outstanding service to the students of Washington state and I'm proud to recognize her achievement today.

Since 1988, Kim has served as an invaluable resource to students and families of Castle Rock. She has dedicated her life to leading service projects in her community, working with credit recovery students to help them achieve post-graduation success and even implementing a Life Fitness P.E. program to teach healthy habits to students. Kim also devoted her time as a member of the Public

School Employees of Washington SEIU Local 1948, serving as an advocate for her colleagues dedicated to serving our students.

The RISE Award is presented by the National Coalition of Classified Education Support Employee Unions, a coalition of state and national unions that represent one million school support employees. Five individuals from across the country are recognized for their extraordinary efforts to promote quality education, foster positive learning environments and ensure student success. The award is given to those who have made exceptional contributions to education, promoting student achievement, student safety, as well as helping to build a brighter future for our children.

I was very proud to learn about Kim and the work she's done to become one of those five individuals recognized for their exemplary service to students, and I am equally proud to have her as a member of Southwest Washington's community. I want to congratulate Kim on receiving this well-deserved award and thank her for her unwavering leadership and contributions to the students of Castle Rock.

IN HONOR OF TRICIA STILES
SIMPSON

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a remarkable woman who has made an extraordinary contribution to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the people of the northern Shenandoah Valley.

With the retirement of Tricia Stiles Simpson from her position as Legislative Assistant to Virginia State Senator Jill Vogel, those attending the 2018 session of the Virginia General Assembly experienced a clear loss of energy, enthusiasm, honesty and intelligence that constitute this extraordinary human being.

A gifted speaker and writer, Tricia has always displayed natural leadership skills and has been highly sought after for a variety of boards and commissions. Over the years, she has generously given of her time, energy and money to a wide variety of organizations, serving as chairman or vice chairman of the following: Frederick County School Board, to which she was elected and reelected; United Way of the Northern Shenandoah Valley; Frederick County Department of Social Services; Winchester Branch of the American Association of University Women; Shenandoah Valley Private Industry Council; and Tri-County VA Opportunities Industrialization Center.

As one who has consistently lived her life out of the conviction that each individual has inherent dignity and worth, Tricia Stiles Simpson's overriding passion has been to serve and advocate for the most vulnerable members of our society, especially disabled children. During her 35 years of service to individuals with disabilities, Tricia has been an award-winning Special Education Teacher in Clarke County; Director of Rehabilitation Services for Northwestern Workshop; National Project Director of the National Association of Rehabilitation Facilities; administrator at Grafton School; and Executive Director of the Winchester-Frederick County Child Advocacy Center.

In each of these positions, as well as during the 10 years she spent as Senator Vogel's Legislative Assistant, Tricia generously gave of her time and energies to those struggling with almost every challenge imaginable, treating each with honesty and compassion, so that they left her presence knowing that they had been heard and respected. Asked how she managed to deal so successfully with confused and troubled people, Simpson explained her simple three-part rule: "Say what you mean and do what you say; be consistent; and love them absolutely."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing and thanking Tricia Stiles Simpson for her extraordinary career serving the people of the northern Shenandoah Valley and the Commonwealth of Virginia and wishing her and her husband, HB Simpson, many years of continued happiness in their retirement years.

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTENNIAL
YEAR OF McDONOGH 35 SENIOR
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Centennial Year of McDonogh 35 Senior High School. McDonogh 35 Senior High School is the oldest public high school established for African-Americans in New Orleans, Louisiana. The year 1917 was a crucial year in educational advancement for African-Americans in the city. After decades of being denied the opportunity to attend public schools beyond the eighth grade, African-American students would have a public high school that offered courses that prepared them to attend the colleges throughout the city of New Orleans.

Despite the location of McDonogh 35, in a section of the city that once housed brothels, barrooms, and boarding houses, the school would become a beacon of hope and pride to New Orleans' black community. For decades, the campus on South Rampart and Girod Streets was not equipped to serve with fidelity the needs of its students. Science labs were not modernized. There was no gymnasium to provide fitness for student-athletes. Moreover, many students took it upon themselves to provide nutritious meals for their classmates by preparing food by growing gardens of fresh produce. It was, for those times, an unsustainable set of low conditions.

Despite these circumstances, the students achieved accomplishments in the academic, artistic, and athletic fields of education—and also took on the challenges of addressing the social injustices of their day. Even with the destruction to their fifty-year-old building by Hurricane Betsy in 1965, this situation did not discourage the McDonogh 35 community from achieving excellence. The students continued to excel as they called a federal courthouse and an older school building home—until the opening of the historic Kerlerec Street building in 1972. In 2005, when Hurricane Katrina struck the city, the returning students of McDonogh 35 rallied and fought to have their school opened, making passionate pleas to the Orleans Parish School Board for the restoration of this historic institution. In 2015, a

state-of-the-art campus in the Columbia Parc area offers students opportunities to make strong strides in academics, arts, and athletics—and to add their unique contributions to the legacy of this celebrated institution.

