

Church in my hometown of Farmville, North Carolina. This congregation recently celebrated 61 years of serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The passion and commitment from this church has helped to spread the Word and Humility of Christ throughout the town of Farmville and surrounding communities for many years.

The ministry and community outreach performed by the people of St. Matthew have helped meet the needs of so many. I am proud and honored to call these people my neighbors.

I want to thank the church family of St. Matthew and Pastor Jesse F. Warren III as they continue to improve the quality of life for so many people and commend them on this milestone in their ministry. I pray that they will be blessed with many more years of service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As it is written in the book of Hebrews 6:10, "God is not unjust, He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you helped His people and continue to help them."

Congratulations on your 61 years of service.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2017 WINTERSET HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Winterset High School Softball team for winning the Iowa Girls State Class 4A Softball Tournament on July 21, 2017.

I would like to congratulate each member of the Team:

Players: Macy Johnson, Ainsley Gurwell, Mia Olson, Danny Barker, Ava Lowden, Abby Benshoof, Natalie Hansen, Malia Messerschmidt, Grace McDonald, Natalie Drake, Corry Pickering, Madison Berns, Mariah White, Jessie Nicholson, Ally Pickering, Taylor Lincoln, Jennifer Lopez, Emma Lowden, Marie McDonald, Sophie Stover

Head Coach: Steve Corkrean

Assistant Coaches: Jennifer Devine, Karly Olson, Taylor Benshoof

Mr. Speaker, the example set by these students and their coaches demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating these young women for competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing them all nothing but continued success.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF COLONEL RAUL VILLARONGA, U.S. ARMY (RETIRED)

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service and achieve-

ments of an esteemed and valued citizen of Killeen, Texas. Colonel Raul Villaronga, U.S. Army Retired, has dedicated himself to serving his community and is an embodiment of the Army values of honor, loyalty, and selfless service. He is a deserving recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

His commission as an Infantry 2nd Lieutenant in 1959 began his 24 years of service in which he completed assignments in Fort Bragg, the Panama Canal Zone, Vietnam, Germany, and Fort Hood. While assigned to the 8th Special Forces Group, he participated in numerous classified Mobile Training Teams in Central and South America. COL Villaronga deservingly received awards including the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, and the Meritorious Service Medal as a testament to his exemplary service.

COL Villaronga is a respected citizen serving in numerous roles showcasing his commitment to community and nation. Returning from the Army, COL Villaronga served three terms as Mayor of Killeen. As Mayor, he founded the Killeen Youth Advisory Commission and worked on the Joint Use Agreement for the Robert Gray Army Airfield. As Chairman of the Killeen League of United Latin American Citizens Council 4535 Foundation, COL Villaronga has been responsible for the donation of over \$175,000 in scholarships for local graduating seniors. He continues to serve veterans in his community alongside his wife. His tireless efforts have made Central Texas a place that we're proud to call home.

COL Villaronga's patriotism and commitment to service reflect the very best values of Central Texas. He is a hero who has devoted his life to defending our freedoms abroad and serving his community at home. I join his wife, Julia, along with his family and friends in wishing him the best in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL OBESITY CARE WEEK

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Obesity Care Week on behalf of the over 90 million adult Americans living with obesity today.

Treating obesity is more than just eating right and exercising and is caused by a number of factors that are often out of that person's control. These include genetics, socioeconomic status, and physiological, psychological and environmental factors.

As important, obesity is also linked to over 50 disorders including Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease. In fact, over \$1.42 trillion is spent in the U.S. on direct and indirect costs for health related conditions related to obesity a year.

National Obesity Care Week aims to advance an evidence-based understanding of obesity and widespread access to comprehensive and appropriate care. Unfortunately, at 31.6 percent, Illinois has the 18th highest adult obesity rate in the nation—4 million people—almost a third of our population. This must change. I urge my fellow Members, the scientific community, and researchers, to treat obesity seriously—as the chronic disease that

it is—and I urge the medical community to have conversations with their patients, their students, and their colleagues about obesity and how we can effectively treat this disease.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL WOOD

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Carol Wood of Council Bluffs, Iowa for receiving the Rotary International Vocational Service Leadership Award. The award was presented to Carol at the Rotary District Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. Carol has been a Rotary member since 1993 and is a member of the Noon Rotary Club of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Carol received this award for exemplifying integrity and high ethical standards in her vocation and in the community. She is President and CEO of Children's Square U.S.A. in Council Bluffs, a non-profit organization that has helped children and families in need for 135 years. Carol's dedication and leadership has helped youth succeed in their vocational pursuits.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent community leaders like Carol in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize her today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Carol for this outstanding recognition and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTH- DAY OF MRS. THELMA KOUZES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mrs. Thelma Kouzes, a truly remarkable woman and a beloved member of the Northern Virginia community. Mrs. Kouzes was born Thelma Virginia Loss on July 26, 1917 in Audubon, Iowa. She proudly says she is a first-generation American, the daughter of immigrants whose parents came to the United States from Denmark. She grew up in Iowa, was raised by hardworking parents, and experienced the hardships of the Great Depression. She moved to Washington, D.C. in 1938 to work for President Roosevelt's Administration. There she met her late husband Thomas Kouzes—also a first-generation American whose parents came to the U.S. from Greece.

Mrs. Kouzes has led an amazing life. Shortly after she moved to D.C., she experienced culture shock when she attended a segregated religious service. Because of experiences like this she became a proud and passionate civil rights activist. She remained steadfast in her commitment to justice and equality—including marching alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; in the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963—even when others in her community criticized her efforts. She was an active member of the

American Field Service, UNICEF, the UN, the American Cancer Society, and American Mothers. She is proud to say that she helped to save the public schools in Virginia during the period of desegregation, along with hundreds of Northern Virginian mothers.

She and her late husband hosted 174 international students from 34 different countries between 1960 and 2004. She also placed more than 400 international students with American families. After her husband died, she continued her devotion to hosting international students.

Mrs. Kouzes was elected the 53rd National Mother by the American Mothers organization, chosen by a jury composed of representatives from local government as well as religious and educational leaders.

These are just a few examples of the many accomplishments of her life.

Mrs. Kouzes has been part of our great American story, lending her voice to the vibrancy of our community and offering her experience and wisdom to those around her. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mrs. Kouzes for her decades of contribution to the Northern Virginia area, and in wishing her a happy and healthy 100th birthday.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great privilege to recognize St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church—located in Allentown, Pennsylvania—on the occasion of its 175th anniversary.

In 1842, St. Peter's Union Congregation organized and purchased a tract of land for a physical building and cemetery in what was formerly known as Rittersville. On November 5th, the Lutheran sect of the congregation began conducting services in the new building; however, both the Lutheran and Reformed congregations shared the meeting space, holding alternating services. The surrounding area was mostly comprised of German and Dutch immigrants, many of whom worked at nearby Bethlehem Steel Mill. The United States offered them a chance of a new life, and St. Peter's served as a focal point for a community of shared faith and family ethics.

Until 1897, the services were primarily conducted in German, but soon after, the Church purchased an English pulpit Bible. That same year, electric lights were installed, indicating an embrace of modernity as the Church entered the new century.

On June 29, 1913, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church placed the cornerstone for the current church at 1933 Hanover Avenue in Allentown. The first service was held on November 2nd.

As St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church celebrates its 175th anniversary as a congregation and its 104th anniversary in its current building, the Church continues to serve the east side of Allentown and its ever chang-

ing neighborhood. May the next 175 years bring continued congregational growth, community impact, and diligent ministry.

TRIBUTE TO COLLIN NELSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Collin Nelson of West Des Moines, Iowa for being named the West Des Moines Chamber's Emerging Citizen of the Year for 2017.

The West Des Moines Chamber every year recognizes an Emerging Citizen of the Year, a community member under the age of 30 who "demonstrates an unparalleled dedication to service and general betterment of the community." Collin works in the real estate business, and has been active in numerous metro area organizations that aim to better the community. These organizations include the West Des Moines Accelerate Advisory Committee, Downtown Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, Emerging Leaders Collaborative, the Iowa Commercial Real Estate Association, the Iowa Corporate Games, and the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to represent community leaders like Collin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Collin for this outstanding achievement and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

IN HONOR OF MR. BRADY KEYS, JR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I pay tribute to a respected athlete, an ambitious franchiser, and a friend of longstanding, Mr. Brady Keys, Jr. Mr. Keys passed away on Tuesday, October 24, 2017. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at Rejoice in the Lord Ministries in Apopka, FL and will be followed by a funeral service and burial on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Inglewood Park Cemetery Chapel in Inglewood, CA.

Brady Keys, Jr. was born on May 19, 1937 in Austin, Texas. He attended Kealing High School in Austin, before moving to California, to attend Polytechnic High School.

After graduating high school, he enrolled at East Los Angeles Junior College, where he played semi-pro football and gained the attention of Fido Murphy, a scout for the Pittsburgh Steelers. Murphy offered Keys a position on the Steelers taxi squad, which he declined. Murphy then offered Keys an education at Colorado State University with the hope that he could be legally drafted as a free agent.

During his junior year, he was ultimately drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers and played with them for six years. He played as a defensive back for a total of eight seasons with the National Football League, also playing for the Minnesota Vikings and St. Louis Cardinals.

Brady Keys, Jr. was not only a natural athlete, but he was also a very successful entrepreneur, owning numerous enterprises and franchises. After leaving the NFL, Brady was determined to start his own restaurant franchise but was denied business loans as bankers were reluctant to lend to businesses with African-American management. However, he did not let that stop him. In 1967, with the financial help of Art Rooney, then Coach of the Steelers, he opened his first All-Pro Chicken restaurant in Detroit, Michigan. As All-Pro Chicken expanded, Mr. Keys became the first African-American to establish a national franchise.

After the opening of his first All-Pro Chicken restaurant, Mr. Keys' business empire expanded beyond his All-Pro restaurants. His businesses included several Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants in Albany, Georgia; the Urban Talent Development Corporation; The Keys Group; Pennky Mining and Oil Company; Brady Keys, Jr. Athletic Foundation, Inc.; Keys Communications Group, Inc., (formed upon purchase of WJIZ 96.3 FM and WJYZ 96.0 AM radio stations in Albany, Georgia); Alpha-Keys Orlando Retail Associates; Keys Technology Group, Inc.; Keys News and Gift Shop; Keys-Watt Productions, Inc.; and Keys and Sons Jewelers. Brady was truly an asset to the Albany, Georgia, Orlando, Georgia, and Detroit, Michigan communities, and his companies contributed over \$40 million to the economies of those states.

A prominent sports figure and successful business owner, Brady Keys, Jr. received several awards and appointments including an appointment to the Advisory Council on Minority Business Enterprise by President Nixon; an award for Outstanding African-American Albanian of the Year; and several rankings on Black Entertainment Magazine's list of 100 largest minority owned businesses between the years of 1972 to 1979.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Life's most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" Brady Keys, Jr. committed a prodigious amount of time and love to the service of others, and he shared his own enthusiasm and wisdom in order to better those around him. In life and in death, Brady has left a lasting impact on all those whose lives he has touched.

Brady Keys, Jr. leaves behind his wife of many years, Anna, and a large loving family and a host friends who will miss him dearly.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, salute Brady Keys, Jr. for his outstanding entrepreneurship, untiring commitment to minority business ownership, and community development in the urban communities where he lived. I ask my colleagues to join all of us in extending our deepest condolences to the Keys family during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.