

REMEMBERING REV. MARY
CLIMONS LACEY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Rev. Mary Climons Lacey, a pillar of our community who passed away this month at the age of 80.

Rev. Lacey made an indelible mark on our communities by tirelessly serving those at the margins. Across Lake County, children in need, the homeless, and inmates and their families directly benefited from her generosity and boundless energy.

Mary broke multiple barriers throughout her life. She was born to humble beginnings, as one of ten children in rural Mississippi. At age 21 she moved to Florida to further her education, where she met her late husband William, and eventually settled in his hometown of Waukegan. She found work as a contractor at Naval Station Great Lakes as well as handmaking elegant hats.

Never one to rest, she continued to study and was ordained a pastor, became a foster parent, and earned a certificate in social work.

In Waukegan, her memory lives on as the namesake of Mary's Mission, a homeless shelter she founded that has provided shelter to hundreds of individuals in times of need, and has helped them develop the job training and skills they need to get back on their feet and live independently.

Mary was also a fierce advocate for children, bringing joy to young residents during the holidays. Mary teamed up with the Waukegan police department to start a toy giveaway program for children who might not receive a gift during the holidays. I had the privilege to join several of her annual Christmas parades from Mary's Mission to the Lake County jail, where she handed out turkeys and toys.

Her perseverance in helping vulnerable people, touched and improved the lives of countless Illinoisans. She truly lived her faith every day, and she will be sorely missed. I extend my heartfelt condolences to her many family and friends who are mourning her passing.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.J.
RES. 31, FURTHER CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS FOR DEPART-
MENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY,
2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for this government spending bill negotiated by the bipartisan Conference Committee. Although the bill is not what I would have drafted, and I recognize that we still have much work to do in the area of humane immigration reform, we simply cannot have another painful, costly, and unnecessary shutdown. The members of our Coast Guard, TSA, and other federal agencies are still recovering from the most recent shutdown.

They deserve certainty, and they need to know that they can continue working and that they will be paid on time. The President must also act responsibly and fulfill his duty to federal workers and those who rely on government services by signing this legislation.

This bill includes many victories I am proud to support; it delivers a pay raise to federal workers to keep pace with the cost of living, invests in the Census to provide a fair and accurate count for underrepresented communities, and dedicates \$17 billion in new infrastructure funding to improve our roads, bridges, and mass transit. The legislation increases investments in small business initiatives for minority and women-owned businesses, which will create jobs. The bill also rejects the Trump Administration's attacks on the environment by denying deep cuts to programs that protect clean water, clean air, and public lands.

As with any compromise, I have serious reservations about some of the provisions in this bill—particularly regarding immigration enforcement. I appreciate that our conferees were able to prevent the wasteful inclusion of any increased funding for an ineffective border wall and include humanitarian assistance funding for migrants, but the House must continue to push for smarter, more compassionate use of resources for border security and immigration enforcement. I am concerned that this bill gives the Department of Homeland Security too much leeway to continue the unchecked targeting and detention of immigrants who pose no threat to public safety, rather than focusing enforcement efforts on high-priority criminals.

I continue to support having the appropriate personnel, equipment, facilities, and resources to address crime and trafficking on our borders, but immigration enforcement should not be militarized and operate with impunity. We can treat individuals in a humane and just manner and still prevent crime, reduce trafficking, and keep our country safe. People fleeing violence in their home countries and seeking asylum in the United States need to be protected, not threatened with more persecution. We must enact commonsense changes to improve accountability and protect the fundamental rights of immigrants—especially those legally seeking asylum. I will keep pushing for rigorous oversight of ICE and reforms to our immigration enforcement system.

This legislation is the product of good-faith negotiations between bipartisan leaders in the House and Senate. I am hopeful that this result demonstrates the futility of chaotic brinkmanship, and I hope that we can learn from this experience to resolve differences through dialogue and trust in the legislative process.

HONORING MS. ANNE M. BRENNAN

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Anne M. Brennan for her 32 years of outstanding Federal service as a civilian attorney for the Department of the Navy (DON) Office of the General Counsel (OGC).

Since she began her distinguished career with DON OGC in 1986, Ms. Brennan has held several attorney positions. Notably, she became a member of the Senior Executive Service in April 2004. In January 2008, she was selected to serve as the Deputy General Counsel, and in August 2009, she was designated Principal Deputy General Counsel. During her tenure in these latter positions as the DON's most senior career attorney, she twice served as the Acting General Counsel of the Navy—a presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed position—from May 2009 to March 2010, and from January 2017 to February 2019.

From advising the Secretary of the Navy in the wake of the Washington Navy Yard shootings to serving as a linchpin of efforts between senior DON leadership, numerous DON stakeholders, the Department of Justice, and a United States Attorney's Office on an extremely high-profile criminal fraud case, Ms. Brennan has distinguished herself as an extraordinary attorney, who has consistently exceeded expectations by working tirelessly to provide proactive, accurate, and innovative legal advice on legally complex, politically sensitive issues implicating business, procurement, fiscal, labor, ethics, environmental, and intelligence law. Additionally, she has demonstrated an unmatched record of leadership while overseeing and coordinating the provision of legal advice by more than 750 civilian and military attorneys within DON OGC, ensuring the successful execution of the Navy and Marine Corps missions worldwide.

Throughout her illustrious career, Ms. Brennan has received various awards for her outstanding contributions to the DON, the Department of Defense (DoD), and the Nation. These include the DON Meritorious, Superior, and Distinguished Civilian Service Awards, the DoD Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the Presidential Rank Awards of Meritorious and Distinguished Executive, the William R. Molzahn Leadership Award, and other performance-related accolades.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Anne M. Brennan as she retires from Federal service.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO RE-
QUIRE THE LIBRARY OF CON-
GRESS TO INSTALL THE D.C.
SEAL IN THE MAIN READING
ROOM OF THE THOMAS JEFFER-
SON BUILDING

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to require the Library of Congress to install the District of Columbia seal in the Main Reading Room of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress. The Library is one of the few buildings in the District that remains open to the public on most holidays. It provides not only D.C. residents but visitors and researchers from across the nation with access to incomparable resources. The bill requires the Library to depict the District's seal on the stained-glass windows in the Main Reading Room, where the seals of all

the states and territories that existed when the building was constructed, except for the District, are depicted. D.C.'s seal was readily available at that time and should have been included. The seals of Hawaii and Alaska are not included in the display because they were not states or territories when the building was constructed. The fact that these two states were not part of the Union at the time of the creation of the stained-glass windows argues for the inclusion of the District, which, after all, was in fact the nation's capital at the time. We are asking that the omission of D.C. be corrected immediately. This omission was brought to my attention by a District resident, Luis Landau, a former docent at the Library.

The residents of the District have always had all the obligations of American citizenship, including paying federal taxes and serving in all the nation's wars, including the War of 1812, during which the Capitol building, which then housed the Library of Congress, was burned, prompting construction of the current Library building with the state and territory seals. It is, therefore, without question that the District and its residents should receive equal treatment among the stained-glass windows that portray the history of the United States. D.C. residents deserve to have their history and American citizenship recognized.

There is existing evidence that the seal of the District should have been depicted. The Members of Congress room in the Jefferson Building, which is not open to the public, has a painted depiction of the D.C. seal, along with state seals, on its ceiling. This precedent reinforces our request to be represented among the stained-glass windows in the Main Reading Room, which is open to the public. There is no reason why the D.C. seal cannot be added with the planned restoration of the stained-glass. The right time to add the seal of the District would be during the planned restoration.

Congress already includes the District, or has corrected the omission of the District, when honoring the states. For example, the World War II Memorial includes a column representing the District, and D.C.'s Frederick Douglass statue now sits in the Capitol alongside statues from the 50 states. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 requires the armed services to display the District flag whenever the flags of the states are displayed. Legislation was also enacted to give D.C. a coin after it was omitted from legislation creating coins for the 50 states. We also successfully worked with the U.S. Postal Service to create a D.C. stamp, like the stamps for the 50 states, and worked with the National Park Service to add the D.C. flag alongside the state flags across from Union Station. It is long overdue to display the D.C. seal, along with the seals of the states, in the Main Reading Room of the Library of Congress.

