

imposed communism, as well as to find commonality between all of Ukraine's ethnicities.

It is during these times that we look to his example of humble, yet powerful leadership. May we remember his sacrifice, and find inspiration in his unflagging commitment to a free and open Ukraine, and his pursuit for liberty.

IVAN DRACH—GIANT OF UKRAINE'S
INDEPENDENCE

Ivan Drach, a giant in Ukraine's movement to independence, died June 19 in a Kyiv hospital at the age of 81.

Drach, a long-time member of the Writer's Union of Ukraine, was a respected and award-winning poet and screenwriter. With his poem "Knife in the Sun," he first came into national prominence during "The Thaw"—a brief period of political and cultural liberalization under then Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

Twenty years later, Drach again came to national and international prominence as a political activist during the Soviet Union's Perestroika period in the late 1980s and then during the early years of Ukraine's independence. The numbers of young men from Ukraine lost in the Soviet Union's war in Afghanistan and the handling of the Chernobyl explosion led to Ukraine's civil society becoming restless with directives from what was euphemistically known as "the center" (Moscow) and were increasingly distrustful of leaders in the Kremlin.

In what began in late 1988 as an initiative of the Writer's Union of Ukraine, a year later had become a national movement. In September 1989, at the founding congress of the "Popular Movement of Ukraine" (Narodnyi Rukh Ukrainy), a grassroots opposition movement known worldwide simply as "Rukh," Drach was elected chairman and an Mykhailo Horyn, a political dissident who had survived the Soviet Gulag, was elected head of Rukh's secretariat. The pair combined focused vision with determined leadership and guided the organization, and civil society, through a tumultuous period in history.

As Rukh's membership grew throughout Ukraine other prominent dissidents, as well as representatives of major ethnic and religious groups in Ukraine assumed leadership roles. However, Drach, although often understated in his actions, was the recognized leader. With the sensibility of a writer, Drach was eloquent in his expression of Rukh's goals and ideals, particularly emphasizing the inclusivity of Rukh. He always spoke in terms of "people of Ukraine," and not "the Ukrainian people."

A recognized tool in the USSR's system of authoritarian governance was routinely to create friction between nationalities in order to weaken opposition. In contrast, Drach and Rukh recognized and spoke to the common interests of all citizens of Ukraine—Ukrainians, Russians, Poles, Jews, Tatars, and others. At the founding congress of Rukh, reflecting upon the principles of Rukh, Drach underscored the importance of multi-ethnic respect within Ukraine stating, "Jews should live better and feel more comfortable in Ukraine than in Moscow, Leningrad, New York, Tel-Aviv, and Jerusalem." While at the helm of Rukh, he actively supported the decision by Rukh's Council of Nationalities to help fund the gathering of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis, the first to be held in Crimea since the group's mass deportation by Stalin in 1944.

In March 4, 1990, in the first politically contested elections in Soviet Ukraine, 111 candidates, including Drach and others from the Democratic Bloc, a political coalition that included the Helsinki Watch Group, and the Green Party, as well as Rukh, were elect-

ed to the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament), breaking the Communist Party's monopoly on political power.

The day after the election, March 5, Drach and other leaders of Rukh, a number of whom, like Drach, were members of the Communist Party, drafted and signed a statement calling for Ukrainian independence, denouncing the Communist Party and calling on the Communist Party to take responsibility for the 1932-33 genocidal famine (the Holodomor), deportations, repressions, the policy of Russification, economic decline and ecological disasters.

In early August, 1991, Drach received international attention at the time President George H.W. Bush came to Kyiv to deliver a speech to the Verkhovna Rada in which he cautioned Ukraine against "suicidal nationalism." (Later named the "Chicken Kiev" speech by the late New York Times columnist Bill Safire).

Before President Bush arrived in Ukraine from Moscow, at a Rukh rally in central Kyiv, Drach surprised the crowd and the media by anticipating Bush's message and repudiating it in advance. "I am afraid that Bush has come here as a messenger for the center . . . We are not a sample of Soviet culture . . . Our culture is the culture of Ukraine, the culture of Ukrainians, Russians who live in Ukraine, Jews, Poles. Ukraine will become independent despite the center. Like the United States that cast off the British Empire, Ukraine will cast off Moscow's Soviet Empire."

