

of Neighborhood and Community Services and The Athletic Council;

Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award: Norma Hoffman (in memoriam);

Eakin Philanthropy Award: Jean and Ric Edelman, Volkswagen of America, Chantilly Youth Association, Timber Ridge at Discovery Square;

Student Honoree: Jennifer Ochs;

Special Recognition: Carol Melim, Patricia Moran, Denise McKittrick. Emiko Takeuchi, Freddie Mac;

Elly Doyle Park Service Awards: Kathy Trichel, Villamay Community Association.

Mr. Speaker, Fairfax County is regarded as one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, and raise a family, and our nationally-recognized park system has played a key role in that distinction. Our community has a strong commitment to promoting and preserving our environment, including our public parks and outdoor spaces, as the efforts of the individuals and organizations recognized tonight reflects. These are truly selfless actions done for the benefit of all and merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on receiving these awards and in wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.

UNITED STATES-ISRAEL SECURITY ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATION ACT MARKUP

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 5141, the United States-Israel Security Assistance Authorization Act, and commend my good friend, Chairwoman emerita ROS-LEHTINEN, for her leadership in introducing H.R. 5141—a critical, important bipartisan measure—along with Congressman DEUTCH.

This bill responds to a crisis of converging threats that imperil the security of our closest ally, Israel. Iranian forces and their terrorist proxies now surround Israel from nearly every direction. With Iranian support, Hizballah continues to amass a dangerous arsenal of thousands of advanced rockets to the north that are trained on Israel's main population centers.

Hamas, also with Iranian backing, threatens Israel from the south and west with terror tunnels, rocket barrages, and now with a cynical campaign that manipulates civilian protests with the use of so-called human shields to threaten Israel's sovereign border. To the east, in Syria, Iran continues to carry out strategic outposts where it can station advanced weapons systems and fighters to challenge Israeli defenses.

Faced with such a constellation of fanatical enemies, Israel cannot spare a moment's vigilance—and neither can we for the sake of our close friend.

By authorizing enhanced military cooperation between our countries and further enshrining Israel's qualitative military edge, H.R. 5141 guarantees that Israel will also remain far and away our most capable ally. The bill authorizes foreign military financing at an annual level no less than the \$3.3 billion agreed

to in the bilateral MOU negotiated under the Obama Administration. Crucially, the bill specifies that the assistance should be “not less than \$3.3 billion”—a clear statement that this MOU constitutes a floor rather than a ceiling. This Congress can not accept predetermined limits on its support to such a crucial ally. A floor, yes—a ceiling, no.

The bill's other provisions facilitate the transfer of advanced precision guided missiles for Israel's use and lays the groundwork for bilateral cooperation that will assist Israel in confronting an evolving landscape of threats, including from unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), cyber-attacks, and non-state actors. The many facets of cooperation supported by this bill—from international development, to space exploration, to cybersecurity—are not just for Israel's benefit: they directly contribute to our national security.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND RETIREMENT OF MR. SHIRO FLOYD MORI

HON. COLLEEN HANABUSA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Shiro Floyd Mori, former president and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), and wish him well as he retires from a distinguished career in public service.

Born in Murray, Utah, outside of Salt Lake City on May 30, 1939, Floyd is the son of Japanese immigrants from Kagoshima. He graduated from Jordan High School and served for six months on active duty in the United States Army Reserves at Fort Ord, California. After starting college at the University of Southern California (USC), Floyd interrupted his studies and served a two-year mission to Hawaii for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics and Asian studies, as well as a master's degree in economics and political science, from Brigham Young University (BYU). Since then, Floyd has attended fellowship programs at Stanford University and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

After college, Floyd began his career by teaching economics at Chabot College in Hayward, California, for ten years. In 1972, Floyd was elected onto the City Council of Pleasanton, California, before becoming mayor. In 1975, he was one of the first two Japanese Americans elected onto the California State Assembly. Floyd eventually became director of the Office of International Trade in California, an international business consultant, and president of Mori-Silva International.

