

huge win for Iredell County, the top dairy producing county in North Carolina, as our dairy producers will gain wider access to a bigger marketplace.

Along with dairy, the USMCA would boost North Carolina's poultry producers—a \$37 billion industry that supports nearly 150,000 jobs in my State. Early estimates show that poultry exports to Canada will grow astronomically because the agreement increases tariff rate quotas for U.S. poultry and egg exports to Canada. The agreement also eliminates barriers facing U.S. dairy and poultry exports to Canada which will further unleash economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, there is a reason the USMCA enjoys broad support from Mexico, Canada, and the U.S. stakeholders, as well as a majority of this House on both sides of the aisle: Because the upside for our country is undisputed.

Ratifying this agreement would be a historic victory for our economy, for our workers, and for our farmers.

The President and his team should be commended for a job well done, and now it is time for this House to quit stalling and to act. The window to pass the USMCA is closing, and I stand ready to vote for this deal and to get it across the finish line.

I ask my Democratic colleagues to suspend their blind hatred of this President and bring the USMCA to the floor for a simple up-or-down vote. We need to stop thinking about this in terms of giving President Trump a political victory and start thinking about giving the American people an economic victory. That is why we all were sent here in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, let's pass the USMCA now.

MAKING COLLEGE MORE AFFORDABLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the College Affordability Act, a comprehensive overhaul of our higher education system that will lower the cost of college and improve higher education for students of all backgrounds, because right now students are paying increasingly more for an education that is giving them less.

I know that because I have heard it. I have heard from constituents in my district that we need to do better when it comes to the rising cost of tuition and the overall quality of higher education.

That is why I am taking action. Since coming to Congress, I have worked closely with my colleagues on the Education and Labor Committee to lead four pieces of legislation that will be included in this act.

The legislation will expand educational opportunities for all individuals impacted by the criminal justice

system, dedicate more resources for prevention and treatment of alcohol and substance abuse on college campuses, strengthen grants for teachers and school leaders around recruitment and retention, and establish a commission to study mental health issues facing college students.

These measures as well as others are what make the College Affordability Act a down payment on our higher education system that just makes sense.

I urge swift passage for my colleagues in the committee today, and I hope we can move this bill to the floor and the President's desk even faster. As my good friend, Chairman Elijah Cummings, said: Our children are messengers we send to the future we will never see.

It is time to invest in their future and give all Americans the good, quality higher education that they deserve.

A LASTING LEGACY FOR ZIMMERMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zimmerman City Administrator Randy Piasecki who recently celebrated his 25th anniversary with the city.

Wherever you are in Zimmerman, you can see Randy's work. Randy had a major hand in improvements and development of the city. From Zimmerman Middle High School to the latest apartment complex in downtown Zimmerman, Randy has facilitated its construction and completion. In his office, Randy proudly displays an article boasting Zimmerman as one of the 10 fastest growing cities in Minnesota, in major part thanks to him.

The legacy of his work proves how much Randy loves Zimmerman. We hope he continues for many years to grow the city with the thoughtfulness and care he has shown for nearly three decades.

Congratulations, Randy, and thank you for your 25 years of service to the people and city of Zimmerman.

HOMETOWN HOCKEY PLAYER SUCCEEDS IN THE NHL

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate a graduate of Blaine High School in my district, St. Cloud Husky Jonny Brodzinski, for signing a contract with the NHL San Jose Sharks.

Following Jonny's successful career at Blaine High School, he went on to play for St. Cloud State University, which is also in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District. He skated there for three seasons with the great Huskies. His hometown watched and cheered him on as he advanced to the American Hockey League to play for the Ontario Reign and celebrated when he was signed by the Los Angeles Kings, officially making him an NHL hockey player. As he joins the San Jose Sharks, we will be there to show our support.

Congratulations, Jonny. We are proud you call Minnesota's Sixth District and the State of Minnesota your home. We will continue to cheer you on as you play the game we all love.

