

World War I, who upon returning home noticed a lack of government assistance in assimilating back to their pre-service lives. Though they had experienced extreme suffering during the war, veterans received no disability compensation, comprehensive medical care, pensions for widows and orphans, or vocational training. As a result, The American Legion sought to create a self-help organization that would provide veterans with devoted care nationwide with Posts in local communities. The 28th Congressional District is proud to house Burbank Post 150, Glendale Post 127, Los Feliz Post 527, Hollywood Post 43, Sun Valley Post 520, Sunland-Tujunga Post 377, and Verdugo Hills Post 288.

The American Legion's mission was founded on four principles: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism, National Security, and Children and Youth, and these principles reflect the founders' vision for America, one in which military veterans are honored, respected, and prosperous. For 100 years, they have done just that as The American Legion has made great strides in strengthening veteran care in America. In 1923, results from a nationwide survey conducted by The American Legion shocked the nation, as they showed that many veterans from the Great War had given up hope and were homeless, suffering from PTSD, and were merely attempting to survive. As a result, the Veterans Bureau was created, and federal and state laws were enacted that provided greater care for veterans. One of the laws that The American Legion is credited for creating is the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, or the GI Bill, which provided benefits for servicemen returning from World War II.

A lifeline to the veteran community, today The American Legion boasts over 2 million members and 13,000 posts nationwide. Some of the nationwide programs include The American Legion Baseball program, which is dedicated to mentoring the youth of America and Operation Comfort Warriors, which provides recovering wounded warriors with comfort items during their time in hospitals.

I am proud to recognize The American Legion for a century of outstanding service to veterans and the United States. I ask all Members to join me in congratulating The American Legion for its remarkable achievements.

CITRUS COLLEGE, GLENDORA,  
CALIFORNIA

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I congratulate Citrus College, the first California community college to receive top honors for student success by a national organization. At an awards gala on April 15, 2019, American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) President, Dr. Walter Bumpus, and AACC Board Chair, Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis, presented Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, Superintendent/President of Citrus College, with the 2019 AACC Award of Excellence in the Student Success category. This well-deserved national recognition affirms the outstanding campus-wide effort to boost completion and transfer rates. Citrus College is the only community college in Cali-

fornia to have been honored by the AACC in 2019.

Every year, the AACC recognizes the exceptional work accomplished by the nation's community colleges by presenting Awards of Excellence in six categories: Student Success, Advancing Diversity, CEO/Board Relationship, Community College Safety and Planning, Faculty Innovation, and Outstanding College/Corporate Partnership. The AACC Award of Excellence in the Student Success category recognizes a community college that has demonstrated a sustained commitment to student achievement. The criteria used to determine this year's finalists included the development of a comprehensive strategic completion plan, the achievement of measurable and significant increases in degree completion, certificate completion, and transfer from two-year to four-year institutions.

Citrus College was highlighted for establishing and promoting an associate degree for transfer (ADT) pathway to four-year colleges and universities, and for introducing the Citrus College Promise, a program designed to cover enrollment fees and other college costs for first-time students for up to two years. As a result of the college's efforts, transfers have risen by 38 percent from 2014 to 2017.

We send our sincere congratulations to Dr. Perri and all students, faculty, staff, and Members of the Board of Trustees at Citrus College, and we wish them continued success.

WORLD WAR II VETERAN JOHN  
O'CONNOR OF PAYSON, ARIZONA  
CELEBRATES HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II Veteran John O'Conner as he celebrates his 100th Birthday. John O'Conner of Payson, Arizona epitomizes a life dedicated to serving others and defending our country.

John was born on June 11, 1919 in Bradford, Pennsylvania. He attended the University of Buffalo in Buffalo, New York. During this time, he met and married his wife of 54 years, Velma. After such a joyous and momentous occasion, his country called for him to serve as socialism spread throughout Europe.

Without hesitation, John answered his country's call, took his new bride to live with his mother and joined millions of the Greatest Generation to fight for the survival of mankind. The year of 1940 marked the beginning of John's five-year service in the European Theatre. He served in the artillery division of the United States Army Air Corps. By the grace of God, John survived the war and helped save the world from the rise of socialism.

