

Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE RFK MEMORIAL STADIUM CAMPUS CONVEYANCE ACT

## HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce a bill, the RFK Memorial Stadium Campus Conveyance Act, to direct the federal government to sell for fair market value the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium (RFK) to the District of Columbia.

RFK, once an active sports stadium, for years has been a rusted stadium surrounded by deterioration and several parking lots. The District leases the RFK site from the Department of the Interior and, under the terms of the lease, may only use the land for recreation, stadium purposes and open space. The lease expires in 2038. The stadium and its many parking lots comprise 88 percent of the 190-acre campus, which currently has only 22.3 acres of green space and is largely hardscape.

The District recognizes the vast potential of this sprawling campus in the heart of the city to provide significant value to residents while also strengthening the local economy and neighborhood. The current lease and its accompanying restrictions have limited the District's ability to make full use of this land, including collecting tax revenue. The limited number of years remaining on the current lease have also complicated the District's ability to plan for the long-term development of this site and attract private investment.

The District has worked hard to identify creative utilization options for the property despite the uncertainty surrounding long-term control of the land. In August of last year, the District began work on its efforts to redevelop one of the site's many parking lots into multipurpose playing fields as part of a larger recreation complex. The conveyance of the site will give the District the ability to consider more uses for this site including additional green space for public use, housing, commercial development and other enhancements that would benefit the surrounding neighborhood and the District as a whole.

This bill, at no cost to the federal government, would provide the District with the certainty that it needs to secure financing and proceed with long-term planning for this site. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

# IN REMEMBRANCE OF HARRISON "SMITTY" MILTON SMITH, JR.

## HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Harrison "Smitty" Milton Smith, Jr., who passed away at the age of 83 years old on February 12, 2019.

Harrison's service to our nation spans 20 years, including time in both the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Air Force and active duty service overseas during the Vietnam War. After his military career, Smitty worked for the U.S. Postal Service and retired after 21 years. He was a member of the Fredericksburg Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

Harrison is survived by his wife Donna Lee Smith, five children, Elizabeth Terry Thompson and her husband Paul, Mike Smith, Don Smith and his wife Virginia, Rosie McCauley and her husband Dave, Harrison Smith III and his wife Melissa; one sister, Theresa Willis; 20 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in remembrance of Harrison "Smitty" Milton Smith, Jr. Words alone cannot express our gratitude for his life of service. May God bless Smith and his family during this difficult time.

## ALICIA LARA

## HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

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

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

The dedication demonstrated by Alicia Lara 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 Alicia Lara 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 RECOGNITION OF DR. REGINALD T. HARDAWAY, SR.'S LIFETIME OF SERVICE

## HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Reginald T. Hardaway, Sr. as he celebrates his 74th birthday. He has enriched countless lives through his public service.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Hardaway dedicated his life to serving others and teaching students. He is a retired college professor, most recently teaching in the graduate schools of education and business at Concordia University in Chicago. During his distinguished career, Dr. Hardaway had writings such as *The Keys to America's Kingdom: Business, Education and Politics* published. Dr. Hardaway has received various awards and nominations throughout his life, including

Who's Who in America's Education, Distinguished Leadership Award for Outstanding Contributions to Contemporary Society, Outstanding young Man of America and the Archbishop James P. Lyke African American Male Image Award.

In addition to his storied career, Dr. Hardaway is a devoted husband and father to his two sons. He is a lifelong fan of baseball, a sport that he played semi-professionally and continues to enjoy today. Dr. Hardaway is a valuable member of his community, and we are all grateful for his contributions to the next generation of business and educational leaders.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Dr. Reginald T. Hardaway, Sr. on his 74th birthday. His life has been dedicated to family, faith and serving others.

# IN RECOGNITION OF TOM BRYMER

## HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Tom Brymer, who is retiring from his dual leadership roles as the Town Manager of Westlake and Superintendent of Westlake Academy.

Mr. Brymer has devoted more than four decades of his life to public service. Before coming to Westlake in 2008, he held leadership roles in Gilmer, Lockhart, Bryan, and College Station, Texas, as well as Olathe, Kansas.

As Superintendent of Westlake Academy, Mr. Brymer has had the unique opportunity to lead Texas' only municipally-owned, open-enrollment charter school. Under his leadership, the school's enrollment has more than doubled, and it has added four additional building to its campus. Mr. Brymer, in coordination with Westlake Academy's faculty and staff, developed a renowned educational program that has earned accolades for its role in helping students thrive and prepare for the future.