One of Drach's most important contributions was his role during the week between August 19, 1991, and August 24, 1991. In response to a coup in Moscow during the early morning hours of August 19, under the direction of Drach, Rukh immediately issued a statement condemning the leaders of the coup and the effort to return the USSR to hardline Communism, away from glasnost and perestroika. Rukh feared a reverse in the course of freedom that had been advanced. Rukh called for a special session of the Verkhovna Rada to be held immediately in order that a strategy be developed to distance Ukraine from the coup in Moscow. Behind the scenes, the leaders of Rukh pressured the members of the Communist majority in parliament to agree to a vote for Ukraine's independence on August 24, the date of the special session. Then, by an almost unanimous vote, parliamentarians passed Ukraine's Declaration of Independence conditioning the declaration upon the vote of the people of Ukraine in a national referendum that was held on December 1, 1991. Ukraine was the only republic of the Soviet Union to condition its independence on a vote of the people.

Drach continued to lead Rukh until the autumn of 1992, and continued to serve in the Verkhovna Rada through several more election cycles.

Born on October 17, 1936, in Enlightens, Kyiv Oblast, Ukrainian SSR, Ivan Fedorovich Drach is survived by his wife Mariya and daughter Maryana, who is the Director of the Ukrainian Service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague. His son Maksym, who had worked as a member of a medical team during the aftermath of Chernobyl, and later suffered health consequences as a result, passed away in 2009 at the age of 44.

Although offered a prominent state burial, Drach declined and was buried in his native village, next to his parents and his son.

—Robert A. McConnell, Co-Founder of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

RECOGNIZING JULIE AND BUCK WATERS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS IN GREATER PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Julie and Buck Waters, the Eighth Annual Hylton Performing Arts Center Awards Gala honorees, for their endless contributions to expanding the reach of the arts in the Greater Prince William County area.

In recognition of the arts being the heart of a civilized society, net proceeds from the annual gala benefit the Hylton Center's many artistic performances, arts education programs, veterans art and outreach initiatives, and the Hylton Center's Endowment. These programs help to ensure the continuation of artistic excellence in performances as well as the accessibility to quality artistic programs.

Over the short, storied history of the Hylton Performing Arts Center, a series of milestones have been reached due to the support and enthusiasm of Julie and Buck Waters. Through their personal philanthropy and volunteerism, Julie and Buck Waters have demonstrated steadfast leadership and commitment to Prince William County, George Mason University, and the Hylton Center. Their dedication has helped the Hylton Center sustain the entertainment, education, and enrichment of Northern Virginia by providing diverse and accessible arts experiences in state-of-the-art venues.

As a member of the first fundraising committee to build the Hylton Center, Buck Waters serves as a member of the George Mason University Prince William Campus Advisory Board. In addition, he is a former chairman of the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Prince William & Manassas Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Potomac Business Committee for the Arts.

Julie Waters is a past recipient of the Kathleen K. Seefeldt Award for the Arts Excellence-Outstanding Volunteer award for her work helping to implement a program to bring children from the area's public school systems to the Hylton Center for performances as a way to expose them to the arts. Julie currently serves on the Hylton Center's Campaign Committee, as the chairman of the Water's Foundation, and as secretary of the Manassas Ballet Theatre.

As avid art enthusiasts, Mr. and Mrs. Waters supported the launch of the new Hylton Center EXTRA! Series. As Leonardo da Vinci once said, "Art is never finished, only abandoned." We can take great comfort in knowing that with the support of Julie and Buck Waters as well as other great benefactors of the Hylton Performing Arts Center, art will never be abandoned in Prince William County. In an effort to continue the advancement of the Hylton Center, Julie and Buck Waters generously named the Practice Room Suite Anteroom within the new Education and Rehearsal Wing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Eighth Annual Hylton Performing Arts Awards Gala honorees, Mr. and Mrs. Waters, for their tireless stewardship of the arts in Greater Prince William County.

HONORING ROBERT FELLION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Fellion who has announced the Napa County Fourth of July Parade for the past thirty years, from 1989 to 2017 and is the Grand Marshal of the 2018 parade.

Mr. Fellion was born in Berkeley, California and moved to Napa County when he was in high school. He graduated from St. Helena High School in 1963. After working for Sears Roebuck and Company for several decades, Mr. Fellion retired and opened Fellion's Deli in Calistoga, California in 1984.

Mr. Fellion has been a constant presence at our local Fourth of July parade as the announcer and many people look forward to hearing him announce the parade each year. This year the community looks forward to Mr. Fellion leading the parade as the Grand Marshal, a well-deserved honor.

Mr. Fellion's commitment to serving our Napa County community does not end with his work for the parade. He has served as an auctioneer for many community fundraisers, including St. Helena High School's athletic booster association and Soroptimist International of Calistoga. Mr. Fellion sponsored a little league team and provided the Calistoga High School football team with breakfast and packed them lunches when they played away games. In recognition for his support of youth activities, Mr. Fellion, along with his wife Carol and his brother Steve, won Calistoga's Citizen of the Year award in 1987.