After the war, he went on to author the first instruction manual for the nuclear submarine, the very same nuclear submarine invented by the "Father of the Nuclear Navy," Admiral Hyman Rickover. John and Velma went on to raise three wonderful children, John, Patricia and Kathleen. John moved to Payson in 1969.

When we look at John's life and what he has accomplished, it's clear to see why he is loved by so many. He and so many like him put their lives on hold and placed themselves

in a situation that none of us could possibly fathom. All of this, in defense of our country. We can never repay John's service to our country. May he have a blessed birthday and may many learn from his example of service and patriotism. Happy Birthday, John.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SECURITY CAPABILITIES ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2539, "Strengthening Local Transportation Security Capabilities Act of 2019."

H.R. 2539 requires DHS to prioritize the assignment of officers and intelligence analysts from TSA and DHS I&A to locations with participating State, local, and regional fusion centers in jurisdictions with a high-risk surface transportation asset.

The tragic events of 9/11 thrust the issue of physical security into public domain as never before and set in motion responses that have re-shaped transportation in unforeseen ways.

H.R. 2539 authorizes DHS to develop, through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, a training program to enhance the protection, preparedness, and response capabilities of law enforcement agencies with respect to terrorism and other serious incidents at surface transportation assets.

In addition, threats to health, such as the spread of pandemics, present significant challenges to transport planning and operations.

Railway stations and airports are some of the most densely populated sites anywhere.

From 2009, all the flights originating, bound to or flying over the United States had their list of passengers cross-referenced by a central no-fly list managed by the TSA.

Security involves many steps, from restricting access to airport facilities, fortifying cockpits, the setting of no-fly lists, to the more extensive security screening of passengers.

Screening now involves more rigorous inspections of passengers and their baggage at airports, including restrictions on what can be personally carried in airplanes such as gels and liquids.

Considering the emergence of global supply chains, the emphasis in freight transport security is gradually shifting into a more comprehensive but complex approach.

The large number of ports, the vast fleet of global shipping and the range of products carried in vessels, and the difficulty of detection has made the issue of security in shipping an extremely difficult one to address.

The less regulated and greater international dimensions of the shipping industry have made it vulnerable to security breaches.

We need appropriate security measures to protect the susceptibility of American lives against possible acts of violence and terrorism.

The growth in the use of information technologies and their associated networks have opened new forms of vulnerability as control and management systems can be remotely accessed.

This has resulted in complex interconnected corporate information networks that can be hacked and disrupted.

Trained officials and security experts work arduously to assess and mitigate the safety of passenger flow at transportation hubs.

Taken together, the bill's provisions enhance the capabilities of local transportation security stakeholders to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks and other serious incidents.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2539 to strengthen our nations' ports of transportation to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable to vote in the House on June 10, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 242; YEA on Roll Call No. 243; and YEA on Roll Call No. 244.

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UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE, LA  
VERNE, CALIFORNIA

### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the University of La Verne on being ranked 5th in the nation for social mobility of graduates, according to U.S. News & World Report in its 2019 Best Colleges rankings. These high marks affirm the university's record of success in helping students from low-income families achieve equity with graduates from families with stronger financial backgrounds.

I recently had the honor of addressing the University of La Verne's 2019 graduating class during the commencement ceremony on May 31, 2019, where I noted this distinguished ranking, and I was grateful to meet several students from all backgrounds and their families. These future leaders are poised to enter the workforce, continue their studies, and make a difference in our communities and the world around them.

For its social mobility rankings, U.S. News & World Report focused on how effective universities are at serving and graduating students who receive federal Pell Grants. Pell Grants are awarded to students from families with a household income that is typically less than \$50,000 annually.

