

California, where she taught cooking classes and catered private events for political figures and celebrities such as Governor of California Jerry Brown, Phyllis Diller, Sugar Ray Robinson, Mr. T and Zsa Zsa Gabor. In 1987, right after an earthquake, Mrs. Perry decided to leave California and returned to New Orleans, where she rented a small kitchen located in Mid-City to make her pies and pralines to sell to local restaurants and businesses. Mrs. Perry became a walking vendor of pies and pralines. She was a frequent visitor at City Hall, where staff would chase her down to buy her baked goods.

Mrs. Perry grew that business into a full restaurant on Freret Street in 1991. She ultimately found a permanent home for her much sought-after cooking on historic Magazine Street near Napoleon Avenue in 1994. The shop moved up Magazine Street in 2009 to the corner of Dufossat Street, where the Tee-Eva's shop has remained for over 15 years. From the walk-up window she sold not only baked goods, but also jambalaya, red beans and snowballs.

Mrs. Antoinette K-Doe, the wife of the legendary singer Mr. Ernie K-Doe, was Mrs. Perry third cousin. The two women formed the Paradise Ladies, who always dressed in matching outfits, served as Ernie K-Doe's backup singers. After Ernie K-Doe died in 2001, his wife looked for ways to keep his name alive. In 2003, one of her ideas was to revive the baby dolls, a Carnival tradition dating to the early 20th century where African-American women dressed in short skirt and bloomers. Antoinette K-Doe enlisted Mrs. Perry and Geannie Thomas to help lead a group dubbed the Ernie K-Doe Baby Dolls.

The Ernie K-Doe Baby Dolls continued to gather each year at Carnival, and make special appearances at concerts and cultural events, until Antoinette K-Doe died in 2009.

Mrs. Perry cooking has been featured in countless magazines such as Elle, Home and Garden, Sherman's Travel, Country Living, and Williams-Sonoma. Mrs. Perry also became a television regular via the nationally-syndicated Food Network program "Road Tasted" with Jamie and Bobby Dean, as well as Anthony Bourdain's cooking show on the Travel Channel. Tee Eva retired in 2000, passing all of her Creole family recipes to her granddaughter, Keonna Thornton, who to this day fully owns and operates the business.

Mrs. Perry lived an extraordinary life that cannot be categorized. Her legacy will forever be a part of the city of New Orleans and her dedication to community embodies the spirit of the city. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Mrs. Perry, but surely we can try to match her sense of service. We cannot match her courage, but we can strive to match her devotion.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mrs. Eva Louis "Tee Eva" Perry.

RECOGNIZING RAYMOND "CHIP"
LYNCH OF NASSAU, NEW YORK

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise today to rec-

ognize the prestigious achievements of Mr. Raymond "Chip" Lynch for being named by the Chandler-Young Veterans Association as the recipient of the President's Award. This designation is reserved for those special individuals who have dedicated themselves to their community, country, and fellow veterans.

Chip is a man of great loyalty and selflessness who bravely served our country in the Dominican Republic and in Vietnam War as a member of the United States Army. During his tour in Vietnam, he sustained a severe leg injury while engaged in combat, which led to many months of hospitalization and therapy. When he was offered medical discharge, he declined it because his calling to serve "in country" was stronger. Despite facing some adversity, his determination and patriotism prevailed, and he returned to Vietnam.

Chip has received numerous awards and decorations, including three Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts, and two Army Commendations for Heroism. Although he finished his tour and received an honorable discharge in the early 1970's, Chip's service to our nation has never stopped. For decades, he has been a passionate advocate for veterans throughout Rensselaer County, even saving his local Veterans Post from closure.

The President's Award is a true testament to Chip's continued legacy of patriotism and steadfast commitment to improving the lives of veterans. I can think of no one more deserving of this honor. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Chip on receiving this award. His lifetime of hard work and dedicated service to the United States is inspirational, and I am grateful for his contributions to New York State.

HONORING RICHARD SWIERAT

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Richard P. Swierat. After 35 years of service, Mr. Swierat will retire from his position as Executive Director of The Arc of Westchester, based in Hawthorne, New York, on Friday, June 15, 2018.

Mr. Swierat's career began at a time when people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) experienced widespread mistreatment. Throughout his time at the Arc of Westchester, Mr. Swierat has tirelessly dedicated himself towards fighting injustice in order to shed light on the promise and potential of the I/DD community.

Under Mr. Swierat's leadership, The Arc of Westchester has been on the vanguard of numerous improvements for people with IIDD living in Westchester County. Preschoolers with IIDD, who once were confined to self-contained classrooms, now learn in inclusionary settings, and adults with IIDD can now seek paid community-based employment instead of sheltered workshops. Mr. Swierat has influenced members of the community, in both government and business, and has been critical to helping countless individuals with I/DD live, work, and prosper in the communities that they have always called home.

