

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING RICK ANTLE

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleagues, Congressman JIM COSTA and Congressman JEFF DENHAM, to celebrate the life of Rick Lester Antle, a pioneer in the Salinas Valley agriculture industry. From the age of 26, Rick was the President and CEO of Tanimura & Antle, one of the largest leafy greens and vegetable producers in the region.

Rick always put family first, whether it was his beloved wife, grandchildren, or his own children—two of whom followed in their dad's footsteps to work with the family-run company. The value of family was instilled in Rick, with his business growing out of a long partnership between the Tanimura and Antle families. After being placed in an internment camp during World War II and losing their farmland, the Tanimura family rebuilt their farming operation in the Salinas Valley. Rick's grandfather, Bud Antle, was a prominent shipper and salesman at the time, and formed a natural partnership with the Tanimura family as a supplier. For years, the two families worked together to benefit each other. In 1982, the two families decided to go into business together by forming Tanimura & Antle, with the Tanimura family continuing to tend the land and the Antle family handling the shipping and selling of produce.

Following the lead of his father and grandfather, Rick worked to keep family at the heart of T&A's mission. He saw his employees at T&A as family and always worked to put them first, investing time and money into making their lives better. When Rick realized his employees were having a difficult time affording housing in the Salinas Valley, he established an initiative in Spreckels, California to provide housing for 800 T&A employees. This project set the gold standard for farmworker housing and highlights the level of care Rick had for his workers.

Following the establishment of the Spreckels Crossing housing project, Rick transitioned his company to offer an Employee Stock Ownership Plan, allowing T&A employees to own a stake in the company. Rick recognized that the success of his business was due to his dedicated employees, and believed everyone should benefit from this shared achievement.

In addition to investing in his employees, Rick was on the forefront of advancing specialty crop innovation. From developing machines that reduce production inputs to implementing entire growing systems focused on conservation, Rick's commitment to good stewardship of land, air, and water was reflected in his practices. Under his leadership, T&A has continuously shown how and why investments in agriculture technology are necessary.

We each have benefitted from personally knowing Rick. As members of Congress, he helped us improve our understanding of the California agriculture industry and those who work in it. He always made a point to stress the value of the farming communities in our districts. After all, they were his family. Rick's leadership in the Salinas Valley has transformed the region, further establishing the area as the "Salad Bowl of the World," and his legacy will continue to propel this industry forward. A true giant in both personality and professional impact, Rick's presence in our community will be profoundly missed.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER G. DAWES ON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF LUCILE PACKARD CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest gratitude to Christopher Dawes for his extraordinary leadership as President and Chief Executive Officer of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford and to congratulate him on his well-earned retirement.

Christopher Dawes earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from San Diego State University and an MBA from the McLaren School of Business at the University of San Francisco. While his first job was delivering newspapers at the age of 12, Chris has had a long and distinguished career in hospital management and held senior management positions at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center and Stanford Hospital. He joined the Packard team in 1991 and was named its President and CEO in 1999.

Chris Dawes is a nationally recognized leader having served as Board Chair of the Children's Health Corporation of America (CHCA), a national purchasing organization for medical supplies for children's hospitals. He was Chair of the Board of the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI), a public policy organization, and he was deeply involved in the development of national policies for America's children as Chair of NACHRI during the development of the Affordable Care Act. It was his vision to consolidate CHCA and NACHRI into one organization, persuading his colleagues of the benefit of consolidation, which is now the Children's Hospital Association based in Washington, D.C.

During Chris's tenure Packard has been consistently ranked as one of the nation's best Children's Hospitals by U.S. News and World Report. Under his leadership, excellent nationally ranked clinical services were created and investments were made in the Children's Health Research Initiative. A network known

as the Packard Children's Health Alliance was built to provide 60 Bay Area locations with access to the care the Hospital provides, and a new, \$1.2 billion, 521,000 square foot main building, a multi-year undertaking, was completed. Chris was an engaged executive who led the Hospital through a transition to the lean management approach known as the Toyota Production System, and he imparted his values of serving all who need care, regardless of ability to pay, to everyone who served with him.

Mr. Speaker, I am exceedingly proud to have worked closely with Chris Dawes from my first day in Congress to his retirement, spanning over 25 years. He has led with distinction, purpose and integrity, and transformed Lucile Packard Children's Hospital into the gold standard of care for children in our country. For all this and more, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring this good and great man, and wishing him and his wife Beth every blessing in his retirement. We are a better, stronger country because of Chris Dawes's unparalleled leadership.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT COLONEL CHARLES DEL "SHAWN" JENNINGS UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE MARINE CORPS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Lieutenant Colonel Charles Del "Shawn" Jennings for twenty-two years of service with the Marine Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Jennings was born in Fort Worth, Texas and began his education in the Fort Worth Independent School District, attending David K. Sellars Elementary School. He later attended North Carolina Central University, and was a teacher and coach for five years before being commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Corps in August of 1997.

In July of 2005, LtCol Jennings deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and served with distinction during his deployment to the Middle East. In 2011, LtCol Jennings deployed with the Division in support of Operation Tomadachi to provide humanitarian, disaster and relief assistance to the people of Japan in the aftermath of the massive earthquake and tsunami on Mainland Japan. Two years later, he returned to Quantico for duty as the Assistant Chief of Staff G-1, Marine Corps Recruiting Command.

LtCol Jennings has been highly decorated throughout his military career. His awards include: the Meritorious Service Medal with 2 gold stars for third award, The Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with 2 gold stars for third award, the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, The Iraq Campaign

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Medal, The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, The Humanitarian Service Medal, and a Recruiting Ribbon. He also holds two Additional Military Occupational Specialties; 4802 Recruiting Officer-Operational Expert and 4804 Recruiting Officer-Multiple Tour Expert.

LtCol Jennings is happily married to the former Michelle Ingram of Wilmington, North Carolina. They have a daughter, Jasmine, who is a second year law student at UNC Chapel Hill and a son, Jordan, who is High School Junior at Massaponax High School, in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Please join me in thanking Lieutenant Colonel Charles Del "Shawn" Jennings for his many years of service to our nation. I wish him all the best in his new endeavors.

IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, SCHOLARS AND THEIR FAMILIES

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contribution that international students, scholars and their families make when we welcome them to this great country.

Attracting international students makes our country better and is simply smart policy.

To remain a global leader in STEM and in business, we need international students. They help America lead in technological innovation and scientific discoveries. Not only that, nearly one-quarter of the founders of the "billion dollar startups" first came to America as international students.

Our economy is stronger because of international students and their families that supported 450,000 jobs and contributed nearly \$37 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2016–2017 academic year.

In my home state of Rhode Island, international students supported almost 2,500 jobs and contributed over \$235 million to the state economy in the same period.

Cross-cultural exchange between international students and U.S. students creates mutual respect for cultural differences. In some cases, future U.S. and foreign leaders will have studied or conducted research together, creating even more direct diplomatic ties beneficial to national security.

Unfortunately, fewer international students are applying to study in the U.S. The number of newly arriving international students declined in fall 2017—with 45 percent of campuses reporting drops in new international enrollment according to the Institute of International Education. In February, for the first time in over a decade, the Council on Graduate Schools reported that international graduate student enrollment went down last fall.

The current administration continues to spread anti-immigrant rhetoric and propose extremist limits on travel and immigration to our country. Many international students now see the U.S. as less welcoming to foreigners than other countries. There is also uncertainty about whether they will be granted visas to go to school and to work here.

This is truly a loss for our country because we are in a global competition to attract international talent. Our country's loss will be an-

other's gain, as these students will go to school in Canada, Australia, China or another country that has more welcoming policies.

The month of May is a critical time when international students must commit to their college or university of choice. Therefore, I would like to recognize the vital economic, academic and cultural contributions that international students make and to say you are welcome here.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR JOHN MORETTA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION INTO THE PRIESTHOOD AND HIS 35TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF RESURRECTION CHURCH IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 50 years of priesthood for Father John Moretta from Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights.

Father John has worked tirelessly to empower his community through the activism he leads from Resurrection Church.

From paving the way forward on environmental justice issues, to keeping crime away from marginalized families through its Neighborhood Watch Group, and working with grassroots advocates like the Mothers of East L.A. to fight for DREAMers, Father John has served as the lynchpin of the Boyle Heights community for 50 years.

As we mark his Golden Jubilee, I'd like to thank Monsignor John Moretta for his service to Boyle Heights.

It is my honor to work with him to serve California's 34th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE PATTI BELLOCK

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Representative Patti Bellock of Hinsdale, Illinois. Representative Bellock has served as a member of the Illinois General Assembly, representing the 47th district since 1998, and has been a champion for victims of domestic violence.

On Saturday, April 28, Representative Bellock will be recognized by Family Shelter Services, which works to combat domestic violence in DuPage County, and provides relief and support to victims from all walks of life. Representative Bellock is being recognized for her constant support of the agency's mission, advocacy for tougher laws on domestic violence and efforts to keep Family Shelter Services funded in whole.

During Representative Bellock's time in the Illinois General Assembly, she has been a strong voice for victims of domestic violence and tougher laws on domestic violence. Representative Bellock is a member of the Human Trafficking Task Force and has received na-

tional attention for her leadership in passing the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). GATA eliminates duplicative grant requirements and reduces administrative burdens for agencies, while increasing accountability and transparency throughout the process. GATA provides relief and support to agencies like Family Shelter Services, allowing them to best serve communities in need.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing and thanking Representative Patti Bellock for her tireless work advocating for victims of domestic violence and tougher laws on domestic violence.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. GRACE HATCHER ADKINS' 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and birthday wishes to Mrs. Grace Hatcher Adkins. She will celebrate her 90th birthday on Friday, May 18, 2018 at Westwood Schools Auditorium at 225 Fuller Street in Camilla, Georgia.