ON BEHALF OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY, THANK YOU ASHLEY KOHLS

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ashley Kohls from the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association for her commitment and service to our State's agriculture community and to congratulate her on her new role as Director of Government Affairs for the Nebraska Cattlemen's Association.

During her time as the executive director of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association and a member of our Agriculture Advisory Committee, Ashley has worked closely with our office, educating members and our staff about agriculture and cattle farming, in particular. As a cattle farmer herself, Ashley and her husband, Craig, run a fourth-generation family farm with their children, Avery and Bennet.

Ashley is a strong leader and an example to young women who are interested in the agricultural industry. As an example, she participated as a panelist at our annual Young Women Leadership Program where she shared with the high school-aged women what it is like to run a farm, be a mother, and run a large-scale advocacy association. It was an honor to have her participation.

Ashley, Nebraska is going to be lucky to have you. We wish you and your family the best.

THE HONORABLE MAYOR TOM RYAN: A TRUE PUBLIC SERVANT

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mayor Tom Ryan, a great public servant for the city of Blaine in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District. Mayor Ryan's life is the definition of public service.

Mayor Ryan grew up in St. Paul. He was drafted and served in the U.S. Army in South Korea. He was honorably discharged in 1966 and returned home to Minnesota where he settled in what is now the city of Blaine. For decades he has served the city as a councilman and now mayor. He also serves as co-leader of Blaine's Beyond the Yellow Ribbon program which provides community support to our servicemembers and their families.

Recently, Mayor Ryan received the Seven Seals Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. This award recognizes his commitment to help servicemembers find work upon their return home.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mayor Ryan, for the city of Blaine, and for our servicemembers, and congratulations him on his Seven Seals Award.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER PROFESSOR EUGENIA PAULUS

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Eugenia Paulus for her Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. Professor

Paulus teaches chemistry at North Hennepin Community College in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District.

Professor Paulus has been mentoring students at North Hennepin Community College and participating as a science fair judge for local high schools through the North Hennepin mentoring program for approximately 15 years. During this time, Professor Paulus has mentored about 100 students with amazing results. Students participating in her mentoring program are 40 percent more likely to graduate than the Minnesota average.

This Presidential Award is not the first time Professor Paulus has been recognized for her success with students. In fact, she was previously awarded for extraordinary undergraduate teaching from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. She has also received the annual Student Life Faculty Excellence Award which she received from North Hennepin Community College.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Professor Paulus on receiving the Presidential Award. She deserves it.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING VINCE HOLLAND,
MATT BOYD, MATT CONNOLLY,
BILLY DONAHUE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that September 10, 2019, was a very special day for an infant child who had been severely neglected by her mother. And had it not been for the quick action by members of the Tega Cay Police Department located in South Carolina, the abuse would have continued.

Four officers—Sergeant Vince Holland, Officer Matt Boyd, Officer Matt Connolly, and Officer Billy Donahue—responded to a call at 6 p.m. from employees of the Tega Cay Walmart who were concerned about a mother who was with an infant who, in the words of the officers, was “filthy” and in dire need of help.

The officers immediately reacted to the situation by cleaning the infant and giving food, diapers, and other aid to the child. The officers stayed with the child while the South Carolina Department of Social Services was notified and the child was taken into emergency custody by the agency, along with two other children who were removed from the home.

The mother was charged with three felony drug charges, shoplifting, and cruelty to a child. In the words of Chief Steve Parker, “That little baby did nothing wrong.”

Because of the action of these brave officers who showed compassion and empathy, three children are now out of danger and living in a safe environment.

The four officers of the Tega Cay Police Department lived out the words of Winston Churchill, who said, there are times when doing your best is not good enough; we must do what is required.

Sergeant Vince Holland, Officer Matt Boyd, Officer Matt Connolly, and Officer Billy Donahue are shining examples of the saying, “to live is to serve.”

