

But, the great thing about athletics is they help to create opportunities in other aspects of life. The Lady Hornets' success has already paid off in a multitude of ways, opening doors for several players. A number of them will continue their basketball careers, and most importantly their education, at Division I universities such as the University of Kansas. Whether they know it or not, they will take with them the life lessons learned throughout their time at North Kansas City High School and as a part of this team. With the North Kansas City community, I look forward to seeing where each of these players will go and how future players will develop under the leadership of coaches like Jeffery Lacy and John West.

Madam Speaker, please join with me in celebrating the North Kansas City Lady Hornets and the State Championship they have brought home to Kansas City.

PASSING OF MS. BESSIE M.
SWINDLE

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the life and legacy of a distinguished member of my Houston staff, a constituent, and more importantly a dear friend who passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2019 in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Bessie Swindle was born June 5, 1939 in Loreauville, Louisiana, relocating to Houston, Texas as a young adult where she went on to become a pillar of the Sunnyside community.

Over the course of more than fifty years, she used her skills as a community organizer to make a difference in Houston. Prior to serving as an outreach coordinator in my Houston office, she founded and served as president of the Cloverland Civic Club, representing 400 homeowners in the neighborhood, sponsoring fundraisers, aiding needy families, and raising money for scholarships.

She was involved with several organizations and used her voice to represent Sunnyside residents as a Parent/Teacher Association member, Troop Leader for Girl Scouts of America San Jacinto Council, President of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church "55 Plus" Club, Community Liaison for former Harris County Precinct 7 Constable Michael Butler and Constable Perry Wooten, member of Mayor Bill White's Phone Tower Commission, and member of the City of Houston Police Officers Civil Service Commission. She also served as president of Southeast Coalition of Civic Clubs and Precinct Judge for Harris County Voting Precinct 271.

During her distinguished lifetime of service, she was the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including Parent of the Year from James H. Law Elementary in 1975, the Mayor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service in 1996, the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Award in 1999, the Sir Knight Dennis Armelin Humanitarian Award in 2004, Mayor Bill White's proclamation of Bessie M. Swindle Day in 2007, the naming of the Bessie Swindle Community Center in Sunnyside, Houston, Texas in 2009, as well as the street naming of Bessie Swindle Way in 2010.

It is eminently clear that Ms. Bessie M. Swindle was no ordinary community servant. She used her influence to constantly stand up for those who needed her assistance—and she made a difference. Ms. Bessie Swindle will be greatly missed for her wit, wisdom, and willingness to work hard. Her contribution will never be forgotten.

I would like to send my condolences to Ms. Swindle's family, friends, and all those who will miss her dearly. I hope that, even in this sad time, Ms. Swindle's record of unselfish dedication to her city and community will serve as a bright light for those who dare to follow in her footsteps.

Ms. Bessie M. Swindle is survived by one daughter: Jackie Swindle. She is also survived by four brothers, one sister, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

IN RECOGNITION OF ED
SPEAKMON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Keller City Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem, Mr. Charles Ed Speakmon, who recently passed away at the age of 71.

A retired Marine, Republican precinct chairman, and former auto repair businessman, Mr. Speakmon spent his life serving both his country and his community in many ways. He was elected to the Keller City Council in 2016, where he was known for his gentle and kind nature as well as his willing participation and resolve to get things done.

Mr. Speakmon also was widely known for the elaborate and award-winning Christmas display that adorned his house every year. He was even given the nickname, "Mr. Christmas" because of the unique gift he annually shared with his community in his passion for the holiday.

Always faithful, Mr. Speakmon was a man of service who was deeply devoted to his country, his community, and his family. To those who knew him, the sense of loss felt in his sudden departure is a tribute to the life he lived. I am honored to have served alongside Councilman Speakmon to represent the community for which he cared so deeply, and I extend my sincerest condolences to his wife, Candy Speakmon, their family, and all who knew and loved him.