Mrs. Adkins was born in 1928 to Mr. Clifford Edward Hatcher and Mrs. Agnes Faircloth Hatcher. The Newton, Georgia native began teaching in 1946 at the age of 18, and used the valuable lessons instilled in her by her family to guide her students.

Mrs. Adkins' life's work always centered on young people and helping them reach their full potential. She truly understood that "Education is the passport to the future; it belongs to those who prepare for it today." Throughout her remarkable 58 year career, she made it her mission to help every child be successful. She devoted countless time and energy into helping and supporting her students, especially those with learning disabilities. In 1980, she created one of the first Learning Labs in the State of Georgia at Westwood Schools in Camilla. The impact of the Learning Lab was so profound that educators from across the nation inquired about her techniques, which she acknowledged were fueled by her immense love for teaching and her desire to reach every student. Westwood Schools ultimately named the Learning Lab in her honor.

The poet Maya Angelou once said that, "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." Grace Hatcher-Adkins threw a prodigious amount of care and attention back to the students that she loved so dearly. She inspired several of her students to become lawyers, doctors, educators, professionals, business owners, and leaders in their own communities. Her optimistic attitude, powerful presence, and personal interest and care for each child, no matter the learning level, made all of her students feel valued and respected.

Mrs. Adkins has accomplished much in her life, but none of it would have been possible without her unwavering faith in the Lord, the love and support of her late husband, Bill, the family she cherishes so dearly, and the encouragement from all of those who have positively impacted her life over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than

730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in paying tribute to one of Southwest Georgia's finest educators, Mrs. Grace Hatcher Adkins, as she and her family prepare to celebrate her 90th birthday.

**CONGRATULATING EDDIE SALAME
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT OF
GRAPEVINE, TEXAS**

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Eddie Salame, Chief of Police of the City of Grapevine, on his upcoming retirement after 33 years in law enforcement.

Eddie Salame began his career as an officer with the Fort Worth Police Department on October 19, 1984. Over the several years he was there, Eddie worked both covert and overt assignments in Gang Intelligence, Criminal Investigations, and Narcotics Investigations. In July of 1991, he joined the Grapevine Police Department, continuing to take on various assignments and increased responsibility in Criminal Investigations, SWAT, Task Force Operations, and Crime Scene. On January 4, 2005, Eddie was appointed Chief of Police. He has served in that position for over 13 years, the longest tenure of any chief in the department's history.

Under his leadership, the Grapevine Police Department adopted a community oriented policing philosophy aimed at reducing crime by strengthening community ties. Chief Salame was instrumental in establishing and expanding programs that encourage communication and cooperation between law enforcement and local residents, including the Volunteers in Police Services Program and the Grapevine Community Outreach Center. Since the initiatives began in 2006, participation in the Volunteers in Police Service Program has doubled and the Community Outreach Center has made available critical services such as GED classes and after-school programs for at-risk students.

Chief Salame's dedication to community service goes well beyond his professional responsibilities. Outside of his duties as Chief of Police, he is an active member of the Grapevine community, currently serving as president of the Grapevine Rotary Club and as a member of the advisory board for the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Tarleton State University. He previously served on the advisory boards for the University of Texas at Arlington's Center for Criminal Justice Research and Training and One Safe Place, which provides coordinated services to victims of domestic violence.

For over three decades, Chief Salame has served his community tirelessly, putting himself in harm's way to ensure the safety of countless Texas residents. We are indebted to him for his exceptional leadership and his many years of bravery and sacrifice. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary service of Chief Eddie Salame and wishing him and his family the best in his retirement.

EUROPE'S MIGRANT CRISIS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as much as we like to pretend that the chaos of the Middle East and Africa is contained to those regions, it is not. Violent conflict, political oppression, and economic hardship anywhere causes ripple effects across the globe.

These secondary effects of distant unrest create serious challenges for ourselves and our allies. Nowhere is this more true than the ongoing migrant crisis that is fundamentally changing Europe.

Our European allies are facing an unprecedented wave of refugees and immigrants flooding across their borders. Many are innocent families fleeing danger, poverty, and starvation. But there are some who have ill intent. The foreign fighter phenomenon has disguised wolves in sheep's clothing and requires increased vigilance.

Our European friends have for centuries faced daunting challenges coming from their near abroad. Even the Roman Empire faced a mass migration problem coming from Asia. But with more people displaced today than during the Second World War, the challenge is enormous and we must assist Europe to develop a strategy.

The freedom and prosperity of the West has always been an oasis in a world of instability and tyranny. Europeans, just like Americans, wish they could help all those in need but understand there are limits to what can be done. Slamming the door shut seems cruel but leaving it wide open creates a new set of problems.

Every society faces strain when mass migration occurs. And there are real cultural, security, and economic implications which must be considered and addressed. The nations of Europe, as independent sovereign states, ultimately will determine their own course in how to tackle this challenge. But they have a responsibility as members of the European community and as good neighbors, to be mindful of the vulnerabilities and issues that arise from their decisions.

We have seen a recent wave of terrorism rock many of the great cities of Europe. This threat is very much linked to the wave of refugees and migrants coming from conflict zones in the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa. While many of the perpetrators of these attacks were European citizens and second or third generation immigrants, the massive flow of new migrants has created a challenge in tracking suspected extremists as they move to and from distant war zones. As many as 5,000 EU citizens have traveled to Syria or Iraq to join ISIS or other terrorist groups, and it is estimated that 30 percent of these individuals have returned to Europe.

Intelligence sharing and security cooperation among our European allies and ourselves is key to capturing returning foreign fighters and thwarting homegrown attacks. But developing ways to integrate migrant populations into their new European societies is important as well. Having entire communities that are isolated or not assimilated to their new countries sets the stage for radicalization and unrest.

European nations are in their right to enforce the rule of law and control their borders.

Meanwhile they should also find ways to absorb and welcome migrants who have legally joined their nations. A nation is not a nation without laws, borders, and an engaged citizenry.

Where we can, we must help our European friends to address this migrant crisis. Either through sharing of intelligence, building capacity, or addressing the source of the migrant crisis in the trouble regions of the world.

As allies, it is our duty to support our European friends whatever the challenge. History has shown us that our fates are inevitably linked.

And that's just the way it is.

**HONORING POLICE CHIEF JEFF
SWOBODA**

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elgin, Illinois native Jeff Swoboda on being named Chief of Police for the Department of Police Services in Fort Collins, Colorado. After 25 years of service to the Elgin Police Department, Chief Swoboda is well-prepared to move into the next season of his life and lead the Fort Collins Police Services.

Since joining the Elgin Police Department in 1992, Chief Swoboda worked his way up the ranks and was named Chief of Police in 2010. Early on in his career, he spent 5 years as an officer for the Resident Officer Program of Elgin. After his time in the Resident Officer Program, Chief Swoboda went on to attain the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant and Deputy Chief. After exceeding expectations and standing out as first-class leader, Chief Swoboda was named the Elgin Police Department's Chief of Police on April 16, 2010.

Chief Swoboda's passion for excellence and his ability to hold those in the department to the highest level of accountability has not only been noticed by the residents in Elgin, but it has also caught the attention of community leaders across the country. When the Fort Collins, Colorado Department of Police Services began their search for a new Chief of Police, Chief Swoboda stood out as someone ready to take on the new responsibilities and was seemingly made for the job. On April 5, 2018, after an exhaustive hiring process, Chief Swoboda was named Chief of Police for the Department of Police Services in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in congratulating Jeff Swoboda on being named the Chief of Police for the Department of Police Services in Fort Collins, Colorado.

**COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF ROB ROSCOE FROM
THE SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN
WATER DISTRICT**

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the retirement of Rob Roscoe.

Mr. Roscoe is retiring from the Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) as General Manager after 15 years of service.

As General Manager of the Sacramento Suburban Water District, Mr. Roscoe remained committed to ensuring government transparency and providing sustainable water resources to much of Sacramento County. Under his leadership, SSWD's credit ratings rose from an A- in 2003 to its current rating of AA+.

In addition to being General Manager of SSWD, Mr. Roscoe has been a longtime advocate of water infrastructure and held several other leadership roles with both regional and statewide organizations during his 40 years in public service.

He has been the recipient of numerous awards over his notable career, such as the Regional Water Authority's 2007 "Statesperson of the Year" and the 2017 "Distinguished Service Award."

He also received Association of California Water Agencies' 2017 Emissary Award for "remarkable and visible contributions to the enhancement, protection or development of water resources in California." In March 2018, he was awarded the American Society of Civil Engineers Region 9 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Roscoe on 15 years of outstanding service to Sacramento County and wish him the best in his next stage of his life.

HONORING ROCKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH IN HENDERSONVILLE FOR 150 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the congregation of Rockland Baptist Church in the year of their 150th anniversary celebration. Since its founding, Rockland has been a beacon of light in the Hendersonville community and has been a sanctuary for countless lives, touching the hearts of all who enter.

Pastor Leslie Stratton has faithfully served at Rockland Baptist Church since the fall of 1997, being preceded by Reverends Shipp, A.O. Kenry, Sam Bryant, Drew Bateman, Tom Mills, Frank Harrison, Albert G. Jones, O.C. McClain, Willie L. Scott, Floyd Prude, James K.L. Alexander, John A. Perry, and Lloyd S. Peoples. Under his leadership, Rockland faithfully executes Christ's command in Matthew to "love your neighbor as yourself" through their ministries and active community involvement.

Rockland's mission statement is "...to provide Christ centered ministries, where people can be redeemed to a personal relationship with Christ, reconciled to God and His People, restored to wholeness and well-being, and revived for a full life of involved service to others." God is alive and working throughout our nation, and it is through the ministry of churches like Rockland that His hand is tangibly felt in our neighborhoods. I join the entire Rockland family and pastoral staff in celebrating this wonderful occasion.

Rockland Baptist Church continues to be a pillar of hope in our community, and on behalf

of the 6th district of Tennessee, I ask that you join me in congratulating and honoring this congregation for their continued faithfulness to Hendersonville. They are a shining light for the Lord and we are thankful for their gift.

KADE GANNON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kade Gannon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Kade Gannon is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kade Gannon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kade Gannon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO CADE DEVOS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cade DeVos for winning the Class 3A, 145 pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament earlier this year.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Cade is a junior at Southeast Polk High School in Pleasant Hill. His coaches are Jason Christenson and Jake Agnitsch.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Cade and his family 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 Cade on competing in this rigorous competition and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his education and wrestling career.

HONORING ESTHER MESTRE

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the upcoming 94th birthday of an honorable New Yorker, Esther Mestre. At just twenty years old, Esther moved to New York City from her native Puerto Rico. While the

fast-paced city proved to be a dramatics transition from her tranquil life in Puerto Rico, Esther never lost sight of pursuing a happy and productive life on the Mainland.

From her humble roots as one of eighteen children in Santurce, Puerto Rico, Esther has raised seven wonderful children of her own. As leaders in their own communities, many of her children have become successful small business owners.

A beloved friend and dedicated community servant, Esther exemplifies the spirit of the greater Puerto Rican family of New York.

As we approach her 94th birthday celebration, I would like to send my deepest gratitude to Esther for her friendship, service and commitment to our community. My best wishes for a successful and joyful birthday celebration for a cherished leader and a dear friend.

ETHAN GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ethan Garcia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ethan Garcia is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ethan Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ethan Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

DARREN ELLISOR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Darren Ellisor's childhood dream was to become a pilot. Growing up in Clear Lake, Texas as the son of a NASA contractor, he attended the Wings over Houston air show each year, went on tours of NASA, and watched in fascination as the space shuttles flew into the sky, disappearing into the final frontier.

After visiting the United States Air Force Academy as a young teenager, Ellisor's dream suddenly seemed within grasp. He became determined to enroll at the Academy and become an Air Force pilot.

However, as his high school graduation neared, Ellisor failed to receive his long-sought appointment to the Air Force Academy. Disappointed, he knew he could not allow this setback deter him from pursuing his dream. Instead, he refocused his efforts, attending Valley Forge Military Academy and College in

Pennsylvania for a year. After applying to his dream school a second time, he finally received his acceptance to the prestigious Air Force Service Academy.

After graduating from the Academy and undergoing extensive pilot training, Ellisor served as an E-3 AWACS pilot until retiring from the Air Force in 2007. His service brought him to the skies of Germany, where he led multi-national crews comprised of airmen from 13 NATO countries in peace keeping missions over the skies of Kosovo. He went on to protect and defend American airspace after 9/11 and took part in multiple operations in the Middle East during the War on Terror.

Ellisor has long been someone who has helped others. During his time in the Air Force, he served as the Assistant Director of Operations of the 552nd Training Squadron, training over 300 young air crewmen during his tenure. After his retirement from the Air Force, he formed a small business, Service Academy Consulting, in order to help high school students with dreams like his attend one of the elite service academies.

Ellisor selfless side showed itself again last week when he and Tammie Jo Shults saved 148 lives as their commercial airplane suddenly seemed to fall from the sky. On a seemingly ordinary day, First Officer Darren Ellisor and Pilot Tammie Jo Shults prepared for takeoff, all systems a go. Shortly after takeoff, Southwest Airlines flight 1380's left engine exploded. Ellisor and Shults's military training kicked in, calmly bringing the plane to low altitude, and the duo eventually landed the plane safely in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, Air Force veteran and Southwest Airlines pilot Darren Ellisor has a storied career serving our great Nation in the United States Airforce. His dedication to his country and aid in what could have been a disastrous situation are commendable. He truly embodies what it means to be a great American.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING JEAN BARR
DONALDSON III

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jean Barr Donaldson III, who retired on March 23, 2018 as the Under-sheriff of the Napa County Sheriff's Office, after 30 years of service to Napa County.

A native of San Francisco and Novato, Mr. Donaldson graduated from San Marin High School in Novato in 1981. He attended Santa Rosa Junior College and Sacramento State University, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice in 1986. Mr. Donaldson then attended and graduated from the Basic Police Academy at the Santa Rosa Junior College Northern California Criminal Justice Center.

Mr. Donaldson was sworn in as a Deputy Sheriff in the Napa County Sheriff's Office in 1988. As a Deputy, he spent several years patrolling the Napa Valley and Lake Berryessa areas and was selected to be a member of the SWAT Team. Mr. Donaldson was then selected to work in the Investigations Bureau as a Detective. In 1988 he was promoted to Ser-

geant and was assigned to supervise the Patrol, Special Investigations and Animal Services Bureaus. Mr. Donaldson was promoted to Lieutenant in 2002 and worked as the manager of the Investigations and Civil/Coroner Bureaus. In 2008, he was promoted to Captain and spent several years as manager of the Operations Division and four years as the Chief of Police of American Canyon. In 2013 Mr. Donaldson was promoted to Undersheriff where he managed the day to day operations of the entire Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Donaldson has also spent countless hours volunteering in our community. He has volunteered as a wrestling coach at the Napa Sheriff's Activities League and as a football coach at Napa High School. He is a loving husband to his wife Marni and a proud parent of their children Sean and Macki.

Mr. Speaker, Jean Barr Donaldson III has dedicated his life to serving our community and protecting others. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

AREZ GHAFOUR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Arez Ghafour for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Arez Ghafour is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Arez Ghafour is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Arez Ghafour for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, the United States maintains the world's safest and most complex aviation system in the world. The last multi-year FAA reauthorization bill expired in 2015. Since then, Congress has taken a patchwork approach to regulating Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) operations and programs, which I believe has threatened the safety and efficiency

of our airways. Today, as we consider reauthorizing the programs and regulations that dictate how we manage our nation's airspace, I am encouraged that we are making real progress on a long-term bill that will reauthorize FAA operations through FY 2023.

Overall, this bill represents an important first step to providing the long-term assurances and reliability that we need at the federal level to support FAA operations in Texas and across the country. Dallas is home to the fourth busiest airport in the world by aircraft movements, the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, and the largest hub for American Airlines. Having the certainty of a long-term authorization bill will help solidify the Dallas metroplex as a major hub for domestic travel and commerce, and allow it to flourish as an international gateway to every part of the world. The longer we delay passage of a long-term bill, the more expensive and more time consuming it will be to modernize our airspace for a 21st Century economy.

This measure is not without criticism. I am disappointed to see that the underlying bill includes dramatic cuts to the Research, Engineering, and Development (RE&D) title that is lowered than the amounts appropriated in the FY 2018 Omnibus. I offered an amendment to restore critical RE&D funding for environmental sustainability, but I was disappointed that the Rules Committee would not make that language in order. Furthermore, I introduced an amendment to ensure transparency and accountability in FAA investment decisions by requiring performance-based standards to drive the evaluation and adoption of new aviation technologies, rather than arbitrary deadlines set by special interests.

Mr. Speaker, while not perfect, H.R. 4 represents a discernible improvement over the piecemeal approach that Congress has taken with its series of short-term extensions over the years. Our nation's aviation stakeholders need the long-term certainty of federal involvement that only comes with a multi-year reauthorization of FAA programs. H.R. 4 would largely achieve that goal to provide the support and resources for the aviation community all across the United States. Therefore, barring no gross changes to the legislation, I offer my support to this legislation and urge my colleagues to support the underlying bill.

HONORING THE SESQUICENTEN-
NIAL OF HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an institution that has been at the forefront of education in America for the last 150 years. This April, Hampton University is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding. To mark the occasion, I would like to take a moment and recognize the wonderful legacy of this institution of higher education that lives on today.

The seeds from which Hampton University grew were planted in 1861. During the Civil War, Fort Monroe, the Union-controlled coastal fortress, was a beacon to slaves in Hampton, Virginia and the surrounding towns. General Benjamin Butler, Commanding Officer of

the fort, had issued a declaration that any slaves that made it to Union lines would not be returned to their masters, but declared "contraband of war." Overrun with slaves desiring their freedom, the Union created a camp for the refugees a few miles northwest of the fort. It was in this camp that Mary Smith Peake, a free black woman held classes for escapees under a large oak tree, in violation of Virginia law prohibiting the education of free or enslaved blacks. This tree would later be named the Emancipation Oak, as it was the first place in the South when the Emancipation Proclamation was read aloud to a crowd. The classes and meetings held under the Emancipation Oak were the beginning of education on the campus of what was to become Hampton University.

After the war, there were no existing pathways for freedmen to rise from their station in slavery. Recognizing this, Brigadier General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, head of the Freedmen's Bureau in Hampton Roads, founded the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in April 1868. While nominally the school's mission was to train black teachers to fill the demand for the education of black Americans, the school's founder suggested the true purpose of the school was "to train selected Negro youth who should go out and teach and lead their people first by example, by getting land and homes; to give them not a dollar that they could earn for themselves; to teach respect for labor, to replace stupid drudgery with skilled hands, and in this way to build up an industrial system for the sake not only of self-support and intelligent labor, but also for the sake of character."

