

Bernie is best known for his passion for preserving the environment. He has made extraordinary efforts to clean and maintain the Lackawanna River watershed, an area that encompasses 350 square miles across four counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Bernie was also instrumental in establishing the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority. Under his direction, the Lackawanna River Conservation Association acquired sections of railbed that are now incorporated into the Lackawanna Heritage Trail. As Vice President of the Rail Trail Council, his work resulted in the acquisition of 40 miles of D&H railbed. As Executive Director for Lackawanna Valley Conservancy, he was successful in protecting 18 properties totaling 200 acres.

He is also a great supporter of the arts. Bernie is an active member of the Mulberry Poets and Writers Association. A lifelong learner, Bernie satisfies his intellectual curiosity and takes it upon himself to study different disciplines, including geology, history, ecology, and various aspects of engineering.

It is an honor to recognize a fellow environmentalist and public servant for all the great work he has done. May he continue to work for the good of the natural world and our community. I wish Bernard the best as he accepts the Paul "Hook" O'Malley Man of the Year the Award.

FRANK ALLEN-TATE ERICKSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Frank Allen-Tate Erickson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Frank Allen-Tate Erickson is a student at Oberson Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Frank Allen-Tate Erickson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Frank Allen-Tate Erickson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING SAINT THOMAS MIDTOWN HOSPITAL ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital is the largest faith based nonprofit hospital in Middle

Tennessee, providing spiritually centered, holistic care that sustains and improves the Nashville community.

With its 683 licensed acute care beds, more than 2,000 employees, 1053 physicians, and 425 allied health providers on staff, Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital delivers world class care and makes a tremendous impact on Nashville and the surrounding counties every day.

Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital provides a wide variety of vital inpatient and outpatient services. The clinical programs and medical facilities are continuously updated to meet both the changing needs of the community and the challenges posed by new discoveries and innovations in technology.

Saint Thomas Midtown began its healing ministry in Nashville as Protestant Hospital on March 20, 1919. The ownership of Protestant Hospital was transferred to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1948 and became Mid-State Baptist Hospital. The name was later changed to Baptist Hospital on December 17, 1964. In January 2002, Baptist Hospital joined Saint Thomas Health's regional health system and became a member of Ascension, a Catholic Health System that is the largest non-profit, faith based health system in the United States. In 2013, the name was changed from Baptist Hospital to Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital.

Despite its evolution and many name changes over the years, one thing has remained constant. Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital has always been dedicated to improving the health of our entire community, especially the poor and most vulnerable.

We are fortunate to have a ministry like Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital providing compassionate care in the great state of Tennessee for the past 100 years. I hope that Nashville is lucky enough to have Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital caring for our citizens for 100 more years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND, INC.

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the United Negro College Fund, Inc. (UNCF). In its 75 years of existence, UNCF has helped thousands of students attend colleges and universities throughout the country; Through their work, they have created leaders and proud members of our communities whose contributions to the United States are immeasurable.

The UNCF was founded in 1944 to help increase the total number of black Americans enrolled in college. UNCF traces its founding to Frederick Douglass Patterson, who wrote an open letter in the Pittsburgh Courier to presidents of other private black colleges in 1934 urging them to "pool their small monies and make a united appeal to the national conscience."

Today, UNCF is a strong organization with a profound mission to build a robust and nationally-recognized pipeline of under-rep-

resented students who, because of UNCF support, become highly-qualified college graduates. UNCF also seeks to ensure their network of 37-member Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) is a respected model of best practice in moving students to and through college and then into the workforce.

As co-Chair of the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus, I am proud to represent the many HBCUs in Alabama and advocate for the betterment of all HBCUs across the country. I have appreciated working with UNCF to accomplish this mission.

Since its founding, UNCF has raised more than \$4.8 billion in scholarship aid for students. Each year, UNCF awards scholarships and internships to more than 10,000 students at 1,100 colleges and universities nationwide. Overall, more than 445,000 students have earned college degrees due to the support provided by UNCF.

It is impossible to measure the legacy and contributions of UNCF. Madam Speaker, please join me in commemorating the constant investments by UNCF in our low-income, first generation college students and HBCUs, and all of the immeasurable good they have done for our students and our nation.

JAEILYN VELASQUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jaelyn Velasquez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jaelyn Velasquez is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated Jaelyn Velasquez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jaelyn Velasquez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 AAAA STATE CHAMPIONS: THE BAINBRIDGE BEARCATS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018-2019 AAAA Football Georgia State Champions, the Bainbridge High School Bearcats of Bainbridge, Georgia. The team will be celebrating this significant milestone with a celebration on Monday, March 18, 2019, at Centennial Field in Bainbridge, Georgia.

