

Their farm encompasses over 300 acres, 130 cows and three poultry houses. They're hard-working, forward-thinking stewards of the land whose recent diversification allows them to produce over 3,500 bales of haylage annually. They also partner on C&J Farm, a trucking and poultry house clean-out business.

Off the farm, they promote agriculture and rural living through Clay County Young Farmers, the county cattlemen's association and Lineville Baptist Church. Chris also serves as State Poultry Committee first vice chairman.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 2018 Outstanding Young Farm Family: Chris and Jordyn Upchurch.

HONORING JOHN P. LARUE

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize John LaRue, a resident of Corpus Christi, for his commitment to his community and to the Port of Corpus Christi.

Originally from Reading, Pennsylvania, John LaRue spent the first half of his career assisting the City of Philadelphia and its Port Authority. In 1994, Mr. LaRue relocated to Corpus Christi to become the Executive Director of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority. His responsibilities included organizing, planning, and administering the Port Authority's activities.

Thanks to Mr. LaRue's 25 years of leadership, the Port of Corpus Christi transformed from a Regional Port Authority to the "Energy Port of the Americas" and the fourth-largest port in the United States. The Port is a key contributor to America's global energy dominance and is continuing to expand. Mr. LaRue's widespread expertise on port policy is lauded both domestically and internationally.

In addition to providing leadership and guidance for the POCCA, Mr. LaRue also serves on multiple advisory boards and panels. He is Chairman of the State of Texas Department of Transportation Port Advisory Committee and serves as a member of the Port Industries of Corpus Christi, as well as on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Port Authorities.

On the occasion of his upcoming retirement, I would like to extend to John LaRue my thanks and appreciation for his valuable work at the Port of Corpus Christi Authority, and on the next exciting chapter of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, regrettably, I was unable to attend the votes series for May 14, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA to Roll Call No. 203, H.R. 29 Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, and YEA to Roll Call No. 204, H.R. 2379 To reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program.

TRIBUTE TO RON WELLMAN

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ron Wellman, Athletics Director at Wake Forest University, who is retiring in May 2019. He leaves as the longest-tenured athletics director in the country at the NCAA Division I level, having been named to the position at Wake Forest in 1992.

He has overseen the most successful period in athletics history at Wake Forest, which ranks first in the Directors Cup in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), while achieving a student-athlete graduation rate of 94 percent.

Under Mr. Wellman, Wake Forest has thrived and has become a national powerhouse in men's tennis, men's soccer, and women's field hockey. The football program has seen the most successful stretch in school history recently as well.

Wake Forest's accomplishments under Wellman's leadership include five team and seven individual national titles, 22 ACC championships, 171 first team All-Americans and the renaissance of athletics facilities. During his tenure, Wake Forest has raised over \$400 million in philanthropic support for athletics.

Wellman has also played a significant role in shaping intercollegiate athletics on a regional and national level. He served on multiple committees, including the NCAA Division I Management Council and was chairman of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship Committee. Additionally, as former president of the Division I-A Athletic Directors' Association, Wellman served on the NCAA Diversity Leadership Strategic Planning Committee.

Wellman's efforts leading Wake Forest have not gone unnoticed. In 2007-08, he was honored by two organizations: Street & Smith's Sports Business Journal named him College Athletic Director of the Year and the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) selected him as its AstroTurf AD of the Year for the Southeast Region—the second time in his career he received that honor.

Off the playing fields, Wellman helped enhance the overall development of the student-athlete. He stressed academics and instituted programs to assist and develop student-athletes in ways outside of competition. Most recently, Wake Forest athletics launched its Deacon Leader program, a comprehensive leadership development system designed to identify and develop student-athlete leaders from their arrival on campus through their senior year and beyond graduation.

Wellman earned his undergraduate degree from Bowling Green State University, where he was a pitcher on the baseball team. After receiving a master's from Bowling Green, he joined the faculty and coaching staff at Elmhurst (IL) College in 1971, serving as head baseball coach, assistant basketball and football coach and associate professor of health and physical education. Wellman was the athletics director during his last five years at Elmhurst.