During his tenure as Town Manager, Mr. Brymer has overseen significant improvements to Westlake's infrastructure and economic development. For his efforts, Mr. Brymer been the recipient of multiple awards including the Texas Municipal League's 2009 Municipal Excellence Award, the TEDC 2012 Community Economic Development Award, the ICMA 2012 Community Sustainability Program Excellence Award, and the Site Selectors Guild 2017 Excellence in Economic Development Award, among many others.

On behalf of the 26th District, I thank Mr. Brymer for his service to the Westlake community and wish him every success in his future endeavors.

## JAMAL LATHON

## HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

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

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

The dedication demonstrated by Jamal Lathon 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 Jamal Lathon 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.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE AFRICAN DESCENT AFFAIRS ACT

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the African Descent Affairs Act. As we continue to highlight the International Decade for People of African Descent, we have seen a sharp increase in racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of discrimination across the globe.

Human rights violations emanating from racial prejudice and discrimination have negatively impacted people of African descent around the world, resulting in racial bias and disparities in education, employment, health, housing, justice, and other sectors.

We must act now to reverse these disturbing trends. The International Decade for People of African Descent provides an opportunity to not only draw attention to these inequities, but to also join efforts with countries around the globe to develop and implement national strategies honoring the vast contributions of people of African descent and to combat continuing issues of prejudice and discrimination such as those currently gripping our nation.

To aid these efforts, I have introduced the African Descent Affairs Act. This bill seeks to improve the situation of people of African descent around the world by establishing within the United States State Department a Global Office of African Descent Affairs to establish global foreign policy and assistance strategies for people of African descent; creating a "Fund" to support antidiscrimination and empowerment efforts by African descent led civil society organizations; requiring Annual State Department Human Rights Reports to include a section on discrimination faced by people of African descent; and creating similar initiatives at the United States Agency for International Development that can work in partnership with the State Department.

U.S. foreign policy strategies such as these have improved the situation of vulnerable groups internationally and would greatly assist in responding to increasing levels of prejudice and discrimination faced by people of African descent around the globe. The State Department has already launched many successful initiatives that have aided vulnerable populations, such as the Office of Global Women's

Issues, the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, and special initiatives focusing on disability, LGBTQ+ and other communities.

Implementing a Global Office of African Descent Affairs will continue this tradition and facilitate the full and equal participation of people of African descent in our society, promote knowledge of and respect for the diverse heritage, culture and contributions of people of African descent, and strengthen and implement legal frameworks that combat racial discrimination.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will embrace the challenge of combating prejudice and discrimination around the world. I encourage them to join me in recognizing the collective history and achievements made by people of African descent by supporting the African Descent Affairs Act.

**NAYELI LECHUGA**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

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

Nayeli Lechuga is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nayeli Lechuga 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 Nayeli Lechuga 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 RECOGNITION OF DR.  
ELIZABETH (SISSY) CROWTHER

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Dr. Elizabeth (Sissy) Crowther as President of the Rappahannock Community College. After 15 years as President, Elizabeth will be leaving the College a better, stronger institution of higher education and learning.

A Northern Neck native, Sissy grew up on Brington Farm in Northumberland County. Her late father, Rudolph Prosser Crowther, Sr., was president and then chairman of Lillian Lumber Company in Northumberland County, and served on the Rappahannock Community College local board in the 1980s. After graduating from St. Margaret's School in Tappahannock, Crowther attended Virginia Tech where she received both a bachelor's and master's in English. After college, she

moved to Richmond, where she began a career in financial services. She aided J. Sargeant Reynolds and John Tyler community colleges with providing educational programs for their employees. Crowther was inspired by the change and inspiration she saw, shifting her career from banking to working in the community college system.

She was accepted into a doctoral program at the College of William & Mary, becoming friends with a colleague who encouraged Crowther to apply to her first job at Rappahannock Community College. She then advanced to positions at Lord Fairfax Community College and Blue Ridge Community College, ultimately returning to Rappahannock as President. Since 2004, Crowther has provided leadership and oversight for College and community initiatives. They include growing the Educational Foundation's assets from \$1 million to \$11 million; completing facility renovations at both the Glens and Warsaw campuses; adding satellite sites in Kilmarnock and New Kent; expanding partnerships with community organizations, agencies, and businesses including the establishment of LEAD Northern Neck; and providing focused resources on relevant programs.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Dr. Elizabeth Crowther's accomplishments as she ends her tenure as president of Rappahannock Community College. We hope she enjoys her new life back on the family farm near Reedville, pursuing personal interests and traveling with her family.

**REAGAN LEWIS**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 26, 2019*

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

Reagan Lewis is a student at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Reagan Lewis 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 Reagan Lewis 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.

MEDICAID SERVICES INVESTMENT  
AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019. I'm very