Throughout the course of its journey, the McDonogh 35 legacy has been strengthened by its continuance of educating students to their highest potential, daring them to open their minds to learning about the world outside of their neighborhoods, and earning prestigious honors and accolades for their ambitious efforts. Through these 100 years of trial, triumph, and transition, the presence of McDonogh 35 has graced the city landscape by educating the most prominent civic servants, educators, business moguls, athletes, and proud citizens—past and present. Now that it has reached that glorious milestone of 100 years, the entire Roneagle Nation is ready to celebrate A Century of Soaring: the McDonogh 35 Centennial Celebration. New Orleans should be proud to claim McDonogh 35 Senior High School as an important landmark for its impact made to our city's history.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud McDonogh 35 Senior High School's commitment to educating our youth and celebrate their centennial year. McDonogh 35 Senior High School is a school with an unpromising beginning, but blessed with a legacy and future that will take it beyond its 100 years of importance.

JOHN BANDIMERE, JR.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor John Bandimere, Jr. for receiving the West Chamber's Jefferson County Hall of Fame Award. This award honors outstanding individuals who have had significant and long-lasting impacts on Jefferson County's economy, community and legacy.

For the past 60 years, John Bandimere, Jr. has been the driving force behind the successful Bandimere Speedway team as the second-generation owner and operator of the quarter-mile drag strip that bears his family's name. The Bandimere family has always been in the automotive industry through manufacturing, auto parts sales, machine work, racing or other automotive-related businesses but they have called the beautiful Colorado foothills home for the past six decades. In 1958, his father and mother, John Sr. and Frances, founded the speedway west of Denver. Originally called the Safety Proving Grounds of America and built as a location for testing the limits of the automobile in a safe environment, the NHRA-sanctioned speedway is now known as "Thunder Mountain."

John Jr. continues to be a visible figure at Bandimere Speedway as he provides encouragement and well-respected leadership to the staff, community and guests. Most recently, his official title became Chairman of the Board as well as CSO—Chief Spiritual Officer. John Jr. has been actively involved in the Jeffco community for years serving on multiple boards including, but not limited to, Guaranty Bank West Advisory Board, West Metro Chamber Board, National Hot Rod Associa-

tion, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Cherry Hills Community Church, Colorado Motorsports Hall of Fame Advisory Board and many others.

Congratulations to John Bandimere, Jr. for this well-deserved award, and I thank him for his continued dedication to our community.

HONORING MS. ESTHER MOORE

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Esther Moore, the author of a recent book entitled *Placitas*. This book describes the vibrant, diverse community and residents of Cuba, New Mexico.

While the village may be small, it reflects the best of the state, including hard-working families and a rich history and culture. That is why I was so honored to meet and talk with Esther at a book signing about her inspiration for the book and how proud she is of her community.

While I was visiting the village, I also had the pleasure of attending their Little League Basketball Championship. This tournament gave me the opportunity to meet many of Cuba's residents including the parents, coaches, players, and volunteers who were there. I was struck by the strong sense of community in such a small town, and I am proud that Esther's book will ensure that people all over the country will be able to experience a slice of what I loved so much about Cuba, New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the state of New Mexico, I want to congratulate Esther Moore on becoming a published author, and thank her for the work she has done to educate us about the Cuba, New Mexico community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SALINE COUNTY HOMEMAKERS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Saline County Homemakers Education Association.

Since they first organized in 1918, members of the Saline County Homemakers have been devoted to improving the lives of women, children, families, and communities within their region. Through emphasizing the importance of the human and spiritual values of life, they have also sought to promote the development of positive role models and strong community leaders. Their programs and meetings have continued to provide Saline County residents with opportunities for friendship, personal growth, and community service.

The Saline County Homemakers Education Association will be sharing their history with the community in a ceremony on Saturday, April 28 at the McKinley Baptist Church Education building in Harrisburg, Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to send my congratulations to Saline County Homemakers Education Association for their continued success and dedication to their mission.

STEVE BURKHOLDER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Steve Burkholder for receiving the West Chamber's Jefferson County Hall of Fame Award. This award honors outstanding individuals who have had significant and long-lasting impacts on Jefferson County's economy, community and legacy.

Steve grew up in metro Denver and moved to Lakewood in 1963. He became Lakewood Mayor from 1999 and served until 2007. During his tenure, he was president of the Colorado Municipal League, was a member of the Metro Mayors Executive Committee and was the chair of numerous committees in the National League of Cities. In the private sector, he was involved in the wholesale trade for many years and then served as the principal of the A & S Group, a consulting and marketing organization, for 17 years. He retired from actively consulting and facilitating in 2011.

Aside from his tenure as Mayor, Steve is also known for founding the Parent-Child Home Program (PCHP) Jeffco, an initiative of the Jeffco Schools Foundation. PCHP's mission is to positively impact school readiness and long-term learning for two- and three-year olds from high risk and vulnerable families. Steve serves as a current PCHP board member, and is a founding board member of a recently-formed organization, the Jeffco Human Services Foundation.

In his continuing quest for civil dialogue, Steve has served as a member of the executive committee at the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado and as a fellow at the Institute on the Common Good at Regis University. He is also a past chairman of the board of the West Metro Chamber and was the founding chairman of Leadership Jefferson County, now in its 35th year at the Chamber.

Congratulations to Steve Burkholder for this well-deserved award, and I thank him for his continued dedication to our community.

CELEBRATING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF THE LATE HONORABLE LOUISE SLAUGHTER

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, Louise Slaughter was my friend—and the one thing I always knew is that she had my back.

When we went to Rochester, New York for her service, I was struck by the many people who lined the streets for her wearing Louise buttons. I knew then that she had their backs too.