On Tuesday, December 11, 2018, the Bearcats won the state championship game against the Warner Robins Demons (47–41) in triple overtime. This historic victory marked the second state football title in Bearcat history and the first since 1982. The team has played both their lowest-scoring and highest-scoring games of the season against the Demons, scoring zero points in October of 2018 and 47 points at the state championship game in December.

Their victory in this year's AAAA state championship embodied decades of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into an unbelievable season of athletic excellence and teamwork. The Bainbridge Bearcats is the first team in Georgia since 1992 to go from a .500 winning percentage or below to state champions. The team traveled over 1,853 miles and went on to defeat five consecutive top ten opponents for the first time in school history, won four consecutive state playoff road wins for the first time in the school's history, and finished with a 10+ win season for only the 6th time in school history.

The Bainbridge Bearcats finished their season with a seven-game winning streak, five of which were on the road. The team also set school records for interceptions returned for touchdowns, sacks, and blocked kicks and punts. Additionally, the team's seniors completed their high school career with an astonishing 36–16 record, the best for any senior class in school history.

I cannot put into words the amount of pride that the citizens of Bainbridge, and indeed in the entire Second Congressional District, has in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes its own. They have accomplished an incredible feat, one that could not have been possible without the tireless leadership and encouragement from their head coach, Jeff Littleton and his staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the community who believed in their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 constituents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in recognizing these hardworking young men who have persevered, made sacrifices, and developed the character that will help them to succeed in other aspects of life, and in congratulating them on their historic achievement.

EMILIE WEHR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emilie Wehr for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Emilie Wehr is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Emilie Wehr is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emilie Wehr for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE 1988 SUMGAIT POGROMS AGAINST THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I stand in solidarity with the Armenian American community in commemorating the February 1988 Sumgait Pogroms. Thirty-one years ago in the Azerbaijani town of Sumgait, peaceful Armenian residents were brutally targeted on the basis of their ethnicity and subjected to unspeakable crimes. In March 1988, The Economist reported the atrocities and documented the murder and mutilation of pregnant Armenian women and newborn babies in a maternity hospital. Other mainstream media reports from the time speak of Azerbaijani mobs hunting down Armenian families and committing murder, rape and property theft.

The Sumgait Pogroms were the beginning of an escalation of violence against the Armenian minority, with a wave of anti-Armenian violence spreading to Kirovabad in November 1988 and to Baku in January 1990, which culminated in the forcible expulsion of 390,000 Armenians from Azerbaijan and the 1991–94 war over Artsakh (the former Nagorno Karabakh).

In response to the Sumgait and Kirovabad pogroms, Nobel Prize-winning dissident, nuclear physicist and human rights activist, Andrei Sakharov, appealed to the international community to condemn the atrocities and prevent further violence by stating: "Armenian people are again facing the threat of genocide. The events in Sumgait and Kirovabad may be its beginning. This must not be allowed to happen!" (November 26, 1988, The New York Times)

The government of Azerbaijan must be held accountable by the international community for the pogroms committed against its minority Armenian population, and I will continue to work in Congress to shed light on and learn the lessons of such atrocities.

DMITRII ZHELEZOGLO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dmitrii Zhelezoglo for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Dmitrii Zhelezoglo is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dmitrii Zhelezoglo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard

work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dmitrii Zhelezoglo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN MEMORY OF SEAMAN FIRST CLASS EARL PAUL BAUM

HON. AL LAWSON, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great personal sadness that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Seaman First Class Earl Paul Baum, who was killed in action on December 7, 1941, when his battleship, the USS *Oklahoma*, was attacked in Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii. He was 19 years old. Seaman First Class Baum served his country admirably with courage and dedication. It was a tragedy that he was taken from us so young. Many brave and dedicated individuals who serve our country every day are faced with life threatening challenges, and when we lose one of them, their loss is felt throughout our nation.

Seaman First Class Baum joined in the U.S. Navy when he was 18 years old, leaving behind his parents, a brother and three sisters in Chicago for a naval base 4,000 miles away. He served on the USS *Oklahoma* as a printer when the ship was struck by seven torpedoes, capsized and sank within ten minutes. Four hundred and twenty-nine sailors and marines perished, from a total crew of 1,353.

Madam Speaker, his legacy provides an extraordinary example for other young men and women who aspire to serve.

I hope it is a comfort to his sisters Emily Golz and May Gresh, his twelve nieces and nephews, and numerous great and great, great nieces and nephews, to know that so many in our community and around our nation respected and admired Seaman First Class Baum and thank him for his ultimate sacrifice.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOLLY GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of nine outstanding sixth graders at Holly Grove Middle School—one of ten national finalists in the 2019 Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest.

This nationwide competition challenges students to use science, technology, engineering and math skills to formulate ideas for addressing local issues in their communities.

The group of sixth graders at Holly Grove developed an innovative bus stop sign that activates flashing lights to alert nearby drivers and pedestrians when a bus is 300 feet away. The advanced stop sign is powered by solar