

Florence Weiss has been a resident of Concord since 1982. She was first hired by the City of Concord as Downtown Coordinator on June 24, 2002 and eventually became the Downtown Program Manager. Throughout Florence's 17-year career with the City, she has promoted and fostered an increased sense of community in the downtown area, including Todos Santos Plaza.

Florence focused much of her leadership on expanding community events. She has overseen countless events including the popular Music and Market series, which has grown in attendance from an average of 500 attendees to an average of 4,500 attendees. In an effort to keep the music series running in downtown Concord, Florence established the Save our Series program to help fund the event and she has consistently exceeded fundraising goals. She has also overseen the creation of new events such as viewing parties for the Golden State Warriors championship games and Concordstock, an event held in 2008 that celebrated 20 years of concerts in Todos Santos Plaza.

In conjunction with Florence's commitment to increasing attendance at downtown and community events, she has advocated for a healthier and cleaner Concord, most notably by helping to successfully implement a smoking ban in the Downtown District. Even in times of tight budgets, Florence has used her creative problem solving and fostered community engagement and enthusiasm.

Florence Weiss has been a champion for the City of Concord and its residents. We wish her great luck and joy in retirement.

HONORING MELVIN DALE DEARBORN
FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL PERRY

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Firefighter Michael Perry for his twenty-three years of service to the Melvindale-Dearborn Consolidated Fire Department, on the occasion of his retirement.

For more than two decades, Firefighter Michael Perry has persevered in his dedication to public safety and the well-being of his neighbors. In 1996, Perry joined the City of Melvindale's Fire Department as a fire fighter. Shortly after, he was promoted to Firefighter II, and was ultimately promoted to Firefighter III. With an unimpeachable record of service, Michael Perry has been acknowledged for his flawless attendance record, exceptional driving record, and has earned countless honors by his peers, including a Certificate of Special Recognition. His commitment and outstanding service have been recognized by Department Commendation, Meritorious Company Commendation, Fire Chief Company Citation, and Unit Commendation awards.

Please join me in recognizing Firefighter Michael Perry for his years of public service as we wish him well on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL CARRIGAN
FOR YEARS OF DEDICATION AND
SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF ILLINOIS

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Michael Carrigan for a lifetime of vigorous and effective advocacy protecting the rights of workers in my home state of Illinois and working men and women across the United States.

Michael Carrigan's life is a quintessentially American story of talent, determination and deeply felt ambition to build a better world. He began his career as a journeyman wireman and a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Displaying an early talent for organizing, Michael quickly rose through the ranks to become business manager and financial secretary for IBEW Local 146, and then assumed greater positions of responsibility in the Illinois AFL-CIO as Secretary-Treasurer and President. Michael also held a variety of positions of national leadership in organized labor, somehow found time to serve nearly four terms on the Decatur City Council, and briefly as the Mayor of Decatur.

During his tenure as president of the Illinois AFL-CIO, Michael played a key role organizing support to increase the Illinois minimum wage to \$15 an hour, and to enact a \$45 billion dollar capital improvements bill that will fund the repair of aging infrastructure in our state. He continues to work tirelessly to build support for a progressive state income tax that asks our wealthiest citizens to shoulder their fair share of the cost of government, while providing revenue streams sufficient to balance our budget and fund education, important social services, and our state's pension obligations to its workers.

In 2018, Michael was the first Illinois resident to receive the World Peace Prize "Roving Ambassador for Peace" award. In accepting this honor, Michael observed that all peaceful societies are built upon foundations of economic justice: "The Labor Movement and its allies build peace through economic and social justice causes . . . Our fight for justice knows no borders, and the enemies of peace are the enemies of [social and economic] justice."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the 900,000 members of the Illinois AFL-CIO and the millions of hard-working men and women in our country who owe so much to Michael Carrigan, I offer my gratitude for his years of dedicated and selfless service to our country. Although Michael may be retiring from the Illinois AFL-CIO, I know he will not retire from his commitment to public service, and I wish him great success in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Careity Foundation of

North Central Texas. They have been providing direct patient services through the "Careity Celebrity Cutting" for 25 years in Tarrant, Parker, Palo Pinto, Hood, and Johnson Counties in Texas.

