

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.