Hampton became a model for the creation of other schools designed to uplift Black America. Within nine years of arriving on Hampton's campus for his education, Booker T. Washington was founding Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Hampton continued to produce black educators and skilled craft and tradesmen. Many of the campus buildings of this era were built by Hampton students. Hampton expanded its programs, increasing its course offerings to include business, nursing, and other arts and sciences classes. In 1930 the school was renamed Hampton Institute, recognizing its growth from its agricultural and teacher training roots. And in 1984, after a thorough nine-month study of Hampton's rapid growth and development and acknowledging its commitment to attracting quality students and talented faculty, offering a robust selection of academic programs, as well as its status as a premier research institution, it was recommended that Hampton Institute change its name to Hampton University.

Hampton's current legacy has been shaped over the past 40 years by President Dr. William R. Harvey. Dr. Harvey came to Hampton in 1978 as the 12th President of the school. Under his leadership, Hampton has remained an innovative institution of higher education. If Dr. Harvey's tenure were measured solely by the creation of traditional campus facilities, the construction of the Convocation Center, Student Center, Sports Facilities, Libraries, schools of journalism and physical sciences would be a fitting tribute to his tenure. But Dr. Harvey has also had the vision to ensure that Hampton was at the forefront of innovative new technologies and opportunities. Hampton University's Proton Therapy Institute is the only one of its kind in Virginia, and through its

partnerships with NASA, Hampton is currently the only historically black college and university in control of a NASA satellite mission.

Over 150 years, Hampton University, "Our Home by the Sea," has grown from an outdoor academy for newly freed slaves to an established research university and one of the bedrock institutions of the Hampton Roads region. Its athletic teams have won scores of championships in multiple sports. Its alumni have achieved acclaim in the arts, sciences, business, and politics. And Hampton has held a place of reverence in the story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in America. I would like to commend Dr. Harvey, the faculty, staff, students, and alumni of Hampton University on the occasion of their sesquicentennial, and I wish them another 150 years of success, growth, and achievement as a pinnacle of higher education in our country.

BRADY A. HACKBARTH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brady A. Hackbarth for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Brady A. Hackbarth is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brady A. Hackbarth is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brady A. Hackbarth for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MARY HELEN
WAINWRIGHT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mary Helen Wainwright on the very special occasion of her 100th birthday. She was born in Parnell, Missouri on April 10, 1918 and was a teacher for most of her life.

Our world has changed a great deal during Mary Helen's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones, and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism, and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Mary Helen has lived through seventeen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Mary Helen 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 Mary Helen on reaching this incredible milestone and in wishing her nothing but the best.

REMEMBERING MARINE CORPS
MASTER SERGEANT ERIC ENGLAND

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Blairsville's Eric England, a retired Marine known as one of the world's greatest marksmen. At the age of 84, Master Sergeant England passed away on April 7, 2018.

Master Sergeant England joined the United States Marine Corps in 1950 and served as a scout sniper during the Vietnam War. In combat, he had 98 confirmed kills, making him one of the best snipers in our nation's history.

Years after the Vietnam War, Master Sergeant England continued working for the Marine Corps as a Weapons Tactics Instructor. He viewed teaching as a way for him to continue defending American lives, encouraging him to create the National Marksmanship Unit at Georgia's Fort Benning in 1968.

Master Sergeant England won countless awards for his world-class marksmanship, and he represented the United States as part of two Olympic shooting teams. Alongside his cousin and fellow Marine, Zell Miller, he was inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame with the Class of 2017.

My prayers are with the England family in their time of loss. I stand alongside many other Americans in thanking this hero for his service.

JAYDEKAI HANH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jaydekai Hanh for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jaydekai Hanh is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jaydekai Hanh is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jaydekai Hanh for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

COUNTERTERRORISM COOPERATION
WITH THE GCC STATES**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. Poe of TEXAS. Mr. Speaker, our historic relationship with the Arab Gulf states is strategically crucial. The ties we maintain allow us to project power to contain threats like Iran and secure key shipping lanes for global commerce while also providing stability in a chaotic region. Our Gulf partners have made clear they value their strong alliance with the United States.

But our relationship has not always been perfect. The 9/11 attacks were a tragic wake-up call to a dangerous ideology that we had long ignored. Sunni extremism had established strong roots across the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia. This intolerant and violent strain of Islam was largely able to spread so widely because it was funded and supported by some of our Gulf allies.

Some would call this a betrayal: while GCC states were benefiting from security and stability provided by the U.S., they were fostering radical ideologies that sought to target and kill Americans. It is no coincidence that among the 19 hijackers who conducted the 9/11 attacks, 17 came from the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. In part, al-Qaeda did this deliberately to damage the GCC alliance with the U.S. But the high number of Saudi recruits and the fact that al-Qaeda was founded and led by a Saudi named Osama bin Laden, also showed that something was not quite right in the Kingdom. The Saudi monarchy's embrace of the Wahhabi ideology produced generations of young Saudis who despised the West and held hateful views of other religions.

After 9/11, the Kingdom and the rest of the GCC states pledged cooperation with the U.S. to fight terrorism, but little was done. Wealthy financiers and hateful preachers continued to operate across the GCC. For years, many of our Gulf allies tried to play both sides of the War on Terror. They acted both as the arsonists and the firefighters. While the U.S. military launched airstrikes against terrorists in the region from Gulf air bases, money and recruits flowed to terrorist from the same Gulf countries. We were basically chasing our tails.

Ultimately, not George W. Bush, nor Barack Obama, nor Donald Trump can convince young Muslims that al-Qaeda or ISIS's version of Islam is the wrong one. An American president, regardless of party affiliation, will never be able to effectively argue that jihad against the West is not the answer to the problems of the Middle East. It is only the leaders of the Muslim world who can make that argument.

In recent years, we have seen progress by the Gulf states towards tackling the sources of extremism within their borders. They have recognized that this is not just the U.S.'s fight: their own security is at stake. The Saudis have infiltrated terrorist groups to thwart attacks on the West and detained radical clerics who once incited thousands to join al-Qaeda or ISIS. The UAE is leading the region in developing messaging to counter violent extremism and has prioritized targeting al-Qaeda in Yemen. Bahrain now hosts the region's Financial Action Task Force and amended its charity law to closely monitor terrorist financing

and enact harsh penalties on violators. Kuwait has also intensified its charity monitoring and outlawed fundraising for terrorist groups online. Meanwhile, Oman remains a haven for tolerance and moderate Islam, effectively preventing terrorists from using its territory for fundraising or recruitment. Even Qatar has signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. last summer to cooperate on counterterrorism and has created terrorist designation lists. Trust is finally being restored.

But there is still more work to be done. Many promises remain unfulfilled. Qatar still harbors Hamas operatives and al-Qaeda fundraisers. The Saudis still publish intolerant material in their textbooks that glorify jihad and incite hatred and violence. Additionally, Kuwait still has designated terrorists living freely in their borders. Oman remains suspiciously tied to the region's number one state sponsor of terrorism, Iran, and reports of arms smuggling through Oman to Yemen's Houthi rebels persist. No GCC member is contributing enough to prevent ISIS from reemerging in Syria and Iraq. And the Saudi-led coalition is overly focused on Iran's meddling in Yemen while al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula survives in the chaos.

We need our Gulf partners to aggressively and pro-actively combat Sunni extremism across the region. Not to wait for the U.S. to take the lead or ask them nicely. All the drones and special forces in the world cannot destroy an ideology this deeply rooted. The fight against terrorism must start and end on the ideological battlefield. Treating the symptoms and not the underlying disease will ultimately not be enough.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. PASCHAL
WARD**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a beloved educator and outstanding citizen, Mr. Paschal Ward. Mr. Ward will be retiring from his post as the Director of Bands at Bainbridge High School. He will be honored by the administration, faculty, students, and supporters at a celebratory reception on Saturday, May 5, 2018 in Bainbridge, Georgia.

The Prattville, Alabama native earned both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's degree in Music Education from Troy State University in Alabama. Since 1985, he has served as the Director of Bands at Bainbridge High School. He has built an impressive career, which began when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, and served as the Director of Bands in Goshen, Alabama. He later became the Director of Bands at Charles Henderson High School in Troy, Alabama; the University of West Alabama; and Livingston State University in Livingston, Alabama.

Under his direction, the Charles Henderson High School band program received superior ratings in both marching and concert competitions for eight consecutive years; the participation in the Livingston State University Collegiate Band Program doubled; the Decatur County Band program received numerous

Proclamations and Senate Resolutions from the Governors of Alabama and Georgia; and the Bainbridge High School Symphonic Band has been awarded Superior Ratings by the Georgia Music Educators Band Festival and Georgia Bandmasters Association for thirty-three consecutive years.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a compassionate and able leader when Mr. Ward arrived in Decatur County in 1985. Mr. Ward has also served on numerous community boards, and as Chairman of the Alabama Band Association for District Eight; a member of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Visiting Committee; the National Band Association for District Eight; the Southeastern U.S. Honor Band Clinic; and the Georgia Music Educators Association. He also received an honorary membership into Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity, Incorporated.

A talented and precise music director, Mr. Ward has received numerous accolades and awards for his musical expertise. These honors include a feature in the ("Who's Who among America's Teachers" in 1992 and 1996; an Outstanding Alumni Award in Music Education by Troy State University in 1993; a spot in the National Band Director Hall of Fame as the Band Director of the Year in 1996; a Star-Teacher Award in 2001; a Man of the Year Award in 2006 and an Outstanding Teacher Award in 2010 from the Bainbridge Kiwanis Club; a National Citizenship Education Teacher Award in 2007; a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition in 2009, which I presented to him; and the title of Roastee of the Year by the Bainbridge Pilot Club in 2011.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: ("You make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give." Paschal Ward has established a legacy of musical distinction in Bainbridge where he has done a tremendous job of educating students. A man of great integrity, his efforts, his dedication, and his expertise in his field are unparalleled.