JEN SPETTEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jen Spettel for receiving the Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award.

Jen Spettel is the Executive Director of the Susan M. Duncan YMCA and is receiving this award for her innovation and entrepreneurship in the Arvada community. Jen is dedicated to healthy living in Arvada, working for the YMCA for the past 15 years.

The professional accomplishments and community leadership demonstrated by Jen Spettel is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the City of Arvada. She serves on the 9 Health Fair Board of Trustees, the Retention Committee for the Arvada Economic Development Corporation as well as the City of Arvada's Healthy Places Initiative.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jen Spettel for winning the Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and leadership in her future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO AUSTIN
FULTON

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the service and work of Austin Fulton. Austin has played an instrumental role in setting up my Congressional office. He previously worked for Representative Jason Chaffetz and helped through the successful transition after I was elected to Congress. He was later promoted from Staff Assistant to Legislative Correspondent, where he worked diligently on a variety of policy issues, including housing, veterans, and space policy.

Austin had a positive attitude and was willing to help with any task no matter the scope. I am grateful for all his service, and I wish him the best of luck in his next chapter. Despite his departure, he will always be a member of Team Curtis.

MICHAEL SUDAK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Michael Sudak for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Image Award.

Michael is receiving this award for his commitment to the Arvada community and the positive image he displays for the city. Michael owns and operates an Arvada-based business which employs local residents at above minimum wage and provides local children with healthy and nutritious school lunch meals, serving many schools that participate in the free and reduced lunch program. The meals he offers are of higher quality and nutrition than required to better care for the at-risk children being served.

The involvement and generosity demonstrated by Michael is exemplary of the type of positive image that can be displayed for the city of Arvada.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Michael Sudak for winning this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and appreciate his ongoing contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING JOHN NAVARRA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, First Sergeant John Navarra, who is retiring as the leader of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

John V. Navarra is a retired U.S. Army First Sergeant with 22 years of service to our country. During this time, he served in multiple locations including the United States and Germany and primarily worked in the administration and logistics fields.

Coupled with his service, John has demonstrated a life-long commitment to education by earning an Associate's degree in Business and Computer Science, a bachelor's degree in Interpersonal and Group Communications, a Master's degree in Education with Concentrations in Teaching and Evaluation and a MBA in Leadership.

It is not just his own education that John has been committed to. John has served as the Army JROTC Instructor at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School for 12 years, beginning in 2007. In this role, John educated, provided guidance, and mentored the students in the JROTC program. In doing so, he instilled in them the values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to honor and thank Mr. John Navarra for his

service to his country and his community. I congratulate John on his retirement.

REGARDING MY VOTE ON H.R. 1585

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, while I voted today for H.R. 1585, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, I would like to note that this reauthorization is imperfect. I remain strongly opposed to firearm-related provisions that were included, and I am committed to ensuring the final bill protects the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans. As a strong supporter of Second Amendment rights for Americans, I look forward to working in a bipartisan and bicameral manner to resolve these outstanding issues before this critical legislation to prevent violence and protect survivors is signed into law.

REGARDING MY VOTE ON H.R. 1585

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, today I voted "Yes" on H.R. 1585 because we need to advance legislation designed to protect women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other crimes that are all too common. While I voted "yes," I have

grave concerns with some provisions of this legislation involving Second Amendment rights and due process. It is my hope these concerns will be addressed in Senate negotiations.

KATLYN THIEDE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katlyn Thiede for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Rising Star Award.

Katlyn is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because of her extraordinary skills in entrepreneurship, innovation, and community leadership. She is a member of the National Art Honors Society, owns her own photography business, and volunteers with Foothills Animal Shelter.

The innovation and leadership demonstrated by Katlyn is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. She excels academically with a 4.33 GPA and is described by her teachers as kind, welcoming, determined, and one-of-a-kind.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katlyn Thiede for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and leadership in all of her future accomplishments.