I urge support of this legislation.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BETA RHO CHAPTER OF TRI KAPPA INCORPORATED

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinguished pleasure to recognize the Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa Incorporated, as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary. A century of outstanding dedication to the community through philanthropic service and support is certainly an amazing accomplishment. In honor of this momentous milestone, a 100th anniversary banquet will take place on Sunday, February 24, 2019, at Innsbrook Country Club in Merrillville, Indiana.

Tri Kappa Incorporated was organized on February 22, 1901, in Indianapolis. Throughout the state of Indiana, there are 146 chapters, 110 associate chapters, and approximately 9,000 members. The organization's mission is to promote charity, culture, and education by supporting philanthropic establishments and projects within its local communities. Each year, the members of Tri Kappa give over 300,000 hours of service to their mission and raise over \$1.5 million for college students, charities, and cultural organizations.

The Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa was established in Gary, Indiana, on February 21, 1919. The organization is truly thankful and indebted to the strong women who founded the Beta Rho Chapter. The charter officers are Rose Dorman, president, Anita Bailey, vice president, Minnie Milteer, recording secretary, Esther McCauley, corresponding secretary, and Anne Gibson, treasurer. Additional founding members include Lone Hodge, Geraldine Newman, Marcelle Miller, May Hake, Genevieve Michally, Marcia Lamb, Maude Norris, Marjory Hutton, and Edna Emley. These women laid the foundation for the successful organization it is today.

Each year, the members and leaders of the Gary Chapter give passionately and selflessly of their time, energy, and support to numerous deserving organizations throughout the region, including the Northwest Indiana Symphony, Sojourner Truth House, Meals on Wheels, Food Bank of Northwest Indiana, South Shore Arts Northwest Indiana, and Lakeshore Public Television, to name a few. In addition, academic scholarships are given to commendable students each year. For their significant contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, the members and leaders of the Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa Incorporated are truly worthy of the highest praise.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa Incorporated as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary. The members of this outstanding organization have dedicated themselves to serving others and continue to improve the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana; they serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING MR. JEFF VAZZANA FOR BEING SELECTED AS A FINALIST FOR THE GOLDEN APPLE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jeff Vazzana of Shepard High School for being selected as a finalist for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. Through his devotion to his students, Mr. Vazzana prepares and empowers them for a better future—a mission deserving of this prestigious recognition.

The Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching was created in 1985 by Martin and Patricia Koldyke. The Koldykes felt that teachers were not receiving adequate recognition for the work they do in their classrooms and their communities. This year, 32 finalists from across the State of Illinois were selected from a record-setting number of over 550 high school teacher nominations across 71 counties. The Golden Apple Foundation's mission is to develop and support aspiring teachers to be successful in schools-of-need in Illinois.

Mr. Vazzana teaches English and endeavors to help students gain new perspectives. He has worked hard to connect with students beyond the traditional academic classroom. These efforts have ranged from inviting former graduates to speak about their struggles in high school to acting as the school's Drama Director, bringing important topics to the forefront of developing adolescent minds.

As a finalist, Mr. Vazzana is being recognized for his energy, enthusiasm, and mastery of the classroom. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Vazzana. He is well deserving of this praise and I am proud to represent such a talented educator.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF NCIS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DAVID ELSWICK

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Assistant Director David L. Elswick who will retire after nearly ten years of distinguished service at NCIS and nearly 40 years of dedicated service to our nation.

Mr. Elswick began his federal service in 1977 when he enlisted in the Marine Corps after graduating early from College Park High School. He went on to become a Drill Instructor in the Marine Corps where he held the important responsibility of "making Marines." Throughout his 21-years of service as a U.S. Marine, Mr. Elswick's assignments took him and his family to California, Texas, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and finally, Quantico, Virginia. Mr. Elswick's awards and decorations include: The Presidential Service Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement