

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BARBARA HIGGENS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the long and distinguished career of Barbara C. Higgins on the occasion of her retirement. After 19 years of dedication and commitment, she is stepping down as CEO of Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI).

Since its founding in 1998, Ms. Higgins has nurtured and grown PMI's visibility and influence within the United States and abroad. Ms. Higgins revamped the organization from her kitchen table as its first employee. She went on to hire dedicated professional staff and significantly enhanced the association's advocacy, technical, water conservation, environmental, and trade initiatives. Today, PMI is the nation's leading plumbing manufacturing trade association representing 90 percent of all the plumbing fixtures and fittings sold in the United States.

Under her leadership, PMI has grown into an advocate for water-efficient products meeting high safety and performance standards. She was instrumental in the introduction and passage of a federal nationwide law to reduce lead in plumbing products, known as the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act, which was designed to safeguard all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating this special occasion and wishing Barbara Higgins every happiness in her well-deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF CHRIS VANDERSLICE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris VanderSlice, who passed away on October 28, 2017 after a courageous four year battle with leukemia. Chris was a beloved educator and leader in the West Michigan community—whose legacy will never be forgotten.

Chris, or "Slice" as his colleagues knew him best, was a servant leader with Grandville Public Schools for nearly 18 years. His career began as a teacher at Grandville's Middle School and South Elementary. Chris was then promoted to assistant principal at Grandville High School, where he became principal in 2013.

A former Hope College basketball team captain, Chris brought his competitive spirit to the classroom and school district. He inspired a culture of "pride and excellence," that influenced both students and teachers. After only a short time as principal, Chris implemented professional learning communities to improve teaching techniques and accountability.

Following the initial diagnosis of acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 2013, the Grandville community quickly rallied to embrace the VanderSlice family. The swift response from the community is a touching testament to the character of Chris, his family, and West Michigan as a whole. Chris leaves behind a legacy of "grit and perseverance"—characteristics that will continue to inspire, encourage, and forever impact generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Chris VanderSlice spent his life working to educate and better the students of Grandville, Michigan. It is thus fitting and proper that we honor him here today. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife Tonya, daughters Hannah and Elizabeth, and to all who knew and loved Chris.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF PATRICIA BOWSER

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Patricia Bowser, age 67 who passed away on Monday, November 6, 2017.

Patricia was born on October 3, 1950 in Youngstown, Ohio to Stephen and Mary Ann (Svesko) Sinkovich. She was a graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School and attended Youngstown State University for college. She devoted 30 years to working with the Youngstown Board of Education with behavioral and special needs children. Patricia was also a member of the AFL-CIO executive board and was an active participant with the Democratic Party of Mahoning County. She was also an avid cat lover.

She is survived by her mother, Mary Ann Sinkovich of Struthers, Ohio; two sons, Russel Bowser and Jerred Kent Bowser, both of Youngstown; two sisters, Sue Benish of Struthers and Marianne (Keith) Burnside of Struthers; a niece, Kayla Burnside; and a nephew, Keith (Luca) Burnside. She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin K. Bowser, whom she married in 1979, and by her father and brother.

I extend my most sincere and heartfelt condolences to Patricia's family and friends. She will be dearly missed.

HONORING THE MONTEREY COUNTY FILM COMMISSION

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of an organization that displays the unique beauty of my district around the entire world. The Monterey County Film Commission

has served my district on the central coast of California by inspiring, facilitating, and assisting in the production of media that highlights the pristine beauty, and unique culture of our community. This year, the Monterey County Film Commission celebrates its thirtieth anniversary. Since its inception, the Commission has helped attract and assist in the production of hundreds of movies, television shows, commercials, documentaries and still photography productions. Thanks to the work of the Commission, our community has benefited from over one hundred million dollars in direct financial impact in our local communities.

The Commission serves as a liaison for movie producers, government entities and local businesses. It provides substantial information about our Monterey County, and straightforward guidelines for filming procedures that facilitate the development of successful media productions. The Commission also serves our community by highlighting highly desirable Monterey County locations through domestic and international tradeshows, sales trips and direct public advertising campaigns. Beyond this, the Commission also contributes to growing the next generation of young filmmakers, and is crucial in our communities' effort to create opportunity for creative-minded young people to find success pursuing their passion.

I would also note that the Monterey Peninsula has been, and remains, home to many prominent actors including Clint Eastwood and Betty White. Clint Eastwood came to Carmel to film *Play Misty for Me*, and later become Mayor of Carmel. The Peninsula has hosted stars such as Marilyn Monroe and Barbara Stanwyck in *Clash by Night*. Over the years, the Central Coast of California has attracted over two hundred films, hundreds of television programs and countless magazine ads. Most recently, my district played home to the highly successful and critically acclaimed HBO series *Big Little Lies*, filmed on the Monterey Peninsula, largely in Monterey and Pacific Grove.

The hard work of the staff and Board of Directors of the Monterey County Film Commission continues to provide our community and our country with great films and TV shows filmed in our beautiful district. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the dedication and hard work the Monterey County Film Commission has given to the Central Coast and the entire State of California. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the Monterey County Film Commission as an integral part of our community.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL KIRK WINDMUELLER

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Lieutenant Colonel

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Kirk Windmueller. LTC Windmueller's work ethic took him to the highest ranks of the military, serving as Deputy Chief for Combat Developments, G8, at U.S. Army Special Operations Command, and his current assignment as a Strategic Planner, J5, Joint Special Operations Command where he deployed in support of Operation Uprise Giant.

LTC Windmueller received a Bachelors of Science in Biology from The Citadel and a Masters of Science in Defense Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School. In addition, he trained at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, where he served as the Chief of Special Forces Doctrine in the Directorate of Training and Doctrine.

Deployed on numerous operational assignments around the globe and through some of our nation's toughest times, LTC Windmueller stood ready to answer the call to serve our great nation. Some of his most notable engagements took place during his assignment to 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group. During this assignment he served as the Commanding Officer of a Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha, with deployments to Kosovo and Iraq in support of Operations Joint Guardian and Iraqi Freedom, and commanded the Group Mountain Operations Training Detachment. Throughout these operations, he delivered on the promise to keep America safe and confront our enemies head on under the most difficult conditions.

During these deployments, LTC Windmueller received numerous medals, including the Bronze Star with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Meritorious Service, Army Commendation, Joint Service Achievement, Army Achievement, Armed Forces Expeditionary, Kosovo Campaign, Iraq Campaign, Afghanistan Campaign, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary, the Overseas Service Ribbon and the NATO Medal. These medals are a testimony to his monumental success in safeguarding America.

While fighting our nation's battles overseas, LTC Windmueller had a full family at home. His wife, Laura, and he have three wonderful children. This country cannot repay the debt we owe to LTC Windmueller and his family. The Windmuellers are true American heroes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the career of Lieutenant Colonel Kirk Windmueller.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day.

Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

"Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to two extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are: Shannon O'Quinn from Texas Tech University; and Lauren Butia from The Madeira School.

Mr. Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like Shannon and Lauren the future of our country is bright and its best days lie ahead. I wish them well.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful, committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW PLYMOUTH TOWN HALL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the new Town Hall in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

On November 12th, America's hometown will be celebrating its community with the opening of the new Plymouth Town Hall. This event will be marked by a walk from the old Town Hall to the new Town Hall with everyone who contributed to this new landmark.

Construction on the new Town Hall began just two years ago, in the fall of 2015. I commend the town leadership and the residents of Plymouth for their collaboration on this community project. This would not have been possible without the dedication of all of those who were involved, from the over 40 volunteers who helped generate support for the project over local coffee and tea events, to the residents who advocated for the project at Town Meeting, to the many involved in the construction and restoration efforts. The level of planning and outreach involved in this project

serves as a powerful example of how local government working together with community members can be a tremendous success.

This project involved the restoration of the historic 1820 Courthouse. The Community Preservation Committee worked with a historical restoration team and many volunteers to return this building to its original glory. The centuries-old judge's bench in the courthouse is now set to be the new location for selectmen's meetings. Among the many 1800s-era pieces incorporated into the newly renovated building is its American Eagle Weathervane, which traveled aboard the ferry to Nantucket to be restored.

Located at 26 Court Street in the heart of downtown Plymouth, this Town Hall will be a centerpiece for the town, including during the 400th anniversary of Plymouth just a few years away, in 2020.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the celebration of the new Plymouth Town Hall and the dedication of the entire Plymouth community.

RECOGNITION OF TOLIE BRODIE HARRISON—TRIBUTE TO HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Tolie Brodie Harrison who is an outstanding citizen in Nash County, North Carolina. Mrs. Harrison affectionately known as "Ma Tolie" will be 100 years young on December 12, 2017.

Born in 1917 during the height of World War I, Mrs. Harrison has devoted her entire life toward improving the quality of life for her community.

Mrs. Harrison and her husband, Frank Barnabas Harrison, were blessed with ten wonderful children. Education was important to the family. The Harrison's were adamant that their children would receive a proper education and encouraged them to attend college. Mrs. Harrison was also a provider and motivator by working countless hours on farms and in tobacco factories to keep her children enrolled in school. At age 45, she was employed by Abbott's Pharmaceuticals; which ensured the necessary benefits to support her family.

Mr. Speaker, many in the Nash County community can testify to the hospitality and encouragement of Ma Tolie. As a strong advocate for education, she would welcome new teachers to her home until they could find a permanent residence. For the students; she fed them, housed them, and wisely counseled them. With her many years of selfless service, Mrs. Harrison has left an indelible impression on the lives she touched. Throughout her life she has received many awards, recognitions, and praises for her contributions.

It is my high honor to offer these remarks in recognition of a great American who is an example of the highest degree of service to humanity.

IN MEMORY OF DR. JACQUELINE
BOLDEN BECK

HON. AL LAWSON, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an educator par excellence, university administrator, trailblazer and community servant, Dr. Jacqueline Bolden Beck, who died on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at the age of 86.

Dr. Beck was born and raised in Gulfport, Mississippi. After completing her high school education, she went on to Dillard University where she graduated as an honor student receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1955. She continued her education at the Indiana University, where she received her Master of Science degree in Nursing in 1958. Later, Dr. Beck would complete her Ph.D. studies at the University of Florida earning a Doctorate of Education in Curriculum and Instruction in 1976.

Dr. Beck and her late husband, Dr. James Beck who she married in 1957, both joined the faculty at Florida A&M University (FAMU) in 1958. She rose quickly through the faculty ranks, first as an instructor, then Assistant Professor, followed by Associate Professor and Acting Dean of the School of Nursing.

In 1978, FAMU's former president, Walter L. Smith, Ph.D., entrusted Beck with developing the proposal that led to the creation of the School of Allied Health Sciences in 1982. Beck served as the founding dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences until 2000.

During her time as Dean, the School of Allied Health Sciences received more than \$13 million in extramural funding from Federal, State, and local agencies. The school evolved from two divisions, the Division of Medical Records Administration and Physical Therapy to five divisions, offering bachelor's degrees in cardiopulmonary science, healthcare management, health information management, occupational therapy and physical therapy and a master's in physical therapy by 2000. Additionally, the school's programs were all accredited by their respective accrediting bodies and were sought after by students from across the country.

Upon her retirement as Dean, Dr. Beck was appointed to the rank of Professor Emeritus. To commemorate her many contributions and dedication to the University, in 2007, the building that houses FAMU's Allied Health Sciences programs (Lewis-Beck Building) was named in her honor along with the late nursing school dean Margaret Lewis, Ph.D.

She served on numerous boards and commissions including the Pew Health Professions Commission, Board of Directors of ASAHP, Board Member of the National Society of Allied Health, College of Health Deans Group, Board of the National Society of Allied Health Journal and as a member of the State-Wide Allied Health Articulation Task Force, appointed by the Florida Commissioner of Education.

Dr. Beck was the recipient of the Cultural Pluralism Award by the Association of School of Allied Health Professions and in 2005, she was awarded the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the State University of New York, Down State. Dr. Beck was also very ac-

tive in the Tallahassee community where she served in many organizations and on the boards of numerous community service groups.

Throughout the ensuing decades of her life and career, she fashioned a powerful place in higher education and influenced the thinking of generations of young people. Driven by an enormous heart and keen intellect, Dr. Beck worked her entire life to give the opportunity of education to young people who had the will to cease it.

Mr. Speaker, with an unwavering dedication, strong values, and an avid pursuit of "leveling the playing field" in higher education, Dr. Beck made a tremendous impact in her community, the state of Florida, and the nation. We must honor her life and legacy by keeping hers a torch kept lit.

WAY TO GO EDINA TENNIS CHAMPS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Edina Girls Tennis Team on winning the Minnesota State Championship Title.

The Hornets won the state finals with seven wins in seven contests. Sophomore Nicole Copeland and Senior Sophia Reddy both beat their opponents in two straight matches, clinching the victory for Edina in a decisive fashion.

This was a big year for the Hornets. Edina has won the state championship in girls tennis in 20 out of the last 21 years, a tremendous feat by any standard. Many of the matches in this year's tournament were decided by one point. They know what it's like to play under pressure and still clinch a victory.

Mr. Speaker, the Hornets' victory is a tribute to their hard work throughout the season and their ability to play under pressure. And most importantly, I commend these student athletes, who have also excelled in the classroom and our community.

Congratulations again to Coach Steve Paulsen and the Edina High School Girls Tennis Team. Their families, teachers, friends, neighbors, and our entire community are very proud to call them state champs.

SERVICEMEMBER FAMILY BURIAL ACT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, currently, spouses and dependent children of active-duty servicemembers may be buried in a VA national cemetery if predeceased by the servicemember. However, if the spouse or dependent child passes away before the servicemember, current law does not explicitly authorize their burial.

Since becoming aware of this gap in their burial authority, the National Cemetery Administration has been processing requests for burial of spouses and eligible dependent children

of active duty servicemembers in a VA national cemetery on case-by-case basis, using a designation of discretionary authority.

Today, I am introducing the Servicemember Family Burial Benefits Act to address the ability of the Department of Veterans' Affairs to bury an active-duty servicemember's loved ones if they pass away before the servicemember. My legislation will allow active duty servicemembers to bury their spouse or eligible dependent child, if they choose, in a VA national cemetery and authorize VA to provide headstones and markers for spouses and eligible dependent children. Finally, the language will allow state and tribal veterans cemeteries to provide this benefit in the same manner as VA national cemeteries. This legislation will allow active duty servicemembers the opportunity to choose to bury their loved one, lost while the servicemember is serving our nation, in a VA national cemetery. At their own time of need, servicemembers will have the option to be buried in a national cemetery with their loved ones.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF U.S. CAPITOL POLICE SERGEANT JOEL HOBBS

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the career of U.S. Capitol Police Sergeant Joel Hobbs, who is retiring in November after twenty-seven years with the force.

Since 2014, Sergeant Hobbs has served in the Criminal Investigations Section. He was responsible for supervising investigations for criminal offenses occurring on Capitol Grounds, such as assaults, stolen property, thefts, and fraud, among other offenses.

Prior to his promotion to Sergeant, Sergeant Hobbs served over 20 years on the Patrol Division. The Patrol Division is responsible for providing police services on a 24-hour basis, and security services designed to protect Congress, its employees, visitors, and property under the jurisdiction of Congress. As a Patrol Division Officer, Hobbs became recognized as a subject matter expert in areas involving arrest procedures, crime scene search, report writing, among other areas.

Sergeant Hobbs has accumulated numerous awards and recognitions from USCP and the Congressional Community throughout his career. As an officer and supervisor, Sergeant Hobbs has embraced every assignment given to him, and has had a positive impact everywhere he has been.

The U.S. Capitol Police play an extraordinarily important and often-overlooked role in the functioning of our nation's democracy. Without the safe and secure space they provide, lawmakers would be unable to conduct the American people's work and carry out our functions under the Constitution. All of us who serve in Congress hold the U.S. Capitol Police and its personnel in high esteem, and we are grateful for those who put on its uniform every day.

I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Sergeant Joel Hobbs for his almost three decades of service to the U.S. Capitol Police, to the Congress of the United States, and to

our nation. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CURRENT EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATION ACT

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Current Employee Representation Act with Congressman BRADLEY BYRNE of Alabama and Congressman JOE WILSON of South Carolina. The Current Employee Representation Act would provide union members more representation as their views may differ from decisions made decades ago especially in the rapidly modernizing workforce of today. This legislation also gives union employees more power to be heard and hold the higher-up decision makers within unions more accountable to the rank and file.

The United States is seeing shifts every day towards a more modern workforce. Many current employees are locked into old and outdated union contracts, approved long before they were hired. All employees deserve a voice that is reflective of today's workplace. They should be given options and a voice in the structure of their workplace, and not be subject to the same union practices of the past. This legislation aims to allow new employees an option to elect new union representation. And if they deem the union unnecessary, it would give employees the right to decertify and represent themselves. Why should outdated union agreements set the rules for the 21st-century economy?

I thank my colleagues who have already supported this legislation and look forward to working with them to see this and other modern workforce policies advance in this chamber.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPROVING OVERSIGHT OF WOMEN VET- ERANS' CARE ACT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, women represent the fastest growing population in the veteran community. The Department of Veterans' Affairs reports that in 2016 women accounted for nearly 10 percent of the veteran population. This percentage will only increase in future years. It is vital that we ensure women veterans receive quality care in a safe and dignified environment, as well as in a timely manner.

According to the Government Accountability Office, the Veterans Health Administration does not have data and performance measures to determine women veterans' accessibility to gender-specific care delivered through certain community care programs. GAO also reports that VHA does not have accurate or complete data regarding VA medical centers'

compliance with environment of care standards for women veterans. Medical centers must conduct regular inspections and report instances of noncompliance, but sometimes these cases are not reported to VHA.

Therefore, I am introducing the Improving Oversight of Women Veterans' Care Act. This legislation will enhance the monitoring needed for effective oversight of women veterans' healthcare in and out of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. To accomplish this goal, the bill will require VA to report to Congress on women veterans' accessibility to gender-specific healthcare in any community of care program and require VA medical facilities to report to the Secretary on their compliance and noncompliance with quality care standards.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PAM TESTROET

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to honor my constituent and friend, Pam Testroet, as incoming President of the Louisiana REALTORS Association. Pam and her leadership team will represent over 13,000 REALTOR members and have proven to be exemplary and dedicated volunteers to the organization. Home ownership is an important goal for most Americans, and certainly for citizens of Louisiana. It bolsters our state and local economies and helps with job creation. More importantly, home ownership is not just an aspiration that is part of the American Dream; to many Louisianans, it is a dream come true. REALTORS remain at the forefront and work tirelessly to help their clients achieve that dream. At a young age, Pam braved adversity and helped champion diversity in the historic story of Ruby Bridges. This kind of example gives us all hope for a better tomorrow. Pam had an extensive career in the telecommunications industry before earning her real estate license in 2003. She is passionate about education and homeownership and has served on the local, state and national level in various committees and roles. Pam is a proud REALTOR member with a passion for advocacy, policy, and fostering relationships to protect homeowners. I look forward to working with her, the leadership, and all the REALTORS in the coming year.

WAYZATA SOCCER CHAMPS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I offer congratulations to the Wayzata High School Boys Soccer team on winning the Minnesota State Championship Title.

The Trojans topped off their incredible 20-0-2 season by coming home with the state championship trophy. It is inspiring to see a team that shows up with their best every day, and consistently comes out on top. After los-

ing in the championship last year, they came back stronger than ever to win the state title in 2017.

After a scoreless first half, sophomore Patrick Weah netted a goal that eventually decided the match. The Wayzata keeper, Daniel Weshons delivered a shutout after facing thirteen shots. Just before the buzzer, Ethan Wagner put a second goal in the net to secure Wayzata's victory.

Mr. Speaker, the championship title earned by the Trojans shows how hard work throughout the season and the ability to play under pressure always pays off. These outstanding student-athletes have lived up to their obligations in the classroom and in the community.

Congratulations again to the players, coaches, and parents of the Wayzata High School Boys Soccer team on becoming state champs. Go Trojans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 6, 2017, I requested and was granted a leave of absence for the rest of the week due to the death of my sister.

For the information of our colleagues and my constituents, below is how I would have voted on the following votes I missed during this time period: on rollcall 607, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall 608, on passage of VA Management Alignment Act of 2017, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall 609, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 610, on motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of both H.R. 3441 and H.R. 3043, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 611, on rule providing for consideration of both H.R. 3441, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 612, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 613, on Democratic motion to recommit H.R. 3441, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall 614, on passage of H.R. 3441, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 615, on passage of the Risk-Based Credit Examination Act, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall 616, on ordering the previous question for consideration of H.R. 2201, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 617, on rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2201, Micro Offering Safe Harbor Act, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 618, on the passage of the Veterans Crisis Line Study Act of 2017, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall 619, on the passage of Rush Amendment, which adds a new section to the Federal Power Act to improve the hydropower licensing process, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall 620, on passage of H.R. 3043, Hydropower Policy Modernization Act of 2017, I would have voted "no"; and on rollcall 621, on passage of Veterans Fair Debt Notice Act of 2017, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE UNITY GIRLS
CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Unity High School Girls Cross Country Team, who are the 2017 Class 1A Illinois team cross country champions.

Unity, in Tolono, won the meet with 108 points, as its three All-State finishers, Caroline Bachert (13th), Jordan Harmon (21st), and Evelyn Atkins (25th), powered the team to victory. But this was a team effort and a team victory as every runner contributed to Unity's razor-thin two point victory.

I would like to congratulate the entire Unity Girls Cross Country Team on their victory: Evelyn Adkins, Caroline Bachert, Mackenzie Brunk, Caroline Cousins, Savannah Day, Kylie Decker, Miranda Fairbanks, Audrey Hancock, Jordan Harmon, Chelsie Helmick, Elizabeth Hulick, Taylor Joop, Rachael King, Natalie King, Riley Millsap, Taylor Millsap, Eveyenia Pyle, Lily Styan, as well as Head Coach Kara Leaman, on a superb end to a great season. And with only one senior in the group who ran at the state meet, Unity can look forward to continued success with its program.

Mr. Speaker, today it is an honor for me to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Unity Girls Cross Country Team in winning the 2017 state cross country title, and I wish the team and their coach all the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING MR. MICHAEL E.
STORY OF THE CITY OF RIALTO

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael "Mike" E. Story of the City of Rialto in my district on the occasion of his retirement from a lifetime of civic service to the communities of the Inland Empire.

Mr. Story has been the City Administrator for the City of Rialto since 1985 and has been a resident of the city since 1981. Prior to being named City Administrator, his previous positions included Associate Planner, Senior

Planner, and Director of Development Services for the City of Rialto.

His long time commitment to civic service and contributions is not limited to the city of Rialto. Mr. Story previously worked for the cities of Fontana and Duarte as a Planner. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Administration from Cal Poly Pomona.

Mr. Story has been a dedicated public servant during his time working for the city of Rialto where his efforts have resulted in improvements to the quality of life for all residents. His extraordinary skills in planning and collaboration have created new and improved opportunities for the booming city.

Along with being dedicated to his civic employments, Mr. Story is an avid member of his church's community. He now serves as an Elder for the Rialto Sunrise Church, a church with multiple locations that serves the Inland Empire communities. And as a former board member, he was and is well respected for his continued participation and selfless dedication.

Today, Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Mike Story for his unmatched commitment and civic employment to the City of Rialto for over 30 years, and to the contributions he has made to the greater community of the Inland Empire.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. KAZIA
CAPENER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Kazia Capener for her service to my office and the people of California's Twenty-First Congressional District.

Ms. Capener was born July 13, 1993 in Provo, Utah while her parents, Lars and LeAnn Capener, were attending Brigham Young University. As a baby, her parents moved to northern California, first to Davis then to Redding, where she lived until she was eight. Her family then moved Kazia, her brother Leif, and her sister, Anja, to Aurora, Illinois where her brother Kai was born. Throughout her childhood, Ms. Capener was an active tennis player and worked as a coach while in both high school and college.

After graduating from Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora, Illinois, Ms. Capener went on to attend Brigham Young University,

Idaho, in 2011. While in college, Kazia served an eighteen-month mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Seattle, Washington. While in Seattle, she served as a full-time volunteer teaching about the church, organizing and performing community service, and teaching English as a second language. In 2015, Kazia studied abroad at Université Paul Valéry Montpellier—III, where she participated in an intensive French language immersion program in Montpellier, France.

Kazia joined my team as an Intern in my Washington, D.C. office in March 2017 and quickly became Staff Assistant a month later in April 2017. As Staff Assistant, Ms. Capener was instrumental to my team through managing my D.C. internship program, assisting my constituents by planning tours in the nation's capital, and helping staff with day to day tasks. As a member of my team, Ms. Capener was greatly respected by her peers for her professionalism and dedication to her work. Outside of work, Kazia is an avid music lover and enjoys attending concerts, videography, and learning about other cultures.

Ms. Capener's time with my office will come to a close November 9, 2017 when she leaves to begin a new career as an Employment Specialist at the Ethiopian Community Development Council in Washington, D.C. In conjunction with the United States Department of State, Ms. Capener will be responsible for helping refugees with special immigrant visas from all over the world create resumes, prepare for interviews, and ultimately, find employment. She will also teach American culture classes to new arrivals to help refugees integrate into their new communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Ms. Kazia Capener for her public service to the people of California's Central Valley and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 612.