Paschal has accomplished much in his life but none of it would be possible without the love and support of his wife, Pamela, and their children, Rachael and Emily.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mr. Paschal Ward upon the occasion of his retirement from an outstanding thirty-three year career in music education.

TRIBUTE TO WANDA AND BOB
WOLDRUFF**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Wanda and Bob Woldruff on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Wanda and Bob's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow and may they continue to cherish and honor one another for many more years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

NATHAN HANNAH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nathan Hannah for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Nathan Hannah is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nathan Hannah is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nathan Hannah for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. GLENN GROTHMAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Chair, I would like to thank the Chairman and Ranking member for their effort to bring this bill forward.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment to H.R. 4.

My amendment is intended to offer a pathway to provide authorization for the use of actively tethered unmanned aircraft systems, or UAV's, for public safety purposes, specifically fire engines.

My amendment preserves FAA's discretion to determine the conditions that apply to these operations, while denoting congressional intent for the authorization to cover a wide variety of public safety uses.

My amendment ensures limited UAV operational authority and is available only to actively tethered UAV's that present a lower level of safety risk. This amendment would apply only to systems that:

are physically attached to a ground station with a taut, appropriately load-rated tether that provides continuous power to the unmanned aircraft; and

capable of being controlled and retrieved by such ground station through physical manipulation of the tether.

These tethered public UAV's operating under the authority granted by subsection (a) shall be operated:

within the line of sight of the operator;
less than 200 feet above the ground;
within class G airspace; and

at least 5 statute miles from a tower-controller airport or airport denoted on by the Federal Aviation Administration-with limited exceptions.

My amendment will be a huge asset for our men and women fighting fires and will improve their effectiveness. More importantly, passage of this amendment will help save lives.

I am happy to offer this amendment and look forward to continue working with my colleagues and the FAA to ensure our first responders can utilize this potential resource.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, Schiff No. 29, which requires the FAA to create a program that utilizes remote detection and identification technologies to identify unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) that are not in compliance with applicable Federal aviation laws and regulations.

I first came to this issue several years ago when fire fighters responding to a wildfire had to ground support aircraft due to civilians operating drones in the airspace. This problem seems likely to grow more pronounced, not just in response to wildfires but also in the airspace near airports. According to the FAA, the agency projects there are 1.1 million unmanned aircraft systems in the United States and they expect that number to grow rapidly in the coming years, putting airline passengers, firefighters, and others at risk.

I want the owners of these vehicles to be able to enjoy them, but in a complicated and crowded airspace like the one we have in Los Angeles, we need to be sure we are putting public safety first. That is why it is so important for Congress to give the FAA and law enforcement the appropriate tools to address this increase in drones entering restricted airspace.

Furthermore, we still do not know how many unmanned aircraft enter restricted airspace, whether at airports, above forest fires, or in other restricted areas. That is why my amendment also requires annual reporting by FAA to Congress to report the number of drones entering restricted airspace, the number of enforcement cases brought by FAA or other agencies, and recommendations by FAA for detection and mitigation systems. There are a variety of vendors developing technology to counter unauthorized UAS operation in restricted airspace, some of which show great promise and have already been tested in pilot projects by the FAA. My amendment would direct the FAA to continue this important work.

With the adoption of UAS technology continuing at a rapid pace, I am worried it is more a matter of when and not if a drone will collide with a commercial airliner or first responder, with potentially devastating results. We must be proactive to ensure that the next time we read about this issue, we are not also reading about casualties that could have been prevented.

I thank the Chairman and Ranking Members of the committee and appreciate the inclusion of my amendment in the FAA Reauthorization bill. It is my hope it will remain in any conference agreement finalized by the House and Senate.

SAMUEAL HAYS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samueal Hays for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samueal Hays is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samueal Hays is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samueal Hays for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE
2018 DIVERSITY HONORS GALA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the five outstanding honorees of the 2018 Diversity Honors Gala. The Diversity Honors Gala is an annual event where the community can come together to honor men and women who, in their extraordinary lives, remind us all of the diversity of the human spirit and the values that define us. The gala will benefit the Harvey Milk Foundation and The Pride Center at Equality Park.

Mr. Speaker, Dolores Huerta, recipient of the Harvey Milk Foundation Honors Medal, is a preeminent leader of the Latino, Labor, and Women's Civil rights movements and co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America.

Emma González, recipient of the Harvey Milk Foundation Milan Rozsa Youth Award, is a youth activist and advocate for LGBT rights, gun control, and an international leader for the current generation of students. She is a survivor of the massacre that took the lives of 17 students and faculty at Marjory Stoneman Douglas in Parkland, Florida.

Mayor Dean Trantalis of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is the recipient of the Alan Schubert Award of Excellence. Mayor Trantalis has a long track record of public service, beginning with his involvement in the fight for equal rights.

In 2012, Florida State Representative David Richardson became the first-elected openly gay state legislator in Florida's history. Mr. Richardson quickly earned the respect of his colleagues for his work on criminal justice and prison reform, sensible gun violence prevention measures, promotion of traditional public schools, and steadfast commitment to civil liberties and equal rights for all.

Craig Stevens, a NATAS Silver Circle recipient and Emmy Award winner, is a fixture of the South Florida Community. Craig is active in several charities and organizations. He spent several years as vice-president of the Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences where he also chaired a committee that mentored young TV professionals throughout the southeastern United States.

Again, congratulations to these outstanding individuals. I look forward to hearing of their continued service activities.

TRIBUTE TO JIM WINEMILLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jim Winemiller. Jim was awarded the Taylor County Conservation Leadership Award.

The Leadership Award is a joint effort of the Taylor County Soil and Water Conservation District, Taylor County Board of Supervisors, and the Taylor County Conservation Board to recognize the exemplary efforts of Taylor County's conservation leaders, committed to improving wildlife habitat, water quality, and conservation in Taylor County. Since 1990, Jim has worked as the Conservation Board Director and enjoyed creating and bettering outdoor recreation opportunities for the community. One of his greatest achievements was the improvement of Sand Timber Lake and watershed near Blockton.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Jim for this award. I am proud to represent him and Taylor County Conservation in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jim and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

MALIK JOHNES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Malik Johnes for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Malik Johnes is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Malik Johnes is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Malik Johnes for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

U.S.-SERBIA RELATIONSHIP

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honor for me to talk about the great relationship we have with Serbia as co-chair of the Congressional Serbia Caucus.

Serbia is a great friend of the United States. As a Texan, I have great admiration for the people of Serbia. Our strong opinions and habit to speak our minds make us natural allies.

In fact, one of the first people to settle in Texas was a Serbian named Dorde Sagic, or George Fischer as he was known in the U.S. After settling in Texas, Sagic went on to become a justice of the peace in my hometown of Houston.

But Serbia has contributed much more to the cause of justice than just Mr. Sagic keeping the early streets of Houston safe.

Today we honor the service of Serbia's armed forces who have fought side-by-side with Americans to preserve justice during history's most horrific conflicts.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson gave a speech marking the fourth anniversary of Austria-Hungary's invasion of Serbia. Speaking of the bravery of the Serbian armed forces, President Wilson said:

"Nobly did they respond. So valiantly and courageous did they oppose the forces of a country ten times greater in population and resources. . . While their territory has been devastated and their homes despoiled, the spirit of the Serbian people has not been broken."

As a Texan, I admire such defiance against overwhelming odds.

Like President Wilson, I am proud to share the stories of Serbia's bravery here in Washington.

I believe the most meaningful for Americans is the story of the Halyard Mission during the dark days of the Second World War.

While under Nazi-occupation, the Serbian people demonstrated their bravery as they played a crucial role in the largest rescue operation of American airmen in history.

In 1944, American bombers were flying frequent missions to strike Germany's vital oil supplies in Romania as part of the allied advance into Europe.

The 15th Air Force led this effort by launching nearly 20,000 sorties into Eastern Europe, with many of the missions flying over Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. As many as 1,500 pilots and airmen were shot down during these courageous air raids.

Serbian, who had been resisting German forces since 1941, risked their own lives to rescue American aircrews and hide them from patrolling Nazis.

For months these brave and noble Serbians cared for and protected American and allied pilots.

By August 1944, the allied forces, including the 15th Air Force and Office of Strategic Services, devised a daring operation to evacuate the hundreds of allied pilots being sheltered by the Serbian resistance.

American aircraft flew into enemy territory and evacuated these airmen from an air field built and protected by local Serbians near the village of Pranjani.

For over 60 years this operation was kept secret. But now we can remember the courage of our Serbian friends and say thank you.

The spirit of the Halyard mission still lives on today as a remarkable story of resistance and heroism.

As was the case in both World Wars, Serbia and the U.S. still face shared threats.

About 600 foreign fighters in Syria have come from the Balkan states. ISIS and al-Qaeda terrorists present a threat to Serbia and the region just as they present a threat to the U.S.

We must continue to coordinate with our Serbian partners to stop returning terrorists and neutralize networks that recruit fighters in the Balkans.

The U.S. is also working with Serbia to improve its independent judiciary and fight corruption. A democratic Serbia with a strong rule of law is in America's interests.

But there are others who do not share this goal.

Russian disinformation efforts are designed to keep Serbia in its sphere of influence and poison our warming friendship.

Nevertheless, Serbia's integration to the West has continued to move forward.

