

Walton and the efforts of the entire ministry team, staff and congregation, it will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Pastor Vernon C. Walton and the entire congregation of First Baptist Church of Vienna for their continued service to their faith and to the community. I commend them for their efforts and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success in all their future endeavors.

CELEBRATING FRED G. ACOSTA JOB CORPS CENTER DAY IN THE CITY OF TUCSON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center in Tucson, Arizona. Over these past forty years, thousands of young people have benefited from the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center's comprehensive residential, academic and career technical training program.

Each year, the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center serves hundreds of young adults by providing a career in technical education and a path to a high school diploma. Furthermore, the center provides social skills training and other services to empower young men and women to start a career, enroll in advanced training, enroll in college, or enter the Armed Forces. I am specifically grateful for the Center's accomplishments in breaking the cycle of poverty, strengthening local communities, improving the quality of life of thousands, and for its continued contributions in educating and training the youth of Arizona's 3rd District. For these reasons, I move that the United States House of Representatives celebrate the Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center today, on Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Center Day which is celebrated in July 10th.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JAMES ROBINSON

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that we honor the memory of James Robinson, who fought heroically in the American Revolution. Like many African Americans who fought for American independence, Mr. Robinson's contributions went unrecognized for too long. We will right that injustice by recognizing his accomplishments and honoring his memory.

Mr. Robinson was born into slavery in Maryland in 1753. After the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, he served in a light infantry regiment. James Robinson fought at the battles of Brandywine and Yorktown, during which he played a pivotal role in the overtaking of the British rampart. The battle of Yorktown ended with the British surrendering. Mr. Robinson was rewarded by French General Marquis de Lafayette with a Gold Medal of Valor.

Despite having been promised his freedom in exchange for his service, Mr. Robinson remained in slavery. He fought in the war of 1812. He eventually became free and went on to work as a preacher. In short, James Robinson lived an extraordinary life. He passed away at the age of one hundred fifteen, buried without recognition for his bravery and remarkable work.

It is an honor to see James Robinson's contributions receive the recognition they deserve. We are thankful for his service and give honor to his memory and legacy.

HONORING DR. WALTER TRIBLEY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Walter Tribley for his distinguished service as the President of Monterey Peninsula College (MPC). Dr. Tribley served as President of MPC from 2012 to 2019 and will assume the position of President of Northern Wyoming Community College District this Fall. Dr. Tribley has had a profound impact on MPC, its students and our community on the central coast of California, and I am grateful for his contributions.

Under Dr. Tribley's leadership as President, MPC became a model for other colleges and universities to emulate. His efforts have contributed to a diverse learning environment where all students have the opportunity to reach their educational goals. In the 2008–2009 academic year, Hispanic and Latino students made up less than 20 percent of MPC's total student body. Less than decade later, that number doubled to more accurately represent the population of the Central Coast. Furthermore, the number of total young people between the ages of 18 and 24 enrolling in higher education at MPC has risen significantly during Dr. Tribley's tenure.

Many positive changes to MPC are a result of Dr. Tribley's ability to articulate a strong vision and implement tangible and innovative policies. Examples of these forward-thinking approaches include the establishment of dual enrollment programs for local high school students and offering free tuition to first year students. Dr. Tribley was also instrumental in MPC's College Incentive Program and acquiring the Title V Developing Hispanic-Surviving Institutions Grant for a transfer and degree completion initiative titled "Ready, Set, Transfer." Both programs aim to expand access to higher education and increase success rates among underserved students. Dr. Tribley also demonstrated his financial management skills by reducing unnecessary spending and being a responsible steward of public funds.

Dr. Tribley's service is not limited to MPC. He serves in a number of advisory roles, including his membership on the South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium, the Monterey County Workforce Investment Board, the Monterey County Children's Council, and the Monterey Peninsula College Foundation. While our community will certainly miss Dr. Tribley's presence, I am confident that he will continue to find success and purpose in his future undertakings.

Dr. Walter Tribley embodies the meaning of a community leader and has undoubtedly

made a lasting impact on community prosperity and education on the Central Coast. Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues please join me in thanking Dr. Tribley for his significant contributions and wishing him success in his new position as President of Northern Wyoming Community College District.

RECOGNIZING JUNE 7TH AS NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

HON. KATIE HILL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. HILL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to declare June 7th, National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Today we are reminded of the epidemic of senseless gun violence that plagues our nation. Our inaction has cost too many innocent lives. Every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and countless others are wounded. We are fortunate to have passionate, forward-thinking, dedicated organizations like Moms Demand Action who work tirelessly to enact change and protect our community. It's time we do our part.

As a lifelong gun owner, I know that respecting the Second Amendment and advocating for gun safety measures are not mutually exclusive. We can adequately retain the right to bear arms while keeping our kids and communities safe.

Like most law-abiding gun owners, I believe that high-risk individuals like terrorists, domestic violence abusers, convicted criminals, and those suffering from mental illness, who are inclined to hurt themselves or others, should not be allowed to purchase weapons.

That is why I cosponsored and voted for H.R. 8, The Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, which establishes new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties. On February 27, the House passed H.R. 8—the first time in 25 years that a piece of gun violence prevention legislation came to the House floor for a vote.

This is a public safety issue, not a partisan issue. Not only do we need stricter background checks, but we also need to provide funding to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to research gun violence as the public health concern that it is. We have a responsibility to do everything we can to address this problem.

Gun safety is a priority for me because I have heard from far too many constituents who are afraid for their lives. One constituent survived the 2017 Las Vegas mass shooting, only to be killed the following year at the Borderline Bar mass shooting just outside our district. I will always fight for the people of the Antelope, Simi, and Santa Clarita Valleys, above all, and I am committed to pursuing policy solutions that address both the outcomes and root causes of these tragedies.