There is no doubt that Floyd has had a truly distinguished career. Today, however, I rise to recognize his extraordinary lifelong contributions to Asian Pacific Islander communities in the United States. Besides his outstanding work with APAICS, Floyd held numerous local and national positions for the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), including as president and vice president. He served on the executive council of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the diversity council for Comcast, and as chair of the

National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA).

Floyd's many awards for his community service include the Outstanding Citizen Achievement Award from OCA National, Coalition Building Award from the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Voices of Courage Award from the Islamic Cultural Center of Fresno, the Distinguished Citizenship and Patriotism Award from the Pan Pacific American Leaders and Mentors, Community Leadership Award from the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, and the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette Award from the Japanese government.

In March, Floyd retired from his position as president and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS). For five years, Floyd has led APAICS to achieve significant growth in activity, public support, and sponsorship. The APAICS we see today is more visible, well-connected, diverse, and ambitious because of Floyd's leadership.

Floyd's lifelong service reminds us all of how important it is that we continue to cherish and advance diversity across our country. Through his tireless efforts as a leader of the Asian Pacific Islander community, Floyd has enriched the lives of countless Americans of all backgrounds. He has inspired future generations to build upon the important work he achieved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating Floyd's accomplishments and years of service and wishing Floyd the very best in a prosperous retirement and all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of First Baptist Church of Vienna, which has been a fixture of our Northern Virginia community since its founding. In 1867, shortly after the conclusion of the Civil War, Union Army Major O.E. Hine presented the founders of First Baptist Church with a deed to a small piece of land he owned for the purposes of building educational and religious facilities. Using lumber acquired from the Freedman's Bureau and from barracks that were being torn down, the first church building was erected on Lawyer's Road in the town of Vienna, where the congregation would remain until relocating to its current location on Orchard Street ninety years later in 1957.

Throughout its 150-year history, First Baptist Church of Vienna has served as the spiritual and religious home to countless worshippers. In addition to fulfilling its religious missions, the philanthropic work of the church and its members is extensive, both locally and internationally. Working with area churches, First Baptist has raised over \$28,000 for tsunami relief in Asia and Africa, contributed over \$53,000 to the Community Coalition for Haiti for earthquake relief in that devastated country, and

donated \$5,000 to build a new community college in Zimbabwe.

The congregation has also participated in the Rise Against Hunger campaign, which raised more than \$14,000 and packaged 50,000 meals for communities around the world suffering from chronic hunger.

In our own Northern Virginia community, First Baptist has partnered with numerous nonprofits for a variety of charitable causes, including Habitat for Humanity, the Northern Virginia Clergy Council, OAR Fairfax, and the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Truly, First Baptist Church of Vienna is following the ethos of ministry and working for the betterment of all in our community. This ethos is prominent in Northern Virginia, and I am confident this is part of the reason why this congregation has remained here for as long as it has, and why it will continue to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have been a partner with First Baptist Church of Vienna on many of these initiatives and have been fortunate to join them for worship many times. I commend Pastor Vernon C. Walton as well as former Pastor Kenny Smith for their leadership and devotion to their faith and our community. I also congratulate the entire ministry and congregation on this milestone, and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes due to meeting with a constituent group. Had I been present for roll call vote number 174, Adoption of H. Res. 879—The rule providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 3053—Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2018, I would have voted yea.

RECOGNIZING IOLA "OLIE" ELSE

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Iola "Olie" Else, the long-time rodeo coach at the University of Montana-Western in Dillon.

For more than two decades, Coach Else has been the driving force behind the school's nationally recognized college rodeo team. The Bulldogs place high in the regional standings and compete for national titles. In fact, her teams rank in the top 10 in the National Collegiate Rodeo Association every year.

The National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association named Else Coach of the Year in 2004. She was the first woman to earn the award.

A red blazer and cowbell are Olie's trademarks at college rodeo competitions. UMW rodeo athletes recognize that ringing cowbell from the stands whenever they rope or ride.

Current and former athletes recall her leadership and support that have guided them through college and beyond. Considered more

than just a coach, many of the athletes regard Else as a second mother, and she often refers to them as her kids. Despite the team's regional and national recognition, Else says she's most proud that her kids graduate and go out into the world to make a difference.

Olie is retiring after 25 years as head coach, but it won't be her last rodeo. You can be sure her kids will see and hear her from the stands in future competitions.

In honor of rodeo moms and mothers everywhere, today I honor Iola "Olie" Else for her dedication to education, the sport of college rodeo, and our Montana way of life.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW NIMS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a finalist for the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal in National Security and International Affairs, Mr. Matthew Nims. Presented by the Partnership for Public Service, the Service to America Medals—or the Sammys—are highly respected honors to highlight excellence in our federal workforce. Nominees for the award must show a strong commitment to federal service, a significant accomplishment within their field that meets the needs of the American people, and excellence in customer service to citizens or other beneficiaries.

Matthew Nims, the Acting Director for the Office of Food for Peace at the U.S. Agency for International Development, worked with his team to distribute \$1.4 billion in emergency food assistance to 20 million people in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, and Nigeria, who are threatened by violent conflicts every day and fighting famine. The efforts of Mr. Nims and his team have saved countless lives under harrowing conditions.

With civil war, violence, and terrorism threatening vulnerable populations in those four countries, getting aid to people who are suffering is difficult. Matthew Nims did not let such conditions deter him. According to his colleagues, Mr. Nims was "out in front, meeting with, informing, coordinating, and leading hundreds of USAID staff, others in government and our international partners to choose the right approaches, prioritize the most critical situations, and get food to people swiftly and efficiently when lives were at stake."

In South Sudan, for example, the economy was in a freefall, crime was rampant, travel was difficult, there were few functioning institutions, and some five million people were in need of food assistance. To function effectively under such conditions required Mr. Nims to assess the needs, ensure the safety of his team, find creative ways to deliver food, plan and manage the food distribution, and resolve the day-to-day challenges.

As a former Peace Corps volunteer and USAID employee in Indonesia, Guyana, and Afghanistan, Mr. Nims has brought a unique perspective to his role in the Office of Food for Peace and sees his mission as quite simple: "We work to keep people alive. When there are hungry people out there, we try to feed them." I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Matthew Nims for his work to dis-

tribute food assistance to 20 million people in four countries who are fighting famine and other dangers, and in congratulating Mr. Nims for being a finalist for such a prestigious award.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMBASSY THEATER OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Embassy Theatre in Fort Wayne, Indiana. For 90 years, the Embassy Theatre has been a treasured cultural and performing arts center in downtown Fort Wayne. The Embassy Theater opened its doors on May 14, 1928 as a movie palace and vaudeville house. During its 90-year history, the theater has hosted numerous notable acts, including Perry Como, Tony Bennett, Doris Day, Duke Ellington, and Louis Armstrong.

Sadly, the theater fell on hard times in the 1960's and was closed in 1971. The community of Fort Wayne banded together to save the Embassy, and the Embassy Theater Foundation was founded in 1972. The intent of this organization is to preserve this historic landmark for future generations in northeast Indiana. The foundation sponsored a major renovation of the property in 1995 and continues to support the theater today.

The Embassy Theater is a cherished cultural landmark in Fort Wayne, and we celebrate its 90th anniversary. Congratulations to everyone associated with the Embassy Theater on reaching this important milestone.

CELEBRATING MIKE BUCCI WHO WILL BE HONORED AS PERSON OF THE YEAR BY COLUMBIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anthony Michael "Mike" Bucci Jr., who will be honored as Person of the Year by the Columbia County Association in the City of New York on May 10, 2018.

Born and raised in Hudson, NY, Mike was an honors graduate of Hudson High School, where he was a three-sport letterman. He went on to graduate cum laude from Villanova University in 1983, where he was the captain of the intercollegiate bowling team. Upon graduation, Mike was immediately hired to work for the accounting firm Ernst and Whinney. During his time with the firm, he was responsible for audit and consulting services for more than 100 different audit and tax clients.

1988 brought a new adventure for Mike, as he became the Audit Director and Controller for the NYS Bridge Authority in Highland, NY. In that capacity, he was responsible for a \$10 million annual budget that handled the implementation, maintenance, and adequacy of the Authority's financial and management accounting and reporting systems.