Mr. Swierat is a member of the Board of Directors of the Business Council of West-

chester, sits on many state and national boards related to the field of developmental disabilities and is an adjunct professor at Western Connecticut State University's Ancell School of Business. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters at Mercy College's 2018 Commencement Ceremony in May for collaborating with the College to make technology available to support people with learning and cognitive delays.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in expressing thanks to Mr. Swierat for his 35 years of outstanding service, commitment and energy to the Arc Movement and to people with disabilities everywhere.

UPON THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF KEVIN MILLER,
CITY MANAGER, FOSTER CITY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Kevin Miller as he retires from his position as City Manager of Foster City. Mr. Miller has served as a city employee for a total of 33 years. He began in the Parks and Recreation Department and, for 23 years, was Director of that department. For the past three years, he's been City Manager. Throughout this time, Kevin Miller has been an outstanding example of candor and thoughtfulness in public service.

Foster City is a community of 34,000 people located on the shores of San Francisco Bay. It is a jewel, with waterways throughout and a culture of physical fitness and activity that would make an Olympic athlete feel at home just going to the local Starbucks. Residents can be found jogging along the levee in the pre-dawn hours, swimming at Gull Park on a Saturday morning, and playing at the assorted soccer, tennis, and baseball facilities throughout the year. The city's website lists 5 parks in a community of 20 square miles. The only thing missing from this exciting community is a bobsled track-Foster City lacks even a molehill, let alone any genuine inclined land.

Former Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Miller, backed by countless active citizens and city council members, is a key reason that this city pulses with athletic joy and energy. He led the charge to create these facilities and to nurture them over decades. He envisioned public places where families could relax or explore or yell and shout. He found land where geese can roam and where rabbits still chew the grass in the early morning. When the Fourth of July fireworks soar over the city's waterways, its residents ply the lagoons and canals in tiny boats. Kevin Miller is a decades-long leader in the creation of opportunities for healthy celebration, adventure, and play.

A few years back, a longtime City Manager retired and the City Council naturally selected Mr. Miller as the successor. It was an easy selection for a challenging time. The Foster City levee had just lost its accreditation by FEMA, and suddenly the person at the tip of the organizational spear was forced to confront a project that eventually penciled out to \$90 million. In the past few weeks, the voters confirmed the judgment of the city council, Kevin and other leaders on his team when 80 percent chose to fix the levee. Protecting lives

and property is Job No. 1 of the City Council, the City Manager, and the highly respected public employees of Foster City.

In addition to serving as City Manager and Parks and Recreation Director, Kevin Miller has participated in economic development, housing and other activities during his time in public service. He has the confidence of the business community because he runs a business-like operation at city hall.

It was many years ago that Kevin graduated from Chico State with a bachelor's degree in parks and recreation administration. He ultimately assumed statewide leadership positions in the Parks and Recreation Association, served on the county's library authority, and assumed positions of regional oversight.

He now says that he wishes to spend more time with Loretta, his wife of 35 years, and their adult children, Jacqueline and Leslie. He's earned it, and we understand if he does more golfing in the future than he has in the past. However, he will be missed. If they could, even the seagulls would give thanks for his leadership because, despite admonishments by their parents to the contrary, children in the parks that Kevin created still love to feed the gulls.

So let me take a moment to note these salutes to the thoughtfulness and professional judgment of Kevin Miller—from the children whose smiles he helped to nurture, from the parents whose homes he helped to secure, from the city employees whose spirits he elevated, from the public safety personnel he strongly supported, from the city councilmembers whose confidence he earned, and from the wildlife who eat well because Kevin left room for their needs when he planned public spaces.

Mr. Speaker, Kevin Miller is the John Philip Sousa of public management. The public is inspired by his work, and he'll leave this chapter of his life with everyone who knows him tapping their toes and moving to his beat as he goes through the door.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER
AND SERVICE OF NORTH BALTI-
MORE'S BONNIE KNAGGS

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the commitment and dedication of long-time reporter and editor, Bonnie Knaggs, who recently retired as editor of the North Baltimore News. Bonnie has dedicated more than half of her life to reporting the news and has done a wonderful job serving the North Baltimore community.

A Bloom Township native and graduate of North Baltimore High School, Bonnie has been a village resident for 80 years. What initially began as a hobby taking picture out of her apartment windows soon transitioned into a career in newspapers. In 1959, Bonnie started work at North Baltimore News selling newspaper subscriptions before being named editor just six years later.

Throughout her decades-long career, Bonnie has served as a bookkeeper, photographer, and reporter. Her work as editor for the newspaper helped ensure that residents

could stay up-to-date on what was happening in their community.

