

Thanks to her dedication, people with disabilities have been provided opportunities for experiences that give them a sense of accomplishment, purpose, and belonging. Ms. Dewey has brought to life the mission of her organization, helping disabled individuals build physical skills, a sense of camaraderie, and a stronger connection with the Davis community.

For decades Ms. Dewey has served her community by advocating for equity, social justice, and opportunity for disabled individuals. Not only does she serve a typically isolated community with compassion, consistency, and authenticity, but she also ensures that her volunteers do the same. Ms. Dewey's service to her community does not end with the disabled people she helps, but continues with the compassionate service she teaches to everyone in her organization.

HONORING GEORGE FRANCIS LEE,  
M.D.

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. George Francis Lee, a healer with a heart of gold, who passed away on September 26, 2017.

Dr. Lee was born in Brooklyn, New York, on March 1, 1941. He was the oldest of five children and spent the majority of his youth in upstate New York where he met his future wife, Katherine Temple. They were married on August 24, 1963.

After graduating from Albany Medical College of Union University in 1968, Dr. Lee and his family moved to California in 1969 where he completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California, San Francisco. Throughout his career he was recognized for his exceptional bedside manner as well as his compassionate and trusted nature as a physician. His work in medicine not only improved the lives of women and children in San Francisco, but throughout California and the United States.

In 1977, Dr. Lee and his family built their home, the Old Chatham Ranch in Yorkville, California. As a resident of Mendocino County, George was active in the community, helping establish the Mendocino Wine Growers, Inc. and serving on numerous committees, including the Anderson Valley School Board and the Anderson Valley Health Center.

Dr. George Francis Lee has led a life dedicated to healing and helping people everywhere. He is survived by his wife Katherine, and his children Barbara, Kelly, and Douglas. Please join me in recognizing Dr. Lee's life of service.

2017 WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD  
WINNER—SAKARI LYONS

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sakari Lyons, a strong advocate for women in Solano County, California as a

Fellow with the Essie Justice Center. A social worker by profession, Sakari embodies the qualities and the desire to advocate for women and families in need of compassion, empathy and guidance due to the incarceration of their loved one.

Inspired by her own situation, Sakari worked full time for Health and Social Services providing resources to children and families when she joined the Essie Justice Center. Through the organizations Healing to Advocacy program, Sakari has helped many women find strength to heal from their wounds through guidance, compassion and faith. She empowers and encourages them to be advocates for themselves and their children.

As a single parent of four children, Sakari was able to pursue her education and holds both a B.A. and M.S. degree.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN K. DELANEY**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 607, No. 608, and No. 609. Had I been present to vote on Roll Call No. 607, I would have voted YEA; Had I been present to vote on Roll Call No. 608, I would have voted YEA; Had I been present to vote on Roll Call No. 609, I would have voted NAY.

HONORING THE CAREER OF  
CARLOS MENDOZA

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career achievements of Carlos G. Mendoza, the U.S. Small Business Administration's Fresno District Director. Mr. Mendoza retired on Nov. 3, 2017 after more than 40 years of federal service. He has worked tirelessly in his career for small businesses and community development.

Mr. Mendoza began his federal civil service career in 1975 as an architect at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and has advanced degrees from Princeton University and California State University, East Bay. After successfully completing several assignments for the U.S. Navy, he transferred to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and quickly rose into the managerial ranks.

In 1992, Mr. Mendoza began his term with the U.S. Small Business Administration, becoming the Deputy District Director of the Los Angeles District office before serving as District Director in Fresno. As District Director in Fresno, he was responsible for small business development in Central California and the Central Coast. He expanded resources in the Central Valley, bringing in the Emerging Leaders mini MBA program, several PRIME grants, a Women's Business Center and the Small Business Development Center.

Mr. Mendoza is known for his passion to make a difference. His work has received rec-

ognition from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Chambers of Commerce and the North American Development Bank. For example, during The Great Recession in 2008, he was the first person in the country to offer a dedicated technical assistance phone line to respond to small business owner's needs. This accomplishment helped shift the focus from the lack of loans to an emphasis on "small business survival skills."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the career achievements of Carlos G. Mendoza. I congratulate Mr. Mendoza for his many accomplishments throughout his career and ask that you join me in wishing him and his wife Lydia, continued success and happiness.

2017 WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD  
WINNER—RITA MONTES MARTIN

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rita Montes Martin, a lifelong entrepreneur and community activist in the Davis, California community. At 95, she's led an extraordinary life and has no desire to retire. She embodies the true meaning of a public servant and community activist.

Rita is an iconic personality in the Davis community, having developed many relationships with community organizers, business leaders and elected officials; you will always find her advocating for a local initiative or even take on a national policy. If it's good for the community then Rita will be involved. Rita is also active with Davis Media Access, a media company focused on education programming as a way of strengthening community.

Rita has worn many hats, but the preponderance of her career has been in real estate. She was a loan officer and the only female appraiser for Great Western, as well as other financial institutions, and worked closely with builders and developers throughout her career. She held a leadership position as executive vice president, property management of Pegasus group.

Rita has several irons in the fire, a serial entrepreneur and problem solver, Rita is also involved in political activism and is considered an author, screen play writer and friend to many in the Davis community.

HONORING CONRADY JUNIOR HIGH  
SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A  
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Conrady Junior High School for receiving the prestigious 2017 U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School Award. The school's award was conferred under the Exemplary High Performing Schools category.