

University professor Patricia Reiff and team coach Franklyn Pacheco—fielded a team to compete in this year's International Astronomy Olympiad in Piatra Neamt, Romania.

Jack's tenacity and dedication to making his goals a reality show his incredible character and spirit. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, he makes our Katy community very proud.

HONORING TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MANAGER CASEY HASHIMOTO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor outgoing Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Manager Casey Hashimoto. In his three decades with the district, Mr. Hashimoto has been a consummate professional whose dedication and determination has positively benefited the people and businesses served by TID.

Since beginning his tenure as General Manager in 2010, Mr. Hashimoto has been instrumental in keeping electricity rates some of the lowest in California while also improving the reliability of TID's water and electrical systems. During his time with as General Manager, Mr. Hashimoto has overseen efforts such as design and construction the Hughson-Grayson high voltage transmission line and TID's new state-of-the-art Power Control Center, both of which have helped TID improve their energy efficiency and adapt to the demands of the changing Western energy markets.

Most notably, Mr. Hashimoto has worked tirelessly on the Don Pedro Hydroelectric Project, having led efforts on the complex and complicated relicensing of the 203-megawatt Don Pedro dam, reservoir, and powerhouse. Mr. Hashimoto and his team oversaw a multi-million-dollar extension and upgrade to the Don Pedro Project while continuing to work with numerous stakeholders, federal agencies, tribes, scientists, and recreational outfitters to ensure this project remained a vital resource of the San Joaquin Valley for generations to come.

In addition to his work for TID, Mr. Hashimoto has been active in many influential utility industry organizations, including the California Municipal Utilities Association, the Norwest Power Pool, the Association of California Water Agencies, and the American Public Power Association. It is evident that his accomplishments and industry expertise will continue to make positive impacts in our Valley and the water and power industry long after Mr. Hashimoto's retirement.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring a man whose professionalism and determination has benefited many of the water and power users of California's San Joaquin Valley. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Casey Hashimoto as he retires from his role as General Manager of Turlock Irrigation District. I wish Casey and his family the best as he embarks on this new phase of life.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT THROUGH A NEGOTIATED TWO-STATE SOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DEFazio

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. DEFazio. Mr. Speaker, I will vote in support of H. Res. 326, a non-binding resolution reiterating the U.S. House of Representatives' support for long-standing U.S. policy to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution.

I have consistently supported a two-state solution throughout my time in Congress. While there is no perfect solution to this complex and heated conflict, I believe a negotiated two-state solution between Israeli and Palestinian leaders is a viable framework to achieve security, peace, and address the legitimate needs of both peoples.

Furthermore, I am pleased that H. Res. 326 condemns actions by the Trump administration and the Israeli government under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu which have severely undermined the possibility of a two-state solution.

For example, H. Res. 326 puts the House of Representatives on the record as opposing unilateral annexation of territory. This is an important rebuke of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's disturbing announcement that he plans to annex large swathes of the occupied Palestinian territories, a move that I strongly oppose.

Additionally, I am opposed to President Trump's decision to discontinue bilateral assistance to the Palestinians and U.S. contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). That's why I am pleased H. Res. 326 states that "it is in the United States' interest to continue promoting the security, stability, and humanitarian well-being of Palestinians and their neighbors by resuming the provision of foreign assistance pursuant to United States law."

I am also pleased this resolution opposes the Trump administration's continued greenlighting of Israeli settlement expansion in the West Bank. This declaration is especially timely given the Trump administration's recent outrageous reversal of the decades-long U.S. position that Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories are against international law. I also joined my colleagues in signing a letter condemning President Trump's reversal.

However, while I support this resolution, I believe it should have gone further to address additional actions by the Trump administration and the Netanyahu government which have severely undermined a two-state solution.

For example, H. Res. 326 fails to condemn the Trump administration's decision to recognize the city of Jerusalem as the Israeli capital and to relocate the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, and it fails to denounce the Netanyahu government's continued human rights abuses, including demolition of Palestinian homes and villages, military detention of Palestinian children, and more. Protecting human rights, re-

gardless of any ongoing tension between Israelis and Palestinians, should be a fundamental American value.

Additionally, the original text of H. Res. 326—which I cosponsored—included a call for an "end to the occupation" of Palestinian territory. Unfortunately, this language was removed from the final version brought to the floor.

As an ally of Israel, the United States invests more than \$3 billion in aid to Israel annually, and H. Res. 326 reiterates U.S. support for this aid. Accordingly, I believe it is only appropriate that lawmakers voice their legitimate concerns with Israeli policies in a constructive way, as I have done throughout my time in Congress and will continue to do.

Unfortunately, recent rhetoric over U.S.-Israeli relations and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has devolved into a divisive—and even partisan—war of words. It is only through thoughtful, respectful, nuanced debate that Congress can productively contribute towards resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and addressing the legitimate needs of both peoples. The bottom line is it is critical that the U.S. pursue policies that will move Israelis and Palestinians towards a negotiated, two-state solution, and I will continue to push the Trump administration and Congress to do so.

HONORING MS. KIMMI LEWIS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of Colorado State Representative Kimmi Lewis of Las Animas, Colorado.

Kimmi was proud to serve her community in the Colorado House of Representatives, having represented the 64th district from 2016 until her passing on December 6, 2019. In this role, Kimmi was a champion for Colorado's farmers and ranchers, advocating for their needs and priorities as a member of the Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee. She will be remembered as a treasured member of the community who worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Coloradans.

Beyond her service in the state legislature, Kimmi served as the President of the Trinidad/Las Animas County Republican Women's Club for the past thirty years. In 2007, she received the La Junta Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Award for her efforts to prevent the expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, and in 2009, she received the Southern Colorado Livestock Association Cattlewoman of the Year award in honor of her "dedication and lifetime commitment to our industry, community and our country."

Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Rep. Kimmi Lewis for all her contributions in service of Eastern Colorado and recognize the profound legacy that she leaves behind. It is an honor to celebrate her impact on our community and state.

KATY AMERICAN LEGION POST 164
REMEMBERS OUR FALLEN WARRIORS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize American Legion Post 164 in Katy, Texas for their efforts to honor our fallen service members this holiday season.

As Americans, we know that some of our military service members make the ultimate sacrifice to protect and preserve our way of life. The Wreaths Across America program is a solemn way to honor and remember our fallen heroes by distributing a token of our appreciation and remembrance at this time of year.

American Legion Post 164 worked incredibly hard gathering sponsors to fund their goal of placing 450 wreaths this year. They surpassed this goal in their gracious efforts to remember our fallen warriors, securing enough sponsors to fund over 500 wreaths for the Magnolia Cemetery.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I thank Post 164 for their valiant work to ensure our fallen service members are never forgotten during the holidays and throughout the year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, I was not present to cast votes on Friday, December 6.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 652, YEA on Roll Call No. 653, and NAY on Roll Call No. 654.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STILLWATER, MINNESOTA ROTARY CLUB

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of the Stillwater, Minnesota Rotary Club. Since its founding in 1919, Stillwater Rotary Club has actively advanced the mission of Rotary International by providing service to others, promoting integrity, and fostering world understanding, goodwill, and peace through fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

Stillwater Rotary Club was begun just 14 years after Rotary International was founded by Chicago attorney Paul Harris in 1905. Community leaders in Stillwater shared a desire to serve their community in fellowship with one another, and so joined together to begin the Stillwater Rotary Club. At the time, most Rotary Clubs were located in larger cities, but

following World War I, as smaller communities like Stillwater returned to normal, they sought to refocus to improve their communities. Stillwater's club charter was sponsored by the St. Paul and Minneapolis clubs, and was formally presented to the Stillwater club on September 26, 1919. Today the club has over 60 members from diverse personal and professional backgrounds and are a part of the larger community of 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide.

Throughout their 100 years, the Stillwater Rotary Club has become a prominent community organization as it has chartered new clubs in the area, supported numerous local and international charities, and completed many community service projects. From its earliest years, the club made great contributions to the community, demonstrating the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self". The Stillwater Club sponsored the creation of a bathhouse at Lily Lake Beach, a barge terminal in Stillwater, a tourist camp on the Saint Croix River, and a Scout cabin on Big Marine Lake. In 1927 their seven-year project of lighting Main Street in Stillwater came to fruition; a major accomplishment for the club. They also sponsored the founding of the Washington County Historical Society in 1934, a non-profit educational institution that remains active today with the mission to collect, preserve, and disseminate the vibrant history of Washington County and the greater State of Minnesota.

Today, Kathleen Elbert leads the Stillwater Rotary Club and the organization continues to be a leader in service. Their annual Taste of the Valley event raises funds for non-profit organizations like the American Cancer Society and the Boy Scouts of America, as well as local groups including Stillwater Area High School and the St. Croix Valley Learning Center. The club also takes on international service endeavors through their sponsorship of a hospital in Tanzania, construction of roads in Guatemala, and support of Rotary International's efforts to eradicate polio worldwide among other initiatives.

Rotarians worldwide utilize an ethical guide called the Four-Way Test which asks the following questions: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? These questions are especially prevalent today. Stillwater Rotarians have served their community for a century in agreement with these principles, setting an example for all of us to remember to be truthful, to be fair, to build goodwill and grow in our friendships, and to live our lives in service for others. Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the members of the Stillwater Rotary Club on its 100 years of serving the community.

CITIZENSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY MEMBERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4803, the Citizenship

for Children of Military Members and Civil Servants Act.

I applaud Judiciary Chairman JERROLD NADLER (D-NY) and House Judiciary Ranking Member DOUG COLLINS (R-GA) for introducing this bipartisan legislation aimed to fix a problem in current citizenship laws.

The current citizenship law implemented by this Administration in October, serves as a disadvantage to certain children who are born abroad and reside with a parent serving overseas in the military or as a federal government employee.

Under current law, such children are required to establish U.S. residency in order to obtain citizenship, which can be difficult when a parent is stationed overseas.

This small but important change is the necessary fix for U.S. armed forces and in federal government positions overseas.

I am glad we could work together to introduce this bipartisan legislation that provides greater flexibility and support to those who have dedicated their careers to serving our nation.

American citizens who are deployed members of our military or government officials working abroad should have confidence their children will receive U.S. citizenship.

Military families are already making tremendous sacrifices to serve our country abroad and the children should not have to be penalized.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4803 because our military families should not have to deal with the bureaucracy of this Administration for their children to be United States citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF CANYON GATE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Community Volunteer Fire Department in Canyon Gate for their heroic actions saving the lives of three pets from a burning home.

For many, pets can be a part of our families nearly as much as our brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers are. Losing a pet is hard for everyone, especially in times of tragedy.

The Community Volunteer Fire Department went above and beyond in their duties to make sure a family did not have to go through that pain. While a TX-22 family was away, their house unfortunately caught fire with their three pets—a cat, a dog and a kitten—trapped on the first floor. These heroes risked their lives to ensure that these pets were reunited with their families in the face of disaster.

We send our heartfelt appreciation to the Community Volunteer Fire Department and all our firefighters in TX-22 who put their lives on the line each and every day to rescue those in danger—be they people or pets. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, they make our community very proud.