In 2006, Serbia joined NATO's Partnership for Peace program and, in 2015, signed an Individual Partnership Action Plan with the alliance to strengthen cooperation.

Recently the European Union announced that Serbia could join the EU as early as 2025. I applaud this step which will strengthen Belgrade's political institutions and economic ties with the West.

Together we share the same dreams of a bright and free future for both our countries.

We are blessed to have brave men and women that ensure our futures are bright and free.

Thank you to the Serbian armed forces for standing with America in the wars of the past and in the challenges we will face together in the future.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK WESTERN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Chuck Western who was inducted into the Union County Cattlemen's Hall of Fame at their annual banquet earlier this year.

Chuck has been a long time livestock producer and row crop farmer. He was an original

board member of the Union County Cattlemen and also served on the state board for Cattlemen.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Chuck for receiving this outstanding award. I am proud to represent him and the Union County Cattlemen in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Chuck and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

CHRIS JORDAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chris Jordan for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Chris Jordan is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chris Jordan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chris Jordan for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING RUTHERFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rutherford Volunteer Fire Department for their 100 years of volunteer service to Rutherford, Napa County and California.

This esteemed fire department was created in 1918, along with 22 other stations in Napa County, in preparation for a potential war. It has been in service ever since, operating 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. In 1956 Napa County accepted the Rutherford Fire Department into county control and in 1986 the Rutherford Fire Department was incorporated.

Rutherford Fire Department has not only served Rutherford and Napa County. The department has also responded to numerous fires, floods and earthquakes throughout and across California. In order to adequately respond to any and every crisis, the Rutherford Fire Department has been at the forefront of training and drilling.

Rutherford Fire Department is more than just an exceptional fire department. Multiple generations of Rutherford residents have served and continue to serve our community as courageous volunteer firefighters who are

ready to defend the lives of those in the Napa Valley and throughout California. The department stands tall as one of the nine remaining volunteer departments in the Napa County and is honored to be made up of community members, for the protection of community members.

Mr. Speaker, the Rutherford Volunteer Fire Department is an essential institution. Their unparalleled commitment to protecting Rutherford and Napa County make them a model volunteer fire department. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor the Rutherford Fire Department here today.

INCREDIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the incredible contributions of international students at our colleges and universities.

During this time of year, students all over the United States and the world are beginning to make decisions about where they will attend college. As they begin to make these decisions, I would like to express my support for international students, and the value they add to our institutions of higher education, and our country as a whole.

Nationwide, only 2 percent of U.S. students study abroad every year. This makes it even more important our colleges and universities have a diverse student body, so our students can learn about different cultures.

In my district, there are nearly 1,500 international students enrolled in both the undergraduate and graduate level at Ohio University, and over 6,000 at The Ohio State University. These students contribute to a wide variety of our academic programs, including STEM subjects. Moreover, when they return home, they become informal ambassadors when sharing their positive experiences in our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the incredible value international students add to our country.

TRIBUTE TO MARY AND ROBERT PIATT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mary and Robert Piatt of Glenwood, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on February 14, 2018.

Mary and Robert's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them

many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

STEVEN CRISE-ZARATE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Steven Crise-Zarate for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Steven Crise-Zarate is a student at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Steven Crise-Zarate is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Steven Crise-Zarate for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING COUNCILMEMBER MARGARET FINLAY

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the long career of public service provided by an outstanding leader in my district, Councilmember Margaret Finlay, who is ending her term as President of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Councilmember Finlay has ably led the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 191 cities and more than 18 million residents. Under her guidance, SCAG has undertaken important work in a variety of planning and policy initiatives that will improve Southern California now and in the future.

Councilmember Finlay has been an invaluable resource to me and my staff as a councilmember and six-term Mayor of the city of Duarte having served our region for over 28 years. She has served in many capacities as she has been elected by her peers in other cities to serve on regional, state, and national boards such as the National League of Cities, League of California Cities, Liability Trust Fund Oversight Committee, California Joint Powers Insurance Authority, Personnel Committee of the Sanitation Districts, LAFCO Representative for Los Angeles County, and the California Contract Cities Association.

I have been privileged to work directly with Councilmember Finlay on many issues affecting our community such as increasing transportation options for our residents, creating more access to our beautiful San Gabriel Mountains, and improving emergency preparedness and response. She is a leader on

advocating for additional transit, bicycle and pedestrian options to improve the daily commute of our residents. She has done exceptional work to preserve our natural resources for future generations by fighting to preserve 330 acres in the foothills. Councilmember Finlay and I recently held a first responder event together to improve wildfire and mudslide prevention and response activities in Duarte and our surrounding community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Duarte and the many people she has impacted in the Southern California Region, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Councilmember Margaret Finlay for her service as President of the Southern California Association of Governments. I look forward to continuing to work with Councilmember Finlay to improve the lives of residents in Duarte and the San Gabriel Valley.

HONORING THE LIFE OF R.B.
"BOB" TAYLOR

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of World War II veteran, community leader, and dear friend, R.B. "Bob" Taylor who went home to be with the Lord on April 18, 2018 at the age of ninety-two.

Bob was born on October 17, 1926, in Oak Town, Indiana. He served in the United States Army 7th Infantry Division from 1944 to 1946 during the Second World War where he deployed to the South Pacific, with stints in both Okinawa and Korea.

On May 15, 1947, he married his wife of seventy-one years, the former Alice Fox. Together Mr. and Mrs. Taylor raised two daughters, Scarlet and Rhonda, and one son, Michael. The Taylor family has called the Texas Gulf Coast home for many years, having lived in the East Harris, Clearlake, and West Chambers County area since 1953. In 2001, Bob was appointed to an open seat on the City Council in Beach City, and was elected to another term in 2002. He also served as an elected Precinct Chairman for the Chambers County Republican Party. Bob Taylor was also a member and/or director of numerous community and civic organizations including: Arabian Shrine Temple, 32nd Degree Mason, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Cedar Bayou Navigation District Task Force, Bay Area Crime Stoppers, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. He was also a founder of both the Clear Lake Boat Parade and the Clear Lake Hydroplane Boat Races. Bob often reflected on participating in the Coast to Coast Antique Automobile Race with his son in the late 1980's. He later served as a Bayou Bowl Director, a member of the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce, and as a Director for the Baytown West Chambers County Economic Development Corporation.

A patriot, dedicated public servant, and close friend, Bob will be missed, but his many contributions to his country, state, and community will long live on. Mr. Speaker, my prayers are with the family and numerous friends of R.B. "Bob" Taylor.

CONGRATULATING SOUTHEAST
MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERN-
MENTS (SEMCOG)

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) as it celebrates its 50th year of serving Southeast Michigan.

SEMCOG was formed 50 years ago to fill a vital need—to bring together distinct communities in Southeast Michigan, and provide a forum to help them plan and work together for the common good. The philosophy at the heart of SEMCOG is that the whole is sometimes greater than the sum of its parts, and that our region faces challenges we can only meet by working together.

In the continuing pursuit of regional coordination, business, community, and government leaders came together in the mid-1960s to form the Committee of 100. The Committee of 100 reviewed the functions of both the Regional Planning Commission and the Supervisors Inter-County Commission. In January 1968, on recommendation of the Committee of 100, the Regional Planning Commission and the Supervisors Inter-County Committee disbanded, and the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments was formed and began to respond to the need for both planning and other types of intergovernmental and regional programs.

SEMCOG's earliest years set the tone for much of the work they do today and will continue to do in the future. I've had the pleasure of seeing firsthand the growth of SEMCOG, from the days of the Committee of 100 to today.

Today SEMCOG serves 4.7 million people in the seven-county area surrounding Metropolitan Detroit. SEMCOG supports coordinated local planning with technical, data, and intergovernmental resources. The principal purpose of SEMCOG is to help local governments improve and maintain Southeast Michigan's transportation systems, environmental quality, economic interests, and infrastructure.

SEMCOG has been instrumental to our work in Congress, serving as a valuable resource to not only me and my office, but the entire Michigan delegation. A strong, collegial working relationship has been mutually beneficial to developing policy and addressing the needs of Southeast Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing SEMCOG for their steadfast commitment to their mission of addressing regional challenges and strengthening the abilities of local governments to work together.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
YMCA OF NORTHERN UTAH

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to honor the YMCA of Northern Utah, as it celebrates its 125th anniversary.

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, the YMCA opened its doors in Salt Lake City,

Utah. Since then, the YMCA has been vital in building strong kids, families, and communities. Whether it be homework support or summer camping, the Y's impact on Northern Utah has been invaluable.

The afterschool programs that the YMCA provides are priceless to its communities. The Y provides 28 afterschool programs sites across Utah, which serve over 1,350 youth. These programs help ensure that kids have a safe, instructive, and enjoyable place to go after school. This not only gives parents peace of mind about their children's safety, but also instills core values of caring, respect, honesty and responsibility in the participants of the programs.

The YMCA offers many programs that celebrate the beautiful outdoor landscapes in Utah. Utah is widely known as one of the most beautiful places to live and offers a wide variety of outdoor adventures. However, various factors can prevent our children from experiencing the beauty that our state has to offer. The Y has gone to great lengths to ensure that all children can have the opportunity to appreciate the outdoors through overnight camps, day camps, and even recess camps. In these summer programs spread throughout the state, children can meet new friends, learn new skills, connect with nature, and have fun.

On top of everything else, the YMCA also provides a "wide range of programs for adults. Courses are available for individuals learning to speak English, improve financial literacy and money management, prevent Type 2 Diabetes, and enhance fitness. These classes have been wildly successful, with some even gaining national recognition. The development of these skills has been life-changing and enriching to many across the state.