Careity provides early detection services to people who may otherwise go without and clinical services for those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Last year, Careity provided over 7600 patient services and has a strong record of responding quickly to patient's needs and caring about the people in the community who have been diagnosed with cancer.

Careity prides itself in a high-profile low-cost event, the "Careity Celebrity Cutting". The uniqueness of the event stands out above other charity events in that the entire venue is donated by the National Cutting Horse Association. All celebrities are volunteers, and Careity has no development or fundraising staff.

Given the competition for supporters that the non-profit industry has faced in the last several years, we can all appreciate this enormous accomplishment which speaks to the strong leadership that has steered the Foundation over the course of its impressive history. Careity exists to provide direct care that saves lives, gives hope, eases pain, and allows cancer patients and families to focus on healing.

I congratulate Careity on this significant milestone.

HONORING THE INNOVATIVE WORK
OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS
IN ILLINOIS'S 10TH DISTRICT

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the creative accomplishments of our local municipalities who have gone above and beyond to serve our communities. Innovation is alive and well in the cities, towns and villages of Illinois's Tenth Congressional District.

Some of these local achievements were recently recognized by the Lake County Municipal League highlighting the commitment, vision and ingenuity of our civic leaders.

The Village of Mundelein, Illinois won top honors for the "Mayor's Cup STEM Challenge", established by Mayor Steve Lentz. The program encourages Mundelein students' interest in fields such as mathematics and engineering, while promoting access to higher education. More than 1,000 students have participated, and 31 businesses have donated more than \$80,000 to the program. Since the Mayor's Cup STEM Challenge was established in 2014, the program has grown significantly and serves as a model for how municipal governments can partner with local schools, students, and businesses for the greater good.

The Village of Bannockburn was also honored for the creation of the Last Mile shuttle pilot program, which sought to solve the Village's transportation problem. The program's goal was to connect Bannockburn Lakes Office Complex with four Metra stations nearby and allow commuters a subsidized Lyft ride to

and from the Office complex and station. Since the creation of the project, more than 900 rides have been provided, and the program continues to see growth. The improvement earned an Honorable Mention at the awards dinner.

Other Lake County municipalities made significant strides in the past year to bolster their local small businesses, improve public safety and beautify their communities. The Village of Beach Park earned an Honorable Mention at the awards dinner for their work with neighboring communities to create the Northern Lakeshore Trail Connectivity Plan, which would improve walking and bicycling connections between five northern lakeshore communities.

We all strive to live in vibrant, healthy and dynamic communities. The work of these, and other, municipalities are helping to realize that dream.

I proudly applaud these municipalities and the dedicated civil servants for their commendable efforts to serve our communities. I look forward to learning more about these innovative efforts, and to continuing to work closely together in the months ahead.

HONORABLE ELBRA M.
WEDGEWORTH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Elbra M. Wedgeworth, who after decades in public service, is retiring.

The Honorable Wedgeworth began her career in public service in 1989 as a Senior Analyst for the Denver City Council. From 1994 to 1996, she served as the Clerk and Recorder for the City and County of Denver, and also served as a member of the Denver Election Commission and as a Denver County Commissioner. In 1999, she was elected as Denver City Council's District 8 Councilwoman. After just four years on the City Council, her fellow Councilmembers unanimously elected her Council President from 2003 to 2005. In 2007, she resigned from the City Council to join Denver Health as Chief Government and Community Relations Officer where she has been active in advancing healthcare policy at the state and federal level. In August 2014, the Elbra M. Wedgeworth Municipal Building was dedicated in her honor in the historic Five Points neighborhood in honor of her service to the City of Denver and State of Colorado.

In addition to her esteemed career, Elbra served on many boards and commissions. In September 2008, she was unanimously elected as President of the Denver Union Station Project Authority Board of Directors and served nine terms as Board President. Under her leadership, the \$500 million Denver Union Station Project opened in May of 2014 on time and under budget. Also, in 2008, she was appointed as the President of the Democratic National Convention Host Committee where she oversaw a widely-viewed successful convention. From 2013 to 2014, Elbra served as the past Chairwoman for the Downtown Denver Partnership Inc., the first person of color male or female to serve as the organization's

chair in its 60-year history, earning her the title of Downtown Denver Partnership Honorary Partner. Throughout all of this, she has served on the Board of Trustees for the University of Redlands in Redlands, California, her college alma mater as well as a Board of Trustee for FirstBank in Colorado from 2017 to present. These positions reflect her leadership abilities, passion for the city and state she loves, and talent for bringing people together to get things done for the betterment of our community.

