

other community resources and during the holidays she can be found organizing food and gift drives for the less fortunate. The designation of Michigan Volunteer of the Year is well deserved. Her passion for volunteerism, patience, kindness, and devotion to the community is inspiring to all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kimberly Ismail and her lifelong commitment to the Dearborn community. Ms. Ismail has positively impacted countless lives in the City of Dearborn as well as across the state of Michigan.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING
OF ROCCO LONGO

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Rocco Longo, who served the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for more than four decades as a public servant.

A resident of Duxbury, Rocco Longo spent his entire life in Massachusetts. Rocco served as Billerica's town manager for three years before accepting the town manager position in Marshfield. His retirement as Marshfield's town manager wrapped up a four-decade career serving in municipal government. In 2018, Rocco was awarded the Joseph Moakley Public Service Award from Bridgewater State University.

Following his retirement, Rocco never truly stopped working. He served in multiple interim positions as well as serving as an instructor in a local government leadership certification program at Suffolk University. In these roles, he is remembered as a great friend who had a talent for bringing people together. He was a calming force in times of trouble, and never failed to lift the spirits of those he worked with.

Rocco Longo led a life dedicated to local government, his community, and his family. He not only excelled in his work, but he was a loving husband to his wife Colleen and father to his children Parker and Tyler. He will be dearly missed in my home state.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Rocco Longo. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his commitment to his family, his local community, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES
SMITH ON HIS RETIREMENT AS
PRESIDENT OF THE MISSOURI
NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mr. Charles Smith, a man who has dedicated his life to the betterment of the public education system in the great state of Missouri. Mr. Smith is retiring after six years as President of the Missouri National Education Association

(MNEA), six years as Vice-President of the same organization, and decades as a public-school teacher. He leaves behind a legacy of magnanimous leadership and a passion for public service, which will continue to impact the lives of young people throughout Missouri.

As Mr. Smith retires from his position as President of the Missouri National Education Association, he will be greatly missed by his peers and colleagues. In this role, he oversaw 35,000 members, while serving as the official spokesperson for the organization, as well as acting as a liaison between local and national leaders. Upon graduation from Northwest Missouri State University, his extensive career began in Kansas City's Center School District. He spent twenty-seven years there, teaching communication arts and advising the journalism program, eventually becoming the chair of the department. Mr. Smith directly impacted the lives of thousands of students throughout his tenure in the Center School District, instilling in young people ambition to pursue their dreams. George Washington Carver once said, "Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom." Mr. Smith's work in education has truly brought that precious freedom to the youth of Missouri through a lifetime of dedicated service and steadfast commitment.

Mr. Charles Smith has a passion for social justice and bettering the lives of others, which is evident by the time he has spent as an activist for the African-American community. He served as the first Vice President of the Missouri NAACP for fourteen years, later becoming the organization's President for the next six. He spent time as the National Chairman of the NEA Black Caucus where he advocated for over 400,000 African-American teachers, education support professionals, college students, retired members, and administrators. He has worked to create an inclusive community in which all people are afforded equal rights and opportunities. Mr. Smith's commitment to advocating for the African-American community in Missouri not only speaks volumes to his meritorious character, but also reflects the legacy he leaves behind, as an educator, activist, and proponent of necessary change.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Charles Smith on his retirement, as he has gone above and beyond the duty of a citizen to give back to his community time and time again. He leaves behind a legacy of great leadership, as his accomplishments continue to grow and touch every corner of our community. He will be greatly missed by his peers, colleagues, and the community that has benefited from Mr. Smith's leadership. I am proud to recognize this exceptional civil servant for the work he has done and the lives he has touched within Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSH
SYRJAMAKI

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the decades-long service of Mr. Josh Syrjamaki and to congratulate him upon his retirement from Congressional service. A na-

tive of the Iron Range of Minnesota, Josh dedicated himself to bettering his neighbors' lives, both in his home state and across the country. His tenure in government began over 25 years ago, as a Committee Clerk in the Minnesota State Senate, and continued through prominent roles in the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

A public servant of the highest order, Josh was a listener whose finger always rested firmly on the pulse of his office's constituents. As a senior aide to the late Senator Paul Wellstone, Mr. Syrjamaki visited every corner of Minnesota, hearing the stories, dreams, and concerns of everyday citizens. His collaborative approach to government continued in his work as Representative Tim Walz's Chief of Staff, where he met with farmers, businesspeople, and local leaders across Minnesota's first district, determined to affect meaningful change and to build a stronger community. This, Madam Speaker, is what representational government is all about.

Mr. Syrjamaki selflessly advocated on behalf of the American people, forcefully supporting needed improvements for our nation's brave veterans. As a National Coordinator for the United Steelworkers Union, Josh organized grassroots campaigns to ensure that laborers received fair wages and job security. In his last months as a Congressional staffer, Josh joined me in structuring my office and developing key strategies to best serve the people of Minnesota's 3rd Congressional District.

Above all, Mr. Syrjamaki always believed, "We all do better, when we all do better." That collectively, people can unite to cultivate a brighter tomorrow. His ability to strategically motivate and inspire fellow citizens produced decades of leadership that improved schools, bettered working conditions, improved the lives of our nation's veterans, and expanded access to health care.

While his tenure in the federal government ended this past March, Josh's unwavering commitment to his fellow citizens continues today in Minnesota. As the Chief of Staff in the State's Bureau of Prisons, Mr. Syrjamaki wields his belief in every person's potential to establish a reformed correctional system that focuses on education, sharply reducing the likelihood that an inmate will reoffend, and producing a more vibrant society.

I am joined by my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives, countless former staff members, and citizens across the great State of Minnesota in expressing my sincere appreciation for Josh's tireless service to this country. I look forward to witnessing his continued success and wish him well on his Congressional retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF
THE VILLAGE OF LOMBARD, IL

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Village of Lombard, and to celebrate its beginnings and the important contributions made by its citizens over its long and vibrant history.

The first European settlers to the region arrived in the early 1830s, enticed by rich farmland and the promise of a better life. Originally known as Babcock's Grove, the Village of Lombard was officially incorporated in 1869 and named in honor of Josia Lewis Lombard, a Chicago banker and real estate developer.

Among the early pioneers to the region were Sheldon and Harriet Peck. Sheldon was a folk artist of some renown, but he and Harriet also are remembered for their vigorous activism in support of women's rights, public education, temperance, and most importantly, the anti-slavery movement. The Pecks made their home a stop on the Underground Railroad and assisted numerous runaway slaves on their journey to freedom. To commemorate their courage, the Peck homestead was inducted in August of 2011 into the National Park-sponsored 'Network to Freedom' program.

The women's suffrage movement also enjoyed one of its earliest triumphs thanks to the inspired advocacy of a Lombard attorney. Ellen Martin successfully argued that the Lombard town charter gave women the right to vote, as it conferred voter status on any resident of Lombard who had reached the age of majority. On April 6, 1891, Ellen Martin cast the first vote by a woman in our state, nearly 30 years before the enactment of the 20th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

I believe the original settlers of Lombard would be deeply proud of the village they established and its distinguished history. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize this profoundly American story of courage, determination, and good works, and to acknowledge the vibrant history and future of the Village of Lombard.

HONORING KATHERINE RAPP, NATIONAL JUNIOR MISS AGRICULTURE USA

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and excitement that I rise today to honor Katherine Rapp of Paxinos, Pennsylvania. Katherine is this year's National Junior Miss Agriculture USA.