I ask the House to join me in recognizing Mr. Ron Wellman, a leader of extraordinary conscience and character.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Tuesday, May 7, Thursday, May 9, and Friday, May 10. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 185 (Passage of H. Res. 273): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 186 (Passage of H.R. 1704, the Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 189 (Ordering the Previous Question): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 190 (Passage of H. Res. 357): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 191 (Passage of H. AMDT. 199 to H.R. 986 offered by Rep. ANTHONY BROWN): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 192 (Passage of H. AMDT. 203 to H.R. 986 offered by Rep. GEORGE HOLDING): NO;

Roll Call Vote Number 193 (Passage of H. AMDT. 207 to H.R. 986 offered by Rep. TOM MALINOWSKI): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 194 (Passage of H. AMDT. 208 to H.R. 986 offered by Rep. SUSAN WILD): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 195 (Adoption of Motion to Recommit to H.R. 986): NO;

Roll Call Vote Number 196 (Passage of H.R. 986, the Protecting Americans with Pre-existing Conditions Act): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 197 (Passage of H. AMDT. 209 to H.R. 2157 offered by Rep. ED PERLMUTTER): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 198 (Passage of H. AMDT. 210 to H.R. 2157 offered by Rep. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 199 (Passage of H. AMDT. 214 to H.R. 2157 offered by Rep. JARED HUFFMAN): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 200 (Passage of H. AMDT. 216 to H.R. 2157 offered by Rep. LIZZIE FLETCHER): YES;

Roll Call Vote Number 201 (Adoption of Motion to Recommit to H.R. 2157): NO; and

Roll Call Vote Number 202 (Passage of H.R. 2157, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019): YES.

COMMENDING THE ROANOKE VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to commend the Roanoke Valley Christian School boys basketball team, which captured the Virginia Association of Christian Athletics state title on February 23, 2019. The Eagles put on a commanding performance, handily defeating an exceptional team from Timberlake Christian School by a score of 66 to 42.

This victory carries particular meaning, as it is Roanoke Valley Christian's first boys basketball state championship in its history. Their championship caps a 27-4 season. I applaud

the hard work and dedication of all members of this year's Roanoke Valley Christian boys basketball team, and congratulate the administrators, teachers, coaches, parents, students, and fans. In particular, I would like to recognize the contributions of the team's seniors, and their head coach Todd Mann. Congratulations on a great end to the season.

IN HONOR OF ZORICA PANTIĆ,
OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF ONE
OF BOSTON'S TOP UNIVER-
SITIES—WENTWORTH INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Zorica Pantić, the first woman president of Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston and first woman engineer to lead an institution of technology in higher education in the United States.

President Pantić is leaving her position at Wentworth at the end of May, following a 14-year-tenure that can only be described as transformative and historic in scope. Dr. Pantić's contributions to this 115-year-old institution have earned her respect far and wide. Just recently, while saluting Dr. Pantić during his keynote remarks at Wentworth's graduation on April 28, 2019, Charlie Baker, the esteemed Governor of Massachusetts, characterized President Pantić as, "a gift to Wentworth and blessing to Massachusetts."

Born in Serbia, Dr. Pantić first became interested in electrical engineering as a young girl, while watching her father work on repairing a radio. She went on to earn her B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Niš, Serbia, and became the founding dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Texas at San Antonio; director of the School of Engineering at San Francisco State University; a Fulbright fellow at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and an associate professor at the University of Niš.

As Wentworth's President, she has been an important role model and tireless advocate for traditionally underrepresented students, particularly young women wishing to pursue a college education and career in the STEM arenas. Under her leadership, Wentworth has introduced its first seven graduate programs, becoming a master's degree-granting institution and achieving "university" status in 2017. Dr. Pantić has overseen the introduction of 10 new undergraduate programs (seven in engineering), a \$300 million investment in state-of-the-art facilities, and a 20 percent enrollment increase on the school's campus.

During her presidency, Wentworth has enhanced its experiential-learning educational model by implementing EPIC Learning (Externally-collaborative, Project-based, Interdisciplinary Culture for Learning), and is focusing on innovation and entrepreneurship. The Institute continues to earn annual recognition in the top national and regional college rankings.