In conclusion, the services at the YMCA have been integral in making Utah one of the best places to live and raise a family. One hundred and twenty-five years later, Utah is a better place to live, with stronger communities and children, because of the YMCA. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the YMCA of Northern Utah as it celebrates its 125 anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO LINDA AND JIM FOJE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Linda and Jim Foje of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on February 16, 1968 at Faith Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs.

Linda and Jim's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE MARVIN JOHNSON JR.'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Major General George Marvin Johnson Jr. on his one hundredth birthday.

General Johnson had a long and distinguished military career that started when he first joined the Army Air Corps in 1941 to when he retired in 1975 as a United States Air Force Major General. He selflessly served during World War II in the European Theater of Operations as an operations officer and troop carrier squadron commander, and participated in seven major campaigns. General Johnson has also served as a commander of the Oklahoma City Air Materiel Area, Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma and was chief of staff of the Air Force Logistics Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

General Johnson's military distinctions and awards are many. They include the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, and the French Croix de Guerre. He was also awarded a command pilot rating with over 6,000 flying hours.

It is with the utmost gratitude that I thank General Johnson for his service and congratulate him on celebrating this birthday of one hundred years. He has served our country with distinction and honor, and can be proud of his contributions towards protecting our citizens and strengthening the safety of our country. May his one hundredth year be filled with blessings.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Major General George Marvin Johnson Jr. for his service to our great nation and for celebrating his one hundredth birthday.

NO ASSISTANCE FOR ASSAD ACT

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, since 2011, Bashar Al-Assad purposely and systemically destroyed Syrian communities in order to crush political opponents and retain absolute dictatorial power, with the help of his Russian and Iranian backers. Starting as peaceful protests, the people of Syria demanded basic freedoms from the Syrian government. Of course, this was met with a harsh crackdown, prolonged conflict, and today, a humanitarian crisis. As co-chair of the Friends of a Free, Stable and Democratic Syria Caucus, I believe we in Congress must do all we can to ensure that the welfare of the Syrian people remains the top priority of our involvement in the region, and condition any engagement with the Assad regime as such.

My heart goes out to every Syrian that has to monitor the skies to see what aerial attacks

will be coming that day; to every child that has been robbed of their innocence—forced to leave their home and live in constant fear, denied a basic education—and to every family member left wondering if their relatives will live to see the next day. We've all seen the images in Syria. They're hard to stomach. Yet, the attacks persist. The violence and ruthlessness persist. Assad and his supporters in Russia and Iran are responsible for all of this pain and suffering.

H.R. 4681, the No Assistance for Assad Act, would ensure that American assistance for reconstruction in Syria should be available in areas controlled by Assad only if the regime stops its indiscriminate use of weapons, ends attacks on civilians and civilian facilities, releases political prisoners, allows human rights organizations access to prisons, and removes senior officials complicit in human-rights abuses. If the Assad regime, Russia, and Iran continue to break Syria, this legislation makes clear they must own the responsibility for rebuilding it. U.S. policy must not allow the regime in Damascus control American dollars that are meant to rebuild the country.

I was proud to introduce this critical legislation with Ranking Member ENGEL, Chairman ROYCE, and my fellow caucus co-chair, ADAM KINZINGER. I thank them for their hard work on this legislation and urge passage of this timely, important legislation.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my common sense amendment that will protect consumers by creating the position of the Aviation Consumer Advocate at the FAA. More than nine million flights take off and land in the United States every year. In my home state of Oregon, nearly 20 million people passed through the Portland International Airport last year, and that number will continue to grow.

Unfortunately, many passengers have experienced inconveniences such as lost luggage and delayed flights that result in missed connections. Some passengers have experienced much worse, including being forcibly removed from flights when seats are oversold, or sitting on a tarmac for hours.

With more than two and a half million people flying U.S. skies every day, it is critical that they have somewhere to turn if things go wrong. They deserve to be treated with dignity and to have a reliable advocate who is on their side.

My simple amendment would enhance the FAA's existing Aviation Consumer Protection Division by creating the position of the Aviation Consumer Advocate.

This will provide travelers a dedicated person at the FAA to help navigate the Aviation Consumer Protection Division and try to resolve problems that arise with airlines.

In addition to helping travelers, the Aviation Consumer Advocate would provide the FAA with recommendations on how best to enforce consumer protection rules and improve the flying experience.

The Aviation Consumer Advocate would also evaluate the FAA's response to complaints, and provide a report to Congress about the volume and frequency of complaints, as well as recommendations on how Congress can take action to bolster consumer protections for fliers.

This is a common sense amendment to protect all our constituents.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in strengthening consumer protections and supporting the millions of Americans who fly every day.

**TRIBUTE TO ANNABELL AND
LAVERNE BROWN**

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Annabell and Laverne Brown of Mount Ayr, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on March 12, 2018.

Annabell and Laverne's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 4, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018. This bill would shore up long-term funding for critical FAA programs and authorize additional disaster program funding for areas like Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, which are still struggling to bounce back after the 2017 hurricane season.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of a recently adopted amendment, which will help ensure the safety of the national airspace by prohibiting individuals from operating unmanned aircraft systems that are equipped or armed with a dangerous weapon.

In July of 2015, lawmakers and the public began to express concerns over the weaponization of drone technology after a college student built a drone capable of firing live ammunition from a mounted .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun. More recently, at least one state legislature has proposed legislation to allow the use of weaponized drones by local and national law enforcement, which is something that concerns me greatly.

This amendment addresses these concerns by explicitly prohibiting the operation of a weaponized drone in the national airspace and by imposing a penalty of up to \$25,000 for each violation.

I am pleased to have worked with Rep. BURGESS on this common-sense, bi-partisan amendment and applaud my colleagues for adopting. I urge all Members to support the underlying bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call votes held on April 27, 2018, I was inescapably detained handling important matters related to my district and the State of Alabama. If I had been present, I would have voted NO on the amendment proposed by Rep. MCCLINTOCK (112), NO on the amendment proposed by Rep. DUNCAN (114), YES on the Democratic motion to recommit, YES on final passage of H.R. 4, and NO on the motion to table H. Res. 856.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MARTY ANN ROGUSKY REGULA

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Mary Ann Rogusky Regula who died at her family's farm in Navarre, Ohio on April 5, 2018.

Mary Regula was born in Girard, Ohio on November 29, 1926 to the late Mr. and Mrs. Rogusky. In 1949, Mary graduated from Mount Union College and it is there where she met her future husband Ralph Regula. She was an active member of the community, serving as an educator, historian, and aide in her husband's Congressional office as he represented the 16th Congressional District of Ohio.

In 1994, Mary began laying the foundation for a museum devoted to the first ladies. She told the Washington Post that it wasn't until the 1970s that we decided women had any part in this nation's history. She wanted to help close history's gaping hole by honoring the accomplishments of women. In 1998, former first lady Rosalynn Carter cut the ribbon at the formal opening of the National First Ladies' Library in Canton, Ohio. Mary hoped the museum would serve as a way to document the lives of first ladies and as a resource for scholars and students. The museum was designated a historic site in 2000, expanding to include an education and research center

that has now grown to partner with Ohio schools to provide educational programming about these important figures in American history.

She is dearly missed by her three children Richard Regula (Sherry), David Regula (Jaqueline), and Martha Regula and her four grandchildren, Thomas, Garrett, Olivia and Marissa. She was preceded in death by her parents and her loving husband.

Mary was a wonderful woman, and I am grateful to have had both her and Ralph as friends. She was a valued member of the community and her legacy leaves a lasting impact. I extend my sincerest condolences to all of her family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH AND JIM BRAND

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ruth and Jim Brand of Mount Ayr, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated on March 3, 2018.

Ruth and Jim's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this meaningful occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued happiness.

CONGRATULATING MR. GEORGE VITELLO ON HIS UPCOMING RE- TIREMENT

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. George Vitello on his upcoming retirement from the United States House of Representatives. George began working in the Office of Visitor Services in March 2011 before moving to the Office of the Sergeant at Arms in June 2012.

From his first day on the job, George developed a reputation as a reliable, skilled, and friendly asset to the entire House community. George first served as a Visitor Assistant, then moved to the Sergeant at Arms and the House Appointments Desks where he became a wonderful resource—and a good friend—to every single one of his colleagues.

George assists every Member, staff person, and visitor the very same way—with an abundance of patience and a calm and pleasant attitude. He is a familiar face to both Members and staff alike, never too busy to say 'hello,' and always taking the time to ask how you are doing. George genuinely cares about every person he meets, and it shows in his work.

Working with the Sergeant at Arms, George demonstrated great initiative developing the form now used to track the monthly official business visitor counts for the Appointments Desks, as well as providing training to new interns and staff on the protocols for official business visitor badge use. Throughout his years with the House, George has been a true team player and someone who always volunteered for additional assignments, projects, and events.

George spent time as the VP/General Manager at Sea World in Florida prior to his employment with the House and always shared his passion for all creatures, great and small.

George Vitello has been a remarkable asset to the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, and he will be greatly missed by the entire House community. I am grateful for his service to the United States House of Representatives and wish him and his wife Joyce the very best in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for Roll Call vote 156 on Thursday, April 26, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

BILL KELLY AND THE TEXAS RAIDERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, at the height of World War II, Bill Kelly worked as an airplane mechanic. Stationed in the Marshall Islands, he and his team were responsible for the maintenance and repair of B-29 bombers that stopped over on their way to Japan and back. He and his brothers-in-arms often stayed up all night preparing the planes for the next leg of their journey, on occasion even replacing whole one-ton engines overnight.

Although he is currently 93, aviation has been, I quote, "second nature" to Bill for most of his life. This is why the tribute one group arranged for him was so special.

Recently, the Gulf Coast Wing of the Commemorative Air Force made Bill the guest of honor at their fly-in in Lakewood, Florida. To honor his service, Bill was given the opportunity to fly in a World War II-era B-17 bomber, the "Texas Raiders," maintained by the group. Bill enjoyed his 20-minute flight and said that it brought back several good memories of his time in the service.

Mr. Speaker, as veterans of this war continue to grow older and fewer in number, it is important that we not let their sacrifice be forgotten. The members of the "Greatest Generation" made a unique contribution to the American nation, having not only endured the hardships of the Great Depression but also answered the call to defend our country after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Groups like the custodians of "Texas Raiders" that travel the country and give veterans the opportunity to fly in World War II aircraft are doing important work to ensure that our country's veterans are not forgotten and are given due recognition of their bravery and sacrifice.

Bill remarked that at 93, he is, I quote, "pretty well advanced right now." Bill, you may be "advanced" in life, but you are still front and center in our collective memory.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DARLENE AND
MYRON LINTNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Darlene and Myron Lintner of Sidney, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Darlene and Myron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 65th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 65th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

CONGRATULATING SALINAS
VALLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital on its 65th anniversary.

In 1941 Bruce Church, a local businessman and philanthropist, had a vision to build a hospital for the people of Salinas. He donated land to the project and twelve years later his vision became a reality. In recognition of this philanthropic endeavor, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent Mr. Church a letter congratulating him which read, "The people of the Salinas Valley have every right to be proud of this admirable example of local self-reliance and initiative."

On April 20, 1953, the 138-bed hospital triumphantly opened its doors, supported by one-hundred employees and forty-five physicians. The hospital's founders envisioned a technologically advanced hospital of the highest quality to serve the residents of the Salinas Valley. Salinas Valley Memorial has lived up to the founders' vision in providing state of the art health care services.

Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital has grown to hold 266 beds and employs 1,600 people and 300 board certified physicians with a myriad of specialties. The hospital's successful

medical research and use of revolutionary health care technology has been facilitated by its bold partnerships with both local organizations and leading global institutions for science and medicine, such as NASA and Stanford University.

Salinas Valley Memorial provides comprehensive health care and offers patients a variety of specialty care by working with partners to address important health issues like diabetes, obesity, and cancer. This hospital's dedication to expanding health care into underserved communities has fostered increased education and wellness, allowing the diverse citizenry to make permanent lifestyle choices for a healthy community.

I am honored to recognize the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital and the many contributions it has made to the Central Coast of California. It has bolstered and encouraged the health and well-being of our community throughout the last sixty-five years. Through investing in the latest medical technologies, conducting clinical research, and providing education to the community, this hospital has, from its inception, played an invaluable role in the lives of the residents of the Salinas Valley.

We continue to be proud of the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital and everyone who has been involved in its extraordinary work and mission over the last sixty-five years. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the house join me in congratulating the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital for a triumphant sixty-five years of excellence.

IN RECOGNITION OF TRISH
DEPRIEST

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from former Representatives Jack Kingston, and Lindsay Thomas, and the son of the late Representative Bo Ginn:

"We thank Congressman CARTER for the opportunity to submit something regarding our mutual and beloved employee, Trish DePriest. We must immediately point out that Trish never worked for any of us, rather she worked for the people of the First District of Georgia and kept us advised and well out of the way of her great progress. Trish is in a rare category of legendary public servants. While she yielded the headlines and public credit to us, she was the force behind the scenes to get the job done. Whether it was a veteran who needed help navigating the VA Bureau, a senior citizen experiencing a Social Security or Medicaid glitch, or a newlywed couple in desperate need for a last minute passport, Trish was there for thousands of people making a difference in their life. She knew how to get things done, knew the people of power, but most importantly she was consummate champion of the underdog. If you got spun off the track and your lawyers, doctors, and friends couldn't help, Trish DePriest was the person to call. It did not matter the task, the politics, or time of day, Trish has always been ready to step forward and solve the problem.

We love you, Trish. We thank you for everything you've done for the people of Georgia,

for all your hard work and making us look very good. We hope you enjoy your retirement and continue to never make left-hand turns."

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of the Jackson Lee Amendment to H.R. 4, FAA Reauthorization and Disaster Recovery Reform Act, which was not included in the Rule for this bill.

I am disappointed that the other Jackson Lee Amendments to H.R. 4, the "FAA Reauthorization and Disaster Recovery Reform Act that would have made permanent the FEMA Office of Disaster Response and Recovery, which exists, but has not been codified, was not made in order.

FEMA is the agency that helps people before, during and after disasters.

For 38 years, FEMA's mission remains: to lead America to prepare for, prevent, respond to and recover from disasters with a vision of "A Nation Prepared."

On April 1, 1979, President Jimmy Carter signed the executive order that created the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

From day one, FEMA has remained committed to protecting and serving the American people.

That commitment to the people we serve and the belief in our survivor centric mission will never change.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 100-707), signed into law on November 23, 1988; amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-288).

The Stafford Act constitutes the statutory authority for most Federal disaster response activities especially as they pertain to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and FEMA programs.

The underlying Disaster Reform language in H.R. 4, the FAA Reauthorization Act provided the opportunity to make strong statement regarding the Federal government's responsibility for disaster response and recovery.

The work of the FEMA Office of Disaster Response and Recovery is critical when disaster strikes and for this reason should be a permanent part of the agency.

This is the office responsible for the Federal wide coordination of disaster response and recovery efforts.

Disaster response also requires that this office work well with non-governmental aid agencies like the Red Cross, and health care

responders, and private entities and business who collaborate on meet the needs of communities experiencing a disaster.

I offered this Amendment to this bill because of my experience with Hurricane Harvey.

There was no way to pre-prepare for Hurricane Harvey, or Maria or any of the other major disaster events in 2017.

What we can do is learn as much as possible and apply those lessons to future disaster response and recovery efforts.

When there is an event, like Hurricane Harvey there are important and valuable lessons that can help us to meet future challenges.

On June 1, 2018, this year's Hurricane Season will begin, and it must be the duty of this Congress to make sure that FEMA is prepared to meet the challenge.

I plan to introduce a FEMA Modernization Act this year to address a range of moderation issues that are intended to strength the capacity of the agency to manage several major disasters simultaneously.

Every place in this nation has one or more vulnerability to floods, damaging storms, wildfires, earthquakes, volcanic activity, or earth movement—such as mudslides.

FEMA is the nation's premier organization that must respond to catastrophes at a moment's notice.

Making permanent the FEMA's work in disaster response and recovery will be part of this bill.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEREK J. SPRAGUE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Derek "Boomer" J. Sprague.

Boomer embodied what it means to be a citizen of the North Country. At work, Derek was incredibly skilled at Luck Bros, Inc., operating large machinery and moving heavy metals with ease. At home, Boomer was his children's biggest fan and could be found coaching their sports teams and cheering them on. In his spare time, Boomer took advantage of the beautiful North Country to fish, hunt, golf,

and most importantly, spend time with the people he loved. Instead of focusing on material success, Boomer's family and friends knew him to value spending time with the important people in his life more than anything.

I would like to offer my deepest condolences to Boomer's family and friends, and especially his two children, by whom he will be greatly missed. It is clear that Boomer's happy spirit and love for life and for all he met will leave a lasting impact on his community. His memory will be forever cherished in the hearts of the many people he touched throughout his life.

HONORING GAINESVILLE'S DHRUV GAUR

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dhruv Gaur a Gainesville, native and Lakeview Academy alumnus, who recently became the college champion of "Jeopardy!," America's favorite quiz show.

Dhruv studies public health and economics at Brown University. Each season, "Jeopardy!" hosts college students for a tournament, giving them the opportunity to represent their school through a display of their trivia knowledge.

This season, Dhruv competed on the game show, and, despite his incorrect "Final Jeopardy" answer, he prevailed. As the victor, this Gainesville student took home a \$100,000 cash prize, which he plans to use for future investments.

Although Dhruv Gaur clenched the victory sporting his Brown University sweater, he also represented his neighbors back home in Northeast Georgia through his success. I congratulate Dhruv on his "Jeopardy!" win and look forward to his future success.

COMMENDING STUDENTS ADVOCATING AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Adin Segal, Tal Shauder, Eli Eiston, Isana Singh, and Zach Bodin, five students from Palm Beach County who have come together to say enough is enough with the gun violence in our country. While Congress refuses to enact common sense gun safety legislation, a new generation is taking action.

These students enrolled in the Peres Leadership Program, named after former Israeli President Shimon Peres' vision of leadership. For Peres, leadership was a noble cause defined not by personal ambition, but by moral values and a call to do the right thing. These students are all too familiar with our collective failure to protect them from gun violence. They reject calls for arming teachers and placing armed guards in schools. They do not accept the idea that the answer to gun violence is more guns. They see their schools as sanctuaries of learning in which guns have no place.

To support and honor the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the students created the National Association of Students Against Gun Violence, establishing chapters in their schools to connect and unite students as they fight against gun violence. Their organization seeks to register every student to vote on their 18th birthday, facilitate town hall forums, and advocate for accountable leadership that supports reasonable solutions to gun violence.

Since its founding only four weeks ago, their group has grown to nearly 1,000 members in 70 chapters in high schools across Florida, with more on the way in high schools and colleges around the country.

I commend their activism, leadership, and dedication to their communities and I look forward to working with them to advance common sense gun legislation, like expanding background checks and banning the sale of assault rifles, high capacity magazines and bump stock devices. This is the least we can do.