Bonnie helped cover some of the most important moments in her community including the installation of the first traffic lights and a massive fire at the Trout furniture building downtown. I want to thank her for her years of service to North Baltimore and wish her all the best in her well-earned retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 6076

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, with fourteen legislative weeks left in 2018, it is imperative the Congress take up legislation to provide the United States Postal Service with the legislative relief that it needs to stabilize its finances, modernize its business model, and return to solvency in order to continue to provide dependable service to millions of Americans across this country who rely on it.

Last year, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform approved the Postal Service Reform Act of 2017 (H.R. 756) by voice vote. Throughout the process, the Committee worked with the United States Postal Service, private sector stakeholders, and the postal unions in order to report a bill that has near unanimous support. Unfortunately, shortly after the Oversight and Government Reform Committee approved H.R. 756, then-Chairman Chaffetz retired from the House of Representatives, leaving the bill without a primary sponsor.

That is why I am pleased to join my friend Representative MARK MEADOWS to re-introduce the Postal Service Reform Act (H.R. 6076) with the language that the Oversight and Government Reform reported out last year. Like last year's bill, H.R. 6076 would sustain six-day delivery, which provides vital services to millions of Americans and thousands of businesses across the nation. The bill would require the Postal Service to establish and follow a rigorous, empirical, and transparent process when evaluating whether to close postal retail or processing facilities, while empowering the Postal Regulatory Commission with the authority to review and overturn closure decisions. Additionally, the bill would authorize the Postal Service to modernize its business model through innovative service enhancements, such as co-locating retail and government services with postal facilities. This reform would not only boost revenue, but increase convenience to everyday Americans who would benefit from being able to simultaneously renew their drivers licenses while mailing a package. Most importantly, the bill would fix a problem Congress created by providing the Postal Service with relief from the onerous and unnecessarily high prepayment requirements for the Postal Retirement Health Benefit.

The Postal Service plays an important role in the lives of every American and a critical role for our country's economy. Unlike private companies who pick and choose their customers, set their own rates, and can decide to deliver mail and packages only where it is financially beneficial, the Postal Service has a universal service obligation to deliver mail six

days a week to every part of America—rural or urban—for the same price. In fact, companies such as FedEx and UPS use the Postal Service to do "last mile" delivery for many packages in rural areas. And for many Americans, the Postal Service is the only option for them to pay their bills or receive communication and packages, including medicine and goods that they may not otherwise have access to.

Postal Service operations are solely funded by sales revenue from postal products and services. However, the Postal Service faces two obstacles as it attempts to find financial stability and even become profitable. First, with the rise of electronic communications, the Postal Service has experienced a drastic decline in mail volume. In 2008, the USPS delivered 202.7 billion pieces of mail. In each year since 2008, mail volume has declined and in 2017, that number had fallen to 149.5 billion pieces of mail. Unfortunately, the Postal Service mail volume is likely to continue to decline and it is difficult to imagine a scenario where mail volume will go back to the same levels as last decade.

The main driver of the Postal Service's dire financial situation is the requirement that it, unlike any other federal entity, is required to prepay all employee health care benefits, 75 years into the future. The Postal Service first raised concerns about the aggressive payment plan mandated under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (P.L. 109-435) in 2010. That problem was not created by the U.S. Postal Service, the Postmaster General, or its hardworking men and women. Rather, it was Congress that imposed this short-sighted policy decision. For that reason, the responsibility falls on Congress to restore financial stability to the Postal Service.

Without Congressional action to relieve the Postal Service of the pre-funding requirement or a drastic change in mail volume, the Postal Service has reported a financial loss for 11 straight years. In fiscal year 2017, the Postal Service posted a loss of \$2.7 billion. More recently, the Postal Service reported a net loss of \$1.3 billion for the second quarter of fiscal year 2018 alone, more than doubling its losses in the same period a year ago. With declining revenues and increasing unfunded liabilities, the Postal Service is being forced into a downward spiral of cutting services, losing revenue, further downsizing, and eventual bankruptcy.

However, there is room for hope. While mail volume is declining, the Postal Service's package delivery service has been one of the few areas of growth in Postal Service revenues, experiencing double-digit increases in recent years and accounting for nearly 30 percent of its operating revenue in fiscal year 2017. In fact, the demand for the Postal Service to deliver packages for Amazon, FedEx, UPS, and other retailers is so great, that package delivery has expanded to seven days—a competitive edge for the Postal Service. The Postal Service's package delivery services not only help mitigate losses in other areas, but provide the American people with low-cost services for retail purchases.

After more than 9 years and many stalled efforts, leaders in Congress have arrived at a bipartisan framework for postal reform. The effort enjoys support from industry, labor, Democrats, and Republicans—not an insignificant feat. Is it perfect? Did every stakeholder get