

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. VISCOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 22, 2019*

Mr. VISCOSKY. 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 Ione 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

Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Commendation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Before joining NCIS, Mr. Elswick held assignments of increasing responsibility with several government agencies including the Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Library of Congress and the Department of Homeland Security. Continuing his career at NCIS, Mr. Elswick held the leadership positions of Deputy Assistant Director for Planning and Evaluation, Assistant Director of the Manpower, Planning and Support Directorate, Chief of Staff, and retiring after serving as the Assistant Director of the NCIS Administration and Logistics Directorate.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the tremendous accomplishments of David L. Elswick. Words alone cannot express our gratitude for his service. May God bless him and his family as they transition into retirement.

HONORING ROB GIORDANO

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 22, 2019*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Sheriff Rob Giordano on the occasion of his retirement. Sheriff Giordano has served with distinction over the course of his twenty-two-year career in law enforcement and was the leader the public needed during one of our region's most destructive wildfires to date.

Born in Concord, California, Rob Giordano was working as a mechanic when he felt a calling to join law enforcement. He began his law enforcement career in 1989, serving as a police officer for the Pittsburg Police Department in Contra Costa County. Seven years later, Officer Giordano moved to Sonoma County to serve as a Deputy for the Sonoma County Sheriff's office. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2003, where he supervised the main office patrol, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Unit, and the Violent Crimes Unit. Sergeant Giordano continued to prove himself as a leader and was promoted to Lieutenant only three years later, where he managed the Investigations Bureau and Internal Affairs Bureau, among others. Lieutenant Giordano was promoted again in 2012, this time to Captain of the Field Services Section. In 2014, after eighteen years with the department, Captain Giordano was promoted to Assistant Sheriff.

By August of 2017, Assistant Sheriff Giordano was promoted to Interim Sheriff when the seated sheriff stepped down for health reasons. His status as Sheriff was made official by the Board of Supervisors shortly thereafter, and he was appointed to serve the remainder of the previous Sheriff's term. Sheriff Giordano never sought the role, and in fact, he pledged to not seek election to the position following to the term's conclusion. He wanted to ensure continuity for the department and the public prior to the next election. However, Sheriff Giordano probably didn't expect was that within two months, his leadership signifi-

cantly changed the way the community engages with the Sheriff's Office.

On October 8, 2017, one of the most destructive fires in California history caused in Sonoma County. Upon receiving the news, Sheriff Giordano and his team sprung into action, not only saving lives but actively communicating with a frightened public. To many watching the events unfold from afar, Sheriff Giordano became the face of the community, holding press conferences daily while the fires were still being contained. His actions as a communicator, along with the office's increased use of social media not only helped calm a community in shock but also saved lives by sharing critical information in a timely manner. By the time the fires were contained, many called for Sheriff Giordano to forgo his initial pledge and seek election to continue on as the county's Sheriff. Sheriff Giordano remained committed to his pledge and instead focused on getting the Sheriff's Office ready for the transition to new leadership while continuing to build good will between the department and the public.

Madam Speaker, Sheriff Giordano's law enforcement career is a sterling example of leadership that prioritizes service to the public above personal gain. Over the course of his time with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office, he has not only improved the performance of the divisions and units he has overseen, but has also greatly improved the way the community engages with law enforcement. Therefore, please join me in honoring Sheriff Giordano on the occasion of his retirement and wishing him success on his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ROY DOUGLAS AND SHIRLEY ANN MALONSON OF HOUSTON, TEXAS ENTREPRENEURS, PHILANTHROPISTS, COMMUNITY LEADERS WHOSE LIFETIME OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT HAS ENRICHED OUR NATION

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 22, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Roy Douglas and Shirley Ann Malonson, two great Americans in the City of Houston and Harris County, Texas, whose entrepreneurial talents and zeal over the past three decades has raised the consciousness of Houston's African American community to the life-changing potential of the free enterprise system and created thousands of jobs in the Acres Home Community located in my congressional district and Houston Metroplex.

Acres Homes, once considered the South's largest unincorporated black community, is south of Aldine and ten miles northwest of downtown Houston in Harris County. It developed around the time of World War I, when landholders began selling off home sites in plots big enough to allow small gardens and maintain chickens or farm animals. The town derived its name from the fact that land was sold by the acre and not by the lot. The first settlers came from rural areas, attracted by the community's inexpensive land, low taxes, and the absence of city building standards. Residents dug wells and built sanitary facil-

ties, but conditions in the settlement subsequently declined. When the city of Houston approved a plan to annex the area and install water and sewer lines, Acres Homes was a 12½-square-mile, heavily wooded, and dispersed slum settlement lacking transportation and educational facilities. Although 90 percent of the residents were homeowners, the majority of the housing stock was substandard.

In 1950, Roy Malonson was afflicted with polio that left him with physical limitations, but it had no effect on his vision and drive. His late father, John Curley Malonson, Sr., challenged him by saying, "something is wrong with your leg, but there is nothing wrong with your mind, so work with what you have." At age 7, Roy Malonson was shining shoes in his father's barber shop and by age 13 had opened a woodworking shop. The woodworking company grew to become Roy's Custom Cabinets which later became the Malonson Construction Company which became Malonson Custom Homes and is now the Malonson Company, Inc., one of the largest and best African American custom home-builders in Houston.

In the early 1990s, Roy Malonson developed new health problems, struck by what has come to be called the "Post-Polio Syndrome." Once again using mind over physical limitation, Roy Malonson overcame and adapted. He retired from his 27-year old building business, reduced his workday, and devoted more time to community service and businesses he could manage. This enabled him to devote and donate more time and financial support to the many educational and community organizations he helped establish, including the Acres Home War on Drugs, the first community war on drugs in the nation.

Roy and Shirley Malonson also founded the Acres Home Citizen Chamber of Commerce, focusing on business, community, and education; the Acres Home Community Development Corp, focusing on housing; the Acres Home Coalition Administrative School, the first charter school in Texas; and in 1994 the Acres Home Center for Business & Economic Development, a non-profit 501(c)(3) which has become recognized as a cornerstone providing leadership, as well as personal and professional development opportunities to small businesses and entrepreneurs in the community.

The Malons were the driving force behind Aldine Independent School District Montessori-Magnet Programs, the Lone Star Community College System Victory Center, the Acres Home Multiservice Center, and the Acres Home Police Station.

Roy and Shirley Malonson invested in and uplifted the Acres Home Community by establishing in 1992 Shirley Ann's Black Art & Collectibles Showroom, the largest Black Art & Collectibles Showroom in Texas and one of the largest in the nation. In 1996 they established African American News & Issues, the largest African American newspaper in Texas and one of the largest in the nation. And in 1998, with one mission in mind, to offer and deliver pizza in the African American community, they purchased two Domino's Pizza stores, the South Victory and Ella locations, and had controlling interest in a total of ten locations throughout Houston.

Roy and Shirley Ann Malonson continued their entrepreneurial zeal and commitment to the Acres Home community by establishing in