By wearing orange and commemorating National Gun Violence Awareness Day, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives and lost human potential of Americans stolen by gun violence. I want to thank the advocates and leaders all across America, but especially at home in my district,

for inspiring us every day through their commitment to a better future.

HONORING HEZEKIAH WATKINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a valiant and selfless community servant, Hezekiah Watkins.

In the summer of 1961, Hezekiah Watkins sought out to see the Freedom Riders make history at the Greyhound bus station in Jackson, Mississippi. Though his mother warned him of his potential demise, their home being burned, and other risks of activism; Watkins couldn't be dissuaded from watching the protesters combat segregated public transportation up close and personal.

At age 13, Watkins' life changed forever when he was pushed into the bus station, mistaken for an "outside agitator," and sent to Parchman Farm, the Mississippi State Penitentiary. While incarcerated, Watkins was cellled with two inmates convicted of murder, who tormented, molested, and physically abused him. They also stole his food leaving him with only scraps of fat, syrup and a biscuit. He was returned to his mother in Jackson five days later, who anticipated identifying his remains.

Hearing of Watkins' incarceration, James Bevel, a prominent civil rights leader, visited Watkins' home in Jackson. While Watkins still had no intentions of joining the movement, Bevel insisted he was needed. After hearing Bevel deliver a powerful sermon at church, Bevel gained the trust of both Watkins and his mother, who believed Bevel was a God-sent man. She allowed Watkins to join the Freedom Riders under the sole condition that Bevel would keep him safe, which he did.

Watkins participated in the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project, also known as Freedom Summer, where he and other activists worked to increase the black voter turnout in Mississippi. They also instituted Freedom Schools which worked to academically empower black students by offering free summer classes.

Today, Watkins can be found at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, not as a part of a display, but as an employee, sharing his story to daily visitors.

PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE IN DISPLACED POPULATIONS ACT

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. 2140, the "Preventing Child Marriage Act of 2019."

H.R. 2140 calls for an adoption by the United Nations of a definition of "child marriage" and develop a comprehensive strategy through the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to address child marriage in refugee settlements administered by the United Nations.

Child marriage occurs when a formal marriage or informal union takes place in which at least one person is younger than age 18.

Illegal child marriage arises when a formal marriage or informal union involving at least one person younger than age 18 that is illegal under the laws of the country in which the child marriage occurs.

It is critical that we better understand the presence of child marriages within refugee settlements in order to assess how they intersect with the rates of violence against girls including young children and infants.

This bill calls upon the United Nations to adopt a comprehensive strategy including:

Collecting and reporting data related to the number of known or suspected child marriages taking place inside each such settlement;

Protocols for United Nations personnel regarding prevention and monitoring of child marriages inside each such settlement;

A description of programs administered at such settlements that provide—

(A) physical, mental, and emotional rehabilitation and support to children who have extricated themselves from child marriage; and

(B) alternatives to child marriage, such as education initiatives; and

Protocols regarding how United Nations personnel should—

(A) report adults participating in illegal child marriages in each such settlement;

(B) monitor the prosecution of such adults by the authorities of the country in which the 2 settlement at issue is located.

When enacted, H.R. 2140 will develop a framework in gaining data on child marriages globally as well as create effective strategies to combat them in refugee settlements.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2140 to confront child marriages which pose a strong threat to young children especially girls living within these settlements.

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE REYNOLDS, RETIRING SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNCIL AT CONSUMERS ENERGY

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Catherine Reynolds for her superior leadership and service to the people of Michigan during a trailblazing 40-year career at CMS Energy Corporation and Consumers Energy Company.

Cathy, who will retire this month, joined the company in 1979 during an era of unique challenges for women in the corporate world. She started as a proofreader in the "steno pool" where all the typing in the company was conducted.

In 1983, she earned her law degree at Thomas M. Cooley Law School and transferred to the company's legal department. There, she worked in a variety of areas, including 10 years in litigation before focusing on marketing, electronic commerce and corporate issues.

Cathy was appointed assistant general counsel over the general practice group of the

legal department in 2004 and handled issues including contracts, property, environmental, marketing, human resources, labor, benefits, property tax and insurance matters.

In 2006, she became the company's first female corporate secretary. And in 2013, Cathy was named the company's first female senior vice president—serving as Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

She served as a director on the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Jackson County, Michigan and American Bar associations.

Cathy has handled each of her roles with professionalism, integrity and grace. She set an extraordinary example at the company, serving as a calm, insightful influence on the many co-workers she mentored throughout her career.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I send my congratulations on Cathy's well-deserved retirement and many thanks for 40 years of inspiring and empowering generations of women to excel.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 VOLUNTEER RESTON 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 a group of individuals who have selflessly dedicated themselves to the betterment of their community. Each year, the Reston Association recognizes individuals who have gone above and beyond with the Volunteer Reston awards. Reston is well known to be a shining example of civic engagement and this event, held during National Volunteer Week, honors those who have made significant impacts on the lives of others and the community. In Fairfax County, we are blessed with an incredible abundance of generosity of spirit and the individuals who are being honored with these awards are the embodiment of that spirit.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of 2019 Volunteer Reston award winners:

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Doug Britt
Cindy Metcalf

55+ VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Don Coram

COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Family PASS/Mary O'Reilly

GROUP VOLUNTEER SERVICE OF THE YEAR

Andrew Sigle
Janet Bradshaw
Gerald Padmore
Darlena Ricks
Carol Anne Bradley
Sandra Deleon
Syazana Durrani
Emily Huaroco
Kathleen Jones
Luis Ortiz Lopez
Maryam Ovissi
Alexandra Rossi

WORK GROUP VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Belinda Collins
Pat & Paul Dunham