I want to congratulate The Honorable Elbra Wedgeworth on a long and distinguished career and I wish her all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CHIP
MABUS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Chip Mabus, who passed away on Saturday, November 16th, at the age of 43.

Chip, a resident of Fulton, Mississippi, was a dedicated employee of FL Crane & Sons for 21 years. Chip also served on the American Subcontractors Association National Board and was a member of the Floor Covering Installation Contractors Association, Associated Builders and Contractors, and Associated General Contractors. Chip attended the University of Mississippi and was an avid football fan.

Left to cherish his memory are his three children, Madeline Mabus of Starkville, Mississippi; Mallory Mabus, of Fulton, Mississippi and Samuel Mabus of Fulton, Mississippi; his father, Larry Mabus of Fulton, Mississippi; his sister, Teresa Estes, of Mooreville, Mississippi; his niece, Ashlyn Estes; his nephew, Brody Estes of Mooreville, Mississippi, as well as many more extended family members and friends.

Chip's life was one of grace, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF GARTH C. REEVES, SR.

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Garth C. Reeves, Sr. who sadly passed away in November at the age of 100. Garth was the publisher emeritus of The Miami Times and a voice for the aspirations of African Americans in Miami for most of the past century. He was a man of principle, who after serving in the United States Army during World War II, worked to improve his community through civil rights activism, journalism, and publishing.

Garth was born in Nassau, Bahamas in 1919. He attended Florida A&M University, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in printing in 1940. He served in both the Eu-

ropean and Pacific theaters during World War II, from 1942 to 1946, and later returned to Miami to work under his father, Henry Reeves, who founded The Miami Times newspaper.

Garth dedicated his life to resisting and fighting racism. Taking the helm as publisher and chief executive officer of The Miami Times following his father's passing, he advanced the cause of civil rights and challenged segregation laws with acts of civil disobedience. In 1949, when African Americans were only allowed to play golf on Mondays, he showed up to play on a Wednesday. Garth and others sued for equal access to the golf course and won after a seven-year court battle. And in the 1950s, he was among the first to swim at Crandon Park in defiance of laws that designated it a whites only beach. Today, these may appear to be small acts, but they raised up the black community and highlighted the systemic inequalities facing African Americans each and every day.

Garth's good works didn't stop there. He provided scholarships for students to attend his alma maters, Booker T. Washington High School and Florida A&M University, and he donated to The Black Archives/Lyric Theater. It is no surprise that in 2011, he was recognized by the National Newspaper Publishers Association with the Legacy of Excellence Award, and The Miami Times named as the top black newspaper in the country. More recently, he was inducted into the National Association of Black Journalists' Hall of Fame in 2017.

Madam Speaker, Garth C. Reeves, Sr. was a champion for our community and positively impacted the lives of countless people in Miami and around our nation. I extend my deepest condolences to his family during this extremely difficult time. Garth was a true blessing to so many. His legacy will always endure. I am proud to have called him a friend. He will be dearly missed.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER
2 DAVID CHARLES
KNADLE

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Chief Warrant Officer 2 David Charles Knadle, a father, son, husband and soldier from Fort Worth, Texas.

Born on May 2, 1986, David Knadle fought bravely for our country. David grew up attending North Texas schools and graduated from Richland High School in 2003. He later went on to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth.

In November of 2012, David left his career in accounting to serve his country by joining the U.S. Army. Following his dreams of being an aviator, Knadle attended Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and later graduated from the Warrant Officer Career College at Fort Rucker, Alabama. CW2 Knadle was deployed to Afghanistan in October 2019 as part of Task Force Knight Hawk. On November 20, 2019, CW2 Knadle passed away in an aircraft accident along with his forward pilot and friend, CW2 Takeshi Fuchigami of Hawaii.