Mr. Fellion is a current member and past president of the Native Sons of the Golden West, St. Helena. He is also a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Calistoga and an original member of the St. Helena Hall of Fame committee, which is committed to honoring high school athletes and coaches in our community.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Fellion is dedicated to serving our community and has done so for many decades. He is an involved community member who aims to give back to the community that he says raised him. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Robert Fellion here today.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4684 ENSURING ACCESS TO QUALITY SOBER LIVING ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4684, the Ensuring Access to Quality Sober Living Act of 2018.

Opioid abuse has become a public health crisis with devastating consequences, including; overdoses, rising incidence of neonatal abstinence syndrome, homelessness, and unemployment.

H.R. 4684 ensures that the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration has the resources to provide the best

practices for operating recovery houses and to distribute the information to states, and to provide technical assistance to states seeking to adopt such practices.

It is undeniable that, to ensure their path to recovery, victims of substance abuse are in need of proper recovery housing that is free from alcohol and drug use.

People suffering from addiction are in dire need of healthy living environments to ensure a successful transition.

Recovering addicts coming from an environment that does not provide the proper assistance, face many challenges and problems when they later reenter society.

Every day, over 115 Americans die after overdosing on opioids, with more than 64,000 deaths reported in the year 2016.

In 2015, 2588 opioid overdose related deaths were reported in my home state of Texas with Harris County accounting for 318 of those deaths.

It has been reported that 91 percent of victims in recovery will experience a relapse, 59 percent of those will experience a relapse within the first two weeks of sobriety, and 80 percent within a month after discharging from a detox facility.

H.R. 4684 will not only provide addicts with qualified recovery homes but healthy family oriented settings.

Medical research suggests that recovery residencies should be structured like family home, a community living environment which is centered on peer support and connection to services.

These provisions of the bill will provide victims of opioid addiction with much needed guidance.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4684 to show their support in this extremely critical moment in time and ensure that those who have fallen victim to the opioid epidemic are provided with qualified recovery housing.

RECOGNIZING SARAH GOODRICH
OF SALT

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise today to recognize the exemplary career of Ms. Sarah W. Goodrich on the occasion of her retirement from Schoharie Area Long Term (SALT) Development. Since 2012, Ms. Goodrich has remarkably served as the Executive Director of SALT, a non-profit group in Schoharie County, New York that works to promote sustainable community development, natural disaster recovery, and emergency preparedness.

In 2011, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee caused severe flooding and devastation throughout Schoharie County. Ms. Goodrich spearheaded volunteer efforts in the wake of these natural disasters to assist friends, neighbors, and strangers rebuild their homes and communities. Throughout these difficult times, Ms. Goodrich became a cornerstone of disaster recovery within the Schoharie region, and it was her commitment to disaster recovery in the region that directly led to the creation of SALT.

The genuine care and concern she has for her community knows no bounds. In addition to her many years cultivating SALT and making it into a beacon of community development, she has also been an active member of the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council, the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors for the Cooperative Extension of Schoharie County. In recognition and honor of her outstanding commitment to the community, Ms. Goodrich has also received countless awards and accolades.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Goodrich on her much-deserved retirement from SALT. Through her ardent and humble leadership, Ms. Goodrich has been an unfaltering steward and passionate advocate for the community. Her lifetime of hard work is inspirational, and I am grateful for her many and unparalleled contributions to SALT, to Schoharie County, and to New York State.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2018 LITERACY COUNCIL OF
NORTHERN VIRGINIA RECOGNITION
EVENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 6, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia (LCNV) and to congratulate the volunteers, instructors, students, community partners, and others who will be recognized at the 2018 LCNV Recognition Celebration.

The mission of LCNV is to teach adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and understanding English in order to empower them to participate more fully and confidently in their communities and in society as a whole. LCNV serves low-literacy and limited English language proficient adults with a selection of low-cost, moderately intensive courses to help them transition into the workforce or other educational opportunities. LCNV provides the crucial first steps of language and literacy proficiency for workplace, citizenship, and community integration to help adults make measurable improvements in their lives.

Each year LCNV recognizes students and members of the community who have contributed their time, energy, and resources to achieving the mission of LCNV. LCNV will also recognize the recipient of the Patricia M. Donnelly Merit Scholarship. It is my great honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2018 LCNV honorees and scholarship recipient:

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

Cox Charities.

Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships.

Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Douglas 'Kim' Lutz.

Teaching Team of Margaret Breen and Laura Schell.

Library Team of Sally Eckard and Bruce Miller.

PATRICIA M. DONNELLY MERIT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT
Faustine Coulibaly.