HONORING STEVE TAMAYO FOR LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION TO NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Steve Tamayo in recognition of Native American Heritage Month for his lifetime contributions in the arts and the preservation of Native American culture.

Steve's passion has been fueled by the desire to restore what was taken away from the indigenous people of this land. For centuries, cultural teachings have been passed down through art. Symbols, colors, patterns, and construction techniques are narratives that reflect values and beliefs of traditional Native American life. American history is bound in the antiquity of its Native people.

We are proud of the role Mr. Tamayo has played in ensuring that we can all learn and appreciate this rich heritage.

Steve Tamayo was one of four children raised by loving parents Fortunato and Beulah Tamayo. As a migrant worker, Fortunato grew up working the fields from Texas to Montana. Notwithstanding this lack of schooling, he was successful in obtaining a job and taking care of his family. Steve describes his mother as a kind and compassionate woman despite her difficult childhood as a survivor of the American Indian boarding school tragedy. Steve's parents encouraged their children to have a strong work ethic, to focus on getting an education, and to pursue the opportunities they were not afforded.

After graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School in May 1984, Steve enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving with the 101st Airborne Division. After returning to Omaha, he sought out Native elders to guide him in his pursuit of cultural knowledge.

In 1988, his first teacher was Cleo Frazier from Yankton Sioux Reservation of South Dakota. She resided in the Omaha area and took time to teach Steve and his older brother about indigenous life. This relationship fostered Steve's quest to learn as much as possible about the history and stories of indigenous people.

This led him to an elder named Howard Wolf, a World War II veteran from the Umo N Ho N Nation of Nebraska. Under elder Wolf's guidance, Steve learned about art and regalia, including the traditional materials, construction, and the history surrounding Native American artifacts.

In 2000, he moved to the Rosebud Reservation, where he was able to gain a deeper understanding of the art of the Northern Plains Tribes. Because of the unique skills and specific knowledge gained, Steve was hired as faculty in the Lakota Studies Department of Sinte Gleska, where he taught college students for 12 years.

In 2005, he became the cultural specialist for the Native American Advocacy Program on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. This was a special time for Steve because he was in a place that was the ancestral homeland of his mother's family.

That same year was an important point in his professional life. A group of conservators from the Smithsonian Institution stumbled upon him while tanning a buffalo hide in his front yard. Six months later, he was headed for Washington, D.C., for a 6-month internship.

Since that time, Steve has been one of the main consultants from the Plains Tribes for the National Museum of the American Indian. He has been part of numerous exhibitions, including an exhibit scheduled to run for 15 years called “As We Grow,” featuring historic games and toys of the Plains Indians.

In 2015, Steve traveled to Washington, D.C., to erect a teepee that he painted on The Mall and presented to President Obama, which is now part of the Smithsonian's collection.

He had the opportunity to paint two buffalo robes for Willie Nelson and Neil Young at the “Harvest the Hope” concert in Neligh, Nebraska, to honor them for their work in preserving our Nebraska land.

Steve's work has helped to educate our country about our history, the culture, and the struggles of Native American people.

Today, Steve leads study groups on all four reservations in Nebraska and nine reservations in South Dakota. He travels to schools and museums throughout the country to help train students, docents, conservators, and curators on the significance of traditional Native arts, as well as the dangers of cultural appropriation.

Steve is on the Artists in Schools and Communities roster for the Nebraska Arts Council. He serves as the cultural consultant for the Omaha Public Schools' Native Indigenous Centered Education program. He works as the cultural specialist for the Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition. Steve has also been an adjunct instructor for the University of Nebraska Omaha and Metropolitan Community College.

In 2014, he was honored by Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman at the Nebraska Arts Council's Governor's Arts Awards when he was presented the Heritage Art Award. His proudest moment was when his mother saw him receive that award.

Steve has also become a source of pride and empowerment for his children. Of his six children, his eldest