

Commission, and Advisory Committee, Unitrans. Sheila holds a B.S. in Nursing from University of Wisconsin, Masters and a PhD in Nursing from University of San Francisco.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF CONVAL

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Conval, Inc., located in Somers, CT.

In 1962, WWII Navy veteran, Chester "Chet" Siver designed a line of high-pressure, forged steel valves in his basement in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. After a brief period overseeing Hamilton Standard's use of his design, Mr. Siver eventually regained the rights to his product and set up shop. Conval, or "Connecticut Valve", was founded on November 7, 1967.

Today Conval is the premier manufacturer of high quality, high temperature, and high pressure forged steel valves in the world. Conval valves are used in a variety of industries, including fossil power, nuclear power, pulp and paper, and water treatment.

As the town's largest private employer, Conval has become an institution in Somers. This family-owned and operated small business, now overseen by Chet's son, Frank Siver, is an American success story that has stayed true to Siver's commitment to making Conval "a nice place to work." For example, when it came time to expand, Conval elected to stay close to home to accommodate its employees and their families. Their new facility, located in nearby Enfield, CT, is set to open in February 2018.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Conval for their fifty-year commitment to great American manufacturing and community. May they enjoy continued success for years to come.

2017 WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD  
WINNER—TRANINE CHISOM

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Tranine Chisom of Fairfield, California, who has dedicated her career to community service and improving support for people with mental health disabilities and those who experience housing challenges and homelessness. As the Director of Supported Housing of Caminar in Solano County, Tranine has tirelessly worked with property owners, and city and county officials to increase and leverage affordable housing resources for our most vulnerable citizens. Annually, Tranine and her team provide supportive housing services to over 100 residents who might not otherwise be able to obtain or maintain affordable housing on their own.

Ms. Chisom also serves as the Board Chairwoman for Housing First Solano, a coalition of service providers in Solano County working to-

gether to end homelessness. She has been instrumental in the development and now the implementation of Solano County's Neighbors Helping Neighbor-Forward Together 5-Year Strategic Plan to address homelessness.

Tranine is also active in the Solano Napa Habitat for Humanity program where she actively participates as a crew member on community building days, as well as serves on the Family Selection Committee to identify families most in need of a Habitat Home.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JARED POLIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on November 6, 2017. Had I been present for the following Roll Call votes:

H.R. 3562—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 Yea as this legislation would make it easier for the VA to assist veterans who are in need of adaptations made to their homes to receive care.

On H.R. 1066—VA Management Alignment Act of 2017—Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2936, I would have voted Yea as this legislation would require the VA to submit a report on the individual roles and accountability mechanisms of the VA.

2017 WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD  
WINNER—RONDA DAROSA

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Ronda DaRosa of Woodland, California, who has dedicated her 33-year career to Education. Her broad educational experience includes 12 years of private and public classroom instruction at the intermediate to adult education levels, 21 years in an administrative role at schools and county office levels implementing programs focused on alternative and special education, developing curriculum for college preparatory and career technical programs, designing and implementing professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers and administrators, and facilitating school reform at the secondary and middle school levels.

Dr. DaRosa currently serves as the Deputy Superintendent for the Yolo County Office of Education; a position that is well deserved. In her capacity as an administrator, she is committed to providing quality education and delivers a wide range of services to the children, parents and K-12 school districts in Yolo County.

Dr. DaRosa holds credentials in the areas of Life Sciences, Introductory Mathematics, Language Development Specialist and Educational Administration. She received her mas-

ter's degree in educational administration from Sonoma State University and her doctoral degree in educational leadership from the University of Southern California.

HONORING RICHARD COOVER FOR  
HIS LEGACY AND COURAGEOUS  
SERVICE

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and honor the memory of Richard Coover, a loving father and husband. Richard, who valiantly served our nation during World War II in the U.S. Marine Corps, passed away on October 27, 2017 at the age of 92.

In February 1945, three U.S. Marine divisions landed on Iwo Jima, Japan; Richard was one of them. He not only survived the war, but he also endured and bravely defended our country facing many challenges. He fought right at the bottom of Mount Suribachi while bearing the sound of explosions that lasted all night long.

Richard is indeed a hero. He was just a young man, thousands of miles away from his home, his friends, and his family when he bravely served our country in Japan. His actions embody the true meaning of valor.

When I met Richard, I was deeply touched by his humility and spirit of service. He passionately expressed his love for our nation and was proud to have witnessed the U.S. flag being raised in Iwo Jima. His courage and strength is truly an inspiration.

Richard's courage was displayed not only overseas, but also when fighting against cancer. My office had the honor to help him obtain medical assistance. I even had the humbling opportunity to present him with a flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of his service. Throughout the process, Richard maintained an admirable and graceful presence.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize and honor an outstanding constituent, Richard Coover. On behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, I extend my deepest respects and condolences to his family. His years of committed service to our nation are an example of excellence and dedication, all should seek to emulate.

2017 WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD  
WINNER—ROBIN DEWEY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Robin Dewey, a dedicated advocate for individuals living with disabilities in Davis, California, who is committed to serving her community. As President of Team Davis, a nonprofit organization established to help enrich the lives of children and adults with developmental, cognitive, and physical disabilities, Ms. Dewey has demonstrated her devotion to an underserved community.