Applauding her "energetic, entrepreneurial, and ambitious leadership style," the Council

for the Advancement and Support of Education, District 1, in 2017 honored Dr. Pantić with its Chief Executive Leadership Award. That same year, Dr. Pantić was inducted into the National Academy of Construction. In January 2018, Governor Baker appointed her to serve on the Massachusetts Cybersecurity Strategy Council. And more recently, the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce honored her as one of its Pinnacle Award winners for 2019.

President Pantić has served on various boards and professional organizations, including the board of directors for the World Association for Cooperative Education, the American Association for Presidents of Independent Universities and Colleges, the New England Association for Schools and Colleges, the Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board, and the Presidents Council for the NCAA Division III.

Madam Speaker, Zorica is known for her love of students and for helping to guide and serve thousands of young women and men who have attended Wentworth since she became president in 2005. She is the proud mother of one son, Daniel Tanner, who graduated from Wentworth and is busy building his own career.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to thank Zorica Pantić for her incredible leadership over these past 14 years at one of Boston's oldest and most venerable educational institutions, and to salute her for her many contributions to higher education in the United States.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF WORLD WAR II
VETERAN RAYMOND BURRELL

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th birthday of World War II Veteran, Mr. Raymond Burrell.

In the winter of 1944–45, Raymond Burrell was a member of the famous 761st Tank Battalion, the Black Panthers. The 761st Tank Battalion was the first to consist of African-Americans and saw extensive action at the Battle of the Bulge. Raymond Burrell demonstrated bravery and a cunning military mind on multiple occasions. Despite experiencing seemingly hopeless situations, Raymond persevered along with the other members of the 761st Tank Battalion and held their vital positions on the battlefield. Our nation is lucky to have had someone like him risk his life to protect us all.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments, bravery, and dedication of Raymond Burrell. Words alone cannot express our gratitude. May God bless Raymond Burrell, and I look forward to seeing his excellence in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
OF THE HONORABLE SERGIO
AMARAL, AMBASSADOR OF
BRAZIL TO THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Brazilian Ambassador to the United States, Sergio Silva do Amaral, whose invaluable commitment to the bonds of friendship between Brazil and the American people has left an indelible mark on our bilateral and hemispheric relations. As Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Brazil, I have worked on numerous occasions with Ambassador Amaral to deepen our bilateral relations, and build upon the great history of partnership between Brazil and America.

In September 2016, Sergio Amaral was appointed Ambassador of Brazil to the United States in Washington, D.C. Since then, Ambassador Amaral has worked tirelessly to promote a closer U.S.-Brazil friendship, as well as to promote the expansion of our economic, political, defense, and cultural relations, bringing a message of friendliness and cooperation during his travels through our country in furtherance of his mission to spread Brazil's message of peace and prosperity for all people. On June 1, when he retires from his Ambassadorial role in the U.S., he will conclude nearly 45 years of service to Brazil. His time as Brazil's Ambassador is thus an appropriate capstone to his long and distinguished career.

Born in São Paulo, Brazil, and as a graduate of the University of São Paulo and the University of Paris, France, Ambassador Amaral has served in a number of senior official posts in the Brazilian public service over five decades. Prior to his appointment as Ambassador to the U.S., he served as Ambassador to London and Ambassador to Paris, as well as Minister of Development, Trade and Industry, and Chief-Minister for Social Communication of Brazil's Presidency. His other notable positions include Vice Minister of Environment and the Amazon, Secretary for International Affairs of the Ministry of Economy, President of the Council of Brazil's Chamber of Foreign Trade, and President of the Brazil-China Business Council.

Ambassador Sergio Amaral has continuously reminded us of the great potential that lies ahead of Brazil and the United States as two of the largest democracies and economies in the Western Hemisphere. We must build upon the common beliefs that have historically connected the peoples of Brazil and America: our commitment to democracy, our commitment to the rule of law, and our commitment to the dignity of all people in our own countries and around the world. Today, I thank Ambassador Sergio Amaral for his service to these ideals, and wish him a long and happy retirement.