We congratulate University of La Verne President Deborah Lieberman and all students, alumni, faculty, and staff on this well-deserved national recognition, and we wish them continued success.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS 2019 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Citizen of the Year Awards. The Federation is a coalition of civic and homeowners associations who work together to promote and support initiatives that will benefit all. Each year, the Federation honors individuals for their extraordinary contributions to our community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following individuals:

2019 Citizen of the Year: Catherine Ledec: Cathy Ledec has lived a lifetime of volunteerism that began when she was 14. She volunteers with several Fairfax County Park Authority programs and is actively engaged in numerous citizen science activities with both the Fairfax County Park Authority and the National Audubon Society. In January 2019, Cathy was elected as Chair of the Fairfax County Tree Commission. She is also an active leader in her HOA, Pavilions at Huntington Metro Community Association, leading landscaping efforts and converting to all native plants and trees. Cathy also led the re-landscaping of the Mt. Vernon Government Center and led the installation of two native pollinator meadows at Mt. Eagle Park and within her neighborhood. In addition, Cathy led two significant and complex conservation efforts at Huntley Meadows Park, resulting in the protection of rare natural and historic resources for present and future generations to enjoy. Cathy conducts massive public outreach at community events, enthusiastically inspiring others to come experience the natural world here in Fairfax County. She passionately fulfills the purpose of the nature-oriented certifications and designations she has earned, including Certification as a Fairfax Master Naturalist and Audubon-at-Home Program Ambassador.

Citation of Merit: Alberto Figueiredo-Sangiorgio: Alberto Figueiredo-Sangiorgio serves as the executive chef and general manager for Wildflour Caterers. Wildflour operates as a bakery and deli shop, and primarily employs individuals with developmental disabilities. Overseeing the chef-in-training program at Wildflour as well as daily operations, Chef Alberto ensures that these individuals receive valuable training and employment in a positive and accepting environment that allows them to build independence, strengthen their skill sets, and have a strong sense of community in their daily lives. The operations of Wildflour Catering serve as an example for the business community across the region to follow. For over 23 years, Chef Alberto has ensured that individuals with developmental disabilities not only have a place to work, but are provided with skills and opportunities to ensure a better quality of life going forward.

Citation of Merit: Tania Hossain: Tania Hossain has worked with various organizations as a volunteer leader for over two decades to enhance the quality of life for all county residents. Tania led the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations to fulfill her vi-

sion to ensure each Magisterial District had their own district council—a platform for the community to engage and act on issues that are important to them. In her role as President, Tania was instrumental in revitalizing not only the Federation's organizational effectiveness but also in promoting the revitalization of the Providence, Mason, Lee, and Springfield District Councils. Tania has served on numerous other boards, commissions, and organizations in leadership roles as well. She served as Chair of the Fairfax Cooperative Extension Leadership Council where she was responsible for advocating and fundraising for programs such as the 4-H Clubs and Master Gardeners. In addition, she served two terms as At-Large Advocacy Chair for the Commonwealth's Cooperative Extension Leadership Council. Tania represented Providence District on the Fairfax County Commission for Women, where she served as Vice-Chair of the Women's Voices Forum that led the first significant survey conducted on issues facing women and girls in Fairfax County. Tania was also the liaison for the Commission to the Commonwealth's Task Force on Human Trafficking. Most recently, Tania has served as President of the Providence District Council. In that role, she established leadership development for future officers to ensure the continuity of the organization. Tania also led extensive membership outreach and increased online visibility to Providence District residents which has led the PDC being one of the most active and engaged District Councils in Fairfax County.

Special Gratitude Award: John F. Ribble III: John F. Ribble III has been a member of the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals since 1982, serving as Vice-Chairman for several years and as Chairman since 2012. John has also been active in Riverside Gardens Civic Association in Alexandria, serving as President four times. He remains active in the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, currently serving as one of the organization's co-chairs. He has also served in leadership on numerous other groups. He served as Co-Chair of the Mount Vernon Visionary Task Force and as a member of Fairfax County Council of the Arts, now known as ArtsFairfax. He has served in multiple other positions, such as Past President of Belle Haven Country Club and as a volunteer firefighter for Arlington County. In addition to his extensive civic engagement, he is also the President of Old Dominion Title in Alexandria.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these incredible individuals and in congratulating them on their awards. Civic engagement is the foundation of a healthy community, and Fairfax County residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life due in part to the efforts of these individuals. The contributions and leadership of these honorees have greatly benefitted our community and truly merit our highest praise.

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SGT. FIRST CLASS WILL D.  
LINDSAY TRIBUTE

### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2019*

Mr. TIPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sgt. First Class Will D. Lindsay from