Katherine is an exceptional young woman who is incredibly engaged in her community. This Fall, she will attend Danville Area High School and participate in Future Farmers of America and the National Honor Society. At her young age, she has already won Grand and Reserve market hogs at the Bloomsburg Fair and was Grand Champion Market Steer at the Montour-Delong Fair. Given her passion for agriculture, she chose to participate in this year's Miss Agriculture USA competition. I can think of nobody better to promote American agriculture, and our strong Pennsylvania farms and dairies than Katherine.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Katherine on her commitment to agriculture. On behalf of the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, and the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate Katherine on her crown and wish her the best in this and all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE SHELTER ASSOCIATION OF WASHTENAW COUNTY FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County for receiving Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Outstanding Volunteer Organization Award. The association's tremendous dedication to ending homelessness has made a meaningful impact in the Washtenaw County community and makes them a deserving recipient of this honor.

Since 1982, the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County has supported individuals struggling with homelessness in the community. The association provides a variety of services to a diverse group of people experiencing homelessness that are designed to return their sense of hope and dignity. Thanks to the compassionate service of the association, people are given a renewed sense of stability through consistent access to food, shelter, medical care, and other programs that help them learn how to succeed independently.

The volunteers of the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County have made a meaningful difference in Washtenaw County. Through their efforts, they have become the primary provider of services and emergency shelter in the community, and their ceaseless efforts continue to make a positive impact in the lives they touch—evident in their new Art Break Studio that has fostered a safe, creative, and welcoming space that has allowed many to reduce their anxiety and build a greater sense of self-esteem.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County for their exceptional efforts. Their lasting impact on the Washtenaw County community is worthy of commendation.

RECOGNIZING LUCIO "CHIO" GONZALES AND BUTTER TORRES GONZALES

HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership of Lucio "Chio" Gonzales and Butter Torres Gonzales. Together, this couple has dedicated over 60 years of community and public service to the city of Delano, California and the Central Valley.

A native of Blythe, California, Mr. Gonzales settled in the Central Valley in the 1950s after spending his early years working as a migrant farmworker in the region's rich agricultural fields. Mr. and Mrs. Gonzales met in the historic farmworker community of Delano and were married on November 24, 1956. The couple took over ownership and operation of

the People's Market in 1969, and the two worked together side by side managing the grocery store in Delano for 40 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Gonzales formed a strong bond over the years with the Filipino Community of Delano. The two have served as advocates and allies for the inclusion and representation of Filipinos in Delano civic life. They played an instrumental role in electing Leonard T. Velasco to the Delano City Council in 1972, the first Filipino American to serve on the elected body.

Mr. and Mrs. Gonzales have also worked to ensure the success of Delano's Philippine Weekend community celebration for the last 45 years. They have helped build the event from a small community gathering all those years ago, to a large month-long festival that draws thousands of visitors from across the country. It is fitting that Mr. and Mrs. Gonzales are being honored by the community with the 2019 Mabuhay Award.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lucio "Chio" Gonzales and Butter Torres Gonzales for their dedication and service to the Filipino Community of Delano, the city of Delano, and the Central Valley.

HONORING CLARENCE "BUD" RANDALL'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Clarence "Bud" Randall as he celebrates his 100th birthday. Throughout his life, Mr. Randall has demonstrated exemplary patriotism through his service in World War II, and longstanding devotion to his family and friends.

Serving as a Staff Sergeant in the Army's 373rd Engineers Unit during War II, Mr. Randall supported efforts in Germany, France, Belgium, and England. During the war, Mr. Randall worked with his unit of engineers to ensure the safety of his fellow soldiers by clearing mines and constructing floating docks used in Normandy. Notably, at the war's end, Mr. Randall and his unit were among the first service members to enter Nazi concentration camps and liberate those held captive.

After completion of his military service, Mr. Randall returned home to earn a bachelor's degree in accounting from Robert Morris University. In 1969, Mr. Randall moved with his wife and six children to Canton, New York, where he then accepted a job as the Vice President of Business Affairs for St. Lawrence University. Mr. Randall held this position for 16 years before retiring from the University. Today, Mr. Randall remains active, continuing to prepare taxes for clients as an enrolled agent.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the life and service of Mr. Clarence "Bud" Randall. Mr. Randall's life has been one marked by admirable devotion to his family, friends, and country.