

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.

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.

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 Devorah 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. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLY. 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.

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

Cortez, Colorado, an American soldier who was recently killed defending our country in the Kunduz Province of Afghanistan. He and Spc. Joseph Collette, both Fort Carson based soldiers, were killed in an attack fighting against the Taliban.

Sgt. Lindsay was born in Cortez in 1985. The grandson of World War II veteran Richard Lindsay and World War II veteran Warren Waldorf, he was no stranger to service. He followed his grandfather's footsteps when he enlisted into the Army in 2004, ultimately getting selected into the elite 10th Special Forces Group. This prestigious fighting group deploys to some of the world's most heated combat zones and Sgt. Lindsay bravely deployed with them seven times including five tours in Iraq, one in Tajikistan and this final deployment to Afghanistan.

As a highly decorated combat veteran, Sgt. Lindsay had an expansive list of military awards and decorations to include a Silver Star, Purple Heart, four Bronze Stars, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Meritorious Unit Awards, the Valorous Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award, four Army Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terror Service Medal, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral four, the Army Service Ribbon, two Overseas Service Ribbons, the NATO Medal, the Special Forces Tab, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Chilean Airborne Wings, and the Senior Instructor Badge. Sgt. Lindsay's record is a testament to his commitment of putting country before self, as he did in the Army for nearly 15 years.

I stand before the House of Representatives with a heavy heart thinking about his family and their great loss, especially his wife Sarah, his four daughters and his parents Grant and Tammy. I join the town of Cortez, his brothers and sisters in arms, and the entire nation in mourning his untimely death. I have gotten to know Sgt. Lindsay's family over the years and his loss will be felt by many in our small community.

Madam Speaker, Sgt. Lindsay's death is a painful reminder of the sacrifices our men and women in the military endure. Sgt. Lindsay was a true American hero from one of the most rural areas in Colorado who died protecting his men and the country he loved. He dedicated his life to selflessly protect our great nation and we are all proud of him. His loss is tragic, but his legacy will be remembered for generations to come, and the world is a better place because of him.

RECOGNIZING THE VIENNA ARTS SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Vienna Arts Society on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Since 1969, the Vienna Arts Society has worked to cultivate and maintain an interest in the fine arts in the Town of Vienna. The impact that the arts can have on a community and its residents cannot be overstated. As an amateur thespian myself,

I can attest to the transformative power the arts can have on an individual's life and I commend the Vienna Arts Society for its work to ensure that this transformative power is found in Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society does this in many different ways, whether it be its annual print making workshop for children, providing illustrations for the Town calendar, creating Christmas decorations for display during the holidays, providing high school scholarships or their work with numerous Scout troops.

This year is also significant because the Vienna Arts Society is hosting the first ever national art competition in the town, through its Treasure of Art reception at the newly renovated Vienna Community Center. I look forward to seeing the contributions of our local residents. A number of those artists are also receiving awards as a result of the excellence of their work. I am pleased to include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals:

1ST PLACE

Lola Santos, "Pio", acrylic & collage

2ND PLACE

Carolyn Marshall Wright, "Cherries Jubilee" acrylic on canvas

3RD PLACE

Ray Goodrow, "Rodeo" watercolor

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Karen Hutchison, "Indigo Blues" acrylic & mixed medium

Carla Steckley, "Aspens" photograph

Susan Scanlon, "Girl with a Red Bag" photograph

Helen Power, "Layers & Levels" mixed media

Grace Rooney, "Field of Flowers" acrylic on yupo

Alice Nodine, "Safezone" acrylic & ink on paper

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the winners of the Treasure of Art show and in congratulating the Vienna Arts Society on this momentous anniversary. I wish them great success in all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes Monday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 5. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 232 (Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2157, the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 233 (Passing H.R. 2940): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 234 (Approving the Journal): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 235 (Ordering the Previous Question): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 236 (Passing H. Res. 415): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 237 (Approving the Journal): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 238 (Passing H. Res. 393): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 239 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 6): NO; Roll Call Vote Number 240 (Passing H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act): YES; and Roll Call Vote Number 241 (Passing

H.R. 1921, the Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019): YES.

UNITED STATES-MEXICO TOURISM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 951, the "United States-Mexico Tourism Improvement Act of 2019."

H.R. 951 addresses the decline in tourist activity between the United States and Mexico.

The bill aims to strengthen the bilateral relationship between the United States and Mexican tourism industries by advocating for increased cooperation through both government and non-governmental channels.

Specifically, the legislation seeks to—improve third-party tourism to both countries through joint international promotional efforts; prioritize exchange programs in various economic sectors; and

promote cross-border medical partnerships.

Mexico is the biggest source of international visitors to the United States after Canada.

In 2016, Mexican tourism to the United States peaked at 18,990,585 visitors, constituting 1 in 4 (24.9 percent) of all tourists that year.

Additionally, in 2016, spending by Mexican tourists in the United States totaled \$20.3 billion, which represented a 3 percent growth from 2015.

In 2017, international tourist arrivals totaled 76,900,000, up 0.7 percent from 76,400,000 in 2016.

The same year, 77,000,000 international visitors spent a record \$251.4 billion on hotels, travel, food, and souvenirs, a 2-percent increase over 2016.

However, also in 2017, there was a 6.1-percent decline in visitors to the United States from Mexico, comprising a loss of 1,166,585 Mexican tourists from 2016.

The Department of Commerce has not yet released 2017 spending totals by Mexican tourists in the United States, but a corresponding monetary decline would be approximately \$1.24 billion in lost revenue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 951 to promote bilateral tourism through the United States and Mexico.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIENNA-OAKTON CHAPTER 1116 OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. CONNOLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE).