

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL H.R. McMASTER UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. ARMY FOLLOWING 34 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a soldier who, for the past 34 years, has been an exceptional and faithful servant to the nation. With the retirement today of Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster, the U.S. Army is losing a towering figure, who more than anyone, embodies what he has described as the "warrior ethos." As someone who had the good fortune to work with H.R., I can say that serving under his command was one of the great privileges of my life.

General McMaster has described the warrior ethos as "a covenant between the members of our profession comprised of values such as honor, duty, courage, loyalty, and self-sacrifice." H.R. has lived by this covenant, earning a well-deserved reputation as one of the Army's pre-eminent soldier-scholars and the honor of serving as the President's primary advisor on national security issues.

Over his more than three decades of distinguished service, General McMaster stands out for his success in both conventional and irregular conflict. During the Gulf War, his textbook assault at 73 Easting stands as a high-water mark of American conventional superiority. More than a decade later, his early adoption of a population-centric approach to warfare turned the tide in Tal Afar and helped usher in a sea change in the American approach to combating the insurgency in Iraq.

General McMaster has also stood out for his steadfast commitment to puncturing what he has called the "vampire fallacy" of easy war. This sensibility is captured by the historian T.R. Fehrenbach, who wrote in *This Kind of War*, "you may fly over a land forever; you may bomb it, atomize it, pulverize it and wipe it clean of life—but if you desire to defend it, protect it, and keep it for civilization, you must do this on the ground, the way the Roman legions did, by putting your young men into the mud."

As H.R. has described, "Our military is a living historical community and those of us serving today are determined to preserve the legacy of courageous, selfless service that we have inherited from the veterans who have gone before us." There is no one whose legacy of courageous and selfless service is more worthy of preservation than General McMaster.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in saluting Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster for his service on behalf of a grateful nation. I thank H.R. for showing us all what it means to live by the warrior ethos.

ARMED FORCES DAY

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Armed Forces Day in honor of the brave men and women who have served and who are serving in the United States Armed Forces during times of war and peace.

Celebrated annually on the third Saturday of May, Armed Forces Day came into existence on August 31, 1949, when Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced that this single day would replace the individual celebrations for the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. President Harry Truman led the effort to establish a holiday for citizens to unite and to honor our military heroes for their patriotic service in support of the United States of America.

Armed Forces Day also plays an essential part in educating society and expanding public knowledge of the military and the important role they play in every community. The first official Armed Forces Day took place on May 20, 1950, and was themed "Teamed for Defense." In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb. 27, 1950, President Truman stated:

"Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, toward the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea, and air defense."

Generations of men and women have answered the call of a nation in need, and on Armed Forces Day, we are especially mindful of their service, sacrifice, and that of their families. I appreciate what communities all over the country do to honor those responsible for our freedom, and I am hopeful we will continue to honor and support our military in all its strength.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2018 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FIRST ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION

HON. DAVE BRAT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80 Henrico County, Virginia area high school seniors who plan to enlist in the United States Armed Forces after graduation.

These students have excelled in their academic and extracurricular activities, and I offer my sincere congratulations for their selflessness and courageous decision to serve their country upon their high school graduation.

I commend these student leaders for their selflessness and courageous decision to serve their country as members of the United States Armed Forces: Chandler Anderson, Michael Armstrong, William Baker, Madison Balagtas, Kahlil Barnes, Alicia Barnett, Trenea Booker, Preston Bourne, Zachary Bowman, Cody Bryant, Naveed Canter, Rebecca Cary, Brandon Church, Nicholas Clarke, Tiana Clary-Haymon, Johnny Clejel, Bryce Courtney, Keanu Davis, Deisler Deleon, Steven Devault, Caleb Dison, Jon Christopher Duran, Jacob Edwards, Deyoni Escalante, Courtney Ferraris, Brianna Field, Connor Foutz, Wyatt Fulton, Christopher Garcia, Eileen Garcia-Morales, Tyrese Gary, Kyron George, Melvin Gwaikolo, Braxton Hicks, Genesis Hill, Donald Hines, Jalen Howard, Christopher Huitzachi, Colin Hurley, Jacob Jenkins, Robert Johnson, Michael Johnson, Isiah Jones, Damian Kidd, Makayla Knipp, Emmanuela Koranteng, Samael Lariosgonzalez, Austin Leroy, Alexander Leseman, Daniel Morris, Marcus Newsom, Marcus Oughton, Alonzo Paige, Christian Pearsall, Samuel Peters III, Nathan Price, Derek Prokesch, Lonnie Reid, Sean Robertson, Nicolaus Ross, Kamario Russ, Dylan Scruggs, Alham Shadan, Jason Shaw, Jordan Shumate, Alyssa Simpson, Jackson Squires, Sarah Stanton, Joshua Tolbert, Jose Torres, Steven Travis, Isaiah Vannote, Dane Virginia, Mubarak Vodel, Andrew Wade, Carl West, Nate Williamson, Christian Yin, Zachariah Youngwood.

We also take the time to recognize Samuel Rivas, who only recently passed away but was part of this group of fine men and women; we honor his memory and his willingness to serve our country.

These students will be honored by the Henrico Chapter of Our Community Salutes at their Annual Military Enlisted Recognition Ceremony on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at Hermitage High School in Henrico, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these young men and women and their families for their dedication to serving this great Nation. We owe them and the many Americans who have served and will serve a debt of gratitude.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF MAXWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial celebration of Maxwell Memorial Library in my hometown of Camillus, New York.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Maxwell Memorial Library in the Village of Camillus first opened its doors 100 years ago following the advocacy of local teacher K. Belle Hackford, who organized the Camillus Library Association on May 26, 1918.

The library was granted a provisional charter on September 22, 1921, and its absolute charter on February 19, 1926. The name was changed to Maxwell Memorial Library, in honor of librarian Mary Ellis Maxwell, on February 28, 1958.

Maxwell Memorial Library has had several homes, all on Main Street in the village. Its first location was in one room over Abert's Plumbing Shop. In 1922, it moved downstairs to a larger space. The next move was in 1924, to the former Cook home. In late 1925, it made a fourth move to an old building behind Kemper Garage before the library finally settled into its current home in the former Presbyterian Church.

Today, Maxwell Memorial Library offers adult, early, and digital literacy programs to its patrons. On average, around 31,000 people visit Maxwell Memorial Library every year.

It is my honor to recognize Maxwell Memorial Library's current director, Amanda E. Perrine, and former director, Katy Benson, and Board of Trustees Lucille Adorante, Donna Breen, Michael Dendis, Cynthia Drake, Megan Glass, Sue Mezey, Kristen Northrop, and Barb Parsons for their hard work to make this library what is today. Congratulations on 100 years in our community.

GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT: LESSONS LEARNED AND WAYS FORWARD

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we held a hearing on global health supply chain management. By holding yesterday's hearing, this subcommittee is fulfilling its obligation to the American taxpayers to conduct vigorous oversight of our global health programs in order to ensure that U.S. taxpayer dollars are being used properly and efficiently to deliver aid to rightful beneficiaries. It also, we hope, will help better the lives of those beneficiaries in the developing world who receive life-saving medications thanks to the generosity of the American people.

Specifically, we addressed serious concerns regarding the United States Agency for International Development's contractor selection process and performance by that supply chain management company, Chemonics International, which was awarded the agency's largest ever monetary contract—a contract with a ceiling of \$9.5 billion over five years.

Congressional interest in this was triggered by reports last year that Chemonics had failed repeatedly to deliver essential health commodities in a timely manner to African and other countries where they are desperately needed—most critically, anti-retrovirals to treat HIV/AIDS patients. At its lowest point, only seven percent of deliveries were made on time and in full. The purpose of this hearing is to determine where USAID went wrong in the selection and transition process of this contractor and what can be done to prevent such a failure in the future.

In January of 2014, USAID issued a Request for Proposals for a supply chain management contractor that would consolidate procurement and delivery of health commodities to Africa and elsewhere as well as provide health systems strengthening in conjunction with the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). Two companies responded to the request, the first being the then existing contractor, Partnership for Supply Chain Management, and the second being Chemonics.

In April 2015, USAID awarded the contract to Chemonics, in large part because Chemonics displayed greater data visibility and IT capability. As might be expected, the incumbent losing bidder filed a complaint against USAID with the U.S. Government Accountability Office and, upon losing that, lodged an appeal with the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. In both instances, a deferential standard of review is applied, and thus USAID's decision was upheld.

Following the final decision, the Partnership began the process to transition services to Chemonics. While tensions between the two companies were evident throughout the transition process, performance levels remained steady until after Chemonics fully took over operations. At the end of 2016, under Chemonics' leadership, on time deliveries dropped from 84 percent to 67 percent. They continued to freefall throughout 2016, down to 31 percent and then reaching an all-time-low of 7 percent in the first quarter of 2017. During this time, some countries reported stock-outs of some commodities.

This absolutely unacceptable delivery record resulted in part from poor data quality, weak inventory management and distribution practices and poor planning. Moreover, while hindsight is 20/20, one cannot but question what justified certain of the assumptions USAID made when it selected Chemonics.

For example, USAID had graded Chemonics' data visibility as "Excellent," placing great reliance on Chemonics' promises regarding an IT system. No demonstration of a functioning IT system was ever requested by USAID during the selection process, however, nor any in-person presentation during which the Technical Evaluation Committee could ask questions.

Indeed, no such demonstration could have taken place, as Chemonics had not even completed building the IT system that was specifically required in the request for proposals. The system would not be fully functional until June 2017, nearly a year and half after Chemonics began operations.

While USAID did require a corrective action plan from Chemonics and implemented some corrective measures on the company—including freezing promotions and raises until performance reaches an acceptable level—it is the spur of congressional oversight, including visits to the field, which has forced the issue and brings us to where we are today, demanding answers and seeking solutions.

Our oversight continues to raise questions, and not only with respect to the implementing partner, but also how PEPFAR and USAID are coordinating their activities. We need to know how is it that each year PEPFAR engages partner nations in developing Country Operational Plans designed to meet particular needs in each nation while guaranteeing that annual taxpayer investments are "maximally

focused and traceable for impact," yet USAID is still paying for the drug Nevirapine to give to HIV patients in Africa. Nevirapine is an outdated drug with serious side effects that was supposed to have been retired a long time ago.

I expected to hear from our witnesses not only a post-mortem of what went wrong—and by that, not simply a passive voice recitation that "mistakes were made"—but also concrete solutions for how we can prevent such mistakes in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE WYOMING STATE SOCIETY, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION'S ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD AN- NUAL CONFERENCE

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Wyoming State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, which will hold its one hundred and third annual conference on May 17–20 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Daughters of the American Revolution has a long tradition of promoting historic preservation, education, and patriotism across the country and state of Wyoming. This year at their conference, members from around the state will come together to celebrate their contributions to Wyoming history and society, present the first annual scholarship to promote Native American education, and present the D.A.R. Good Citizen's award. They will hear from a host of speakers, including Claudia Stowers, the Vice President for Advancement of the Museum of the American Revolution, and they will rededicate a monument and benches donated by their organization 42 years ago. Members of the D.A.R. have a deep sense of patriotism and support for our armed services. At the conference they will also celebrate the 100th anniversary of Germany's surrender in WWI.

During World War I, the state of Wyoming was very involved in war efforts. Fort D.A. Russell, now called F.E. Warren Air Force Base, outside of Cheyenne served as a major mobilization point at the start of the war. 11,393 Wyoming men served in the war. As a state with expansive agricultural and energy production, Wyoming was integral in providing resources for our troops and civilians. During this time, Wyoming oil production doubled and ranchers and farmers worked tirelessly to meet the increasing demand.

I join the members of the Daughters of the American Revolution in remembering and thanking those in our state and across the country for their contributions to our armed forces during World War I and throughout history.

I would also like to thank the members of the Daughters of the American Revolution for all they do to preserve the history of our great state and country and to promote the importance of education and patriotism of our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to acknowledge the many contributions the women of the Daughters of the American Revolution have

made throughout history, and continue to make today.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RICHARD S. MONSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Richard S. Monson. Richard has been the driving force behind Southwest Georgia Farm Credit in Bainbridge, Georgia for 18 years and currently serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He will be retiring on July 31, 2018.

A native of Maryland, Richard received a Bachelor's of Science degree from West Virginia University and a Master's degree from Clemson University, both in Agricultural Economics. He also attended the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

For over three decades, Richard Monson has been a highly trusted leader in the financial services industry and in rural America. He has built an impressive career, beginning with his work with the West Virginia Farm Commission's prison farm system. Richard went on to serve as a Data Management and Research Analyst in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Clemson University. He joined the Farm Credit System in 1986, when he became a Senior Economist at AgFirst Farm Credit Bank in Columbia, South Carolina. He later joined Farm Credit of Southwest Florida in Arcadia, Florida, where he served in a variety of roles including Commercial Loan Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and Chief Lending Officer. He became the President and CEO of Southwest Georgia Farm Credit in 2000 and has since distributed \$89 million of member dividends to the company's farmer owners with more than \$900 million in assets.

Richard's diligent commitment to financial services and rural America has also been mirrored by his involvement in the community. He has served on the Board of Trustees of Edison College in Fort Myers, Florida and as the Chairman of the AgFirst Presidents Group and the Georgia Cooperative Council.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." We are so grateful that Richard Monson has given his time and talents to provide a premier financial institution for the farmers of Southwest Georgia. A man of great integrity, his efforts, his dedication, and his expertise are unparalleled. Southwest Georgia shines a little brighter because of Richard Monson.

He has accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the love and support of his wife, Linda, and their two daughters, Katie and Kristen. After retirement, Richard will enjoy spending time with the family he cherishes so dearly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mr. Richard

S. Monson upon the occasion of his retirement from an outstanding career in financial services supporting agriculture in Southwest Georgia.

**VETERANS CEMETERY BENEFIT
CORRECTION ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an exchange of letters in connection with S. 2372, the VA MISSION Act.

COMMITTEE ON RULES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2018.

Hon. PHIL ROE,
*Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROE: On May 8, 2018, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs ordered reported H.R. 5674, the VA MISSION Act of 2018. As you know, the Committee on Rules was granted an additional referral upon the bill's introduction pursuant to the Committee's jurisdiction under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives over rules and joint rules of the House.

Because of your willingness to consult with my committee and make necessary changes to the legislation regarding this matter, I will waive consideration of the bill by the Rules Committee. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, the Rules Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 5674. In addition, the Committee on Rules reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask your commitment to support any request by the Committee on Rules for conferees on H.R. 5674 or related legislation.

I also request that you include this letter and your response as part of your committee's report on the bill and in the Congressional Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

PETE SESSIONS,
Chairman, House Committee on Rules.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2018.

Hon. PETE SESSIONS,
*Chairman, Committee on Rules,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the Rules Committee's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 5674, the VA MISSION Act of 2018, and your willingness to forego consideration of H.R. 5674 by your committee.

I agree that the Committee on Rules has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of H.R. 5674, and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration of H.R. 5674. As you have requested, I will address the necessary changes to the legislation and I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Committee Report

and in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

DAVID P. ROE M.D.,
Chairman.

**CELEBRATING BERNICE MAY HOYT
OF GREENE COUNTY**

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense respect and great honor that I rise today to recognize Bernice May Hoyt for receiving the Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen Award for Greene County. This designation honors an exceptional senior citizen in Greene County who has demonstrated an unyielding commitment to the betterment of the community.

From volunteering at her local church and assisting her elderly neighbors, to donating her time and services to the Mountain Top Food Pantry, Bernice has given selflessly to provide for her friends and neighbors, and especially for area seniors. Through her actions, Bernice has improved the quality of life for countless individuals and has become a cornerstone of the Greene County community.

I am grateful for Bernice's years of dedication to the Greene County community, to the 19th District, and to New York state. I wish her the best as she continues to serve as an inspiration to all who have the pleasure of crossing paths with her.

**IN HONOR OF DON HANSEN'S RE-
TIREMENT FROM HANSEN &
PECK LAW FIRM**

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Don Hansen on his retirement.

This is a momentous occasion and I hope that he will take the time to reflect upon all his hard work over the past 50 years working as an attorney in Newcastle, Wyoming. I thank him for his contributions to Hansen & Peck and to our community.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Don Hansen on his retirement. I wish him the best in future endeavors.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREATER
DENTON ARTS COUNCIL**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Greater Denton Arts Council as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary as the home for Denton's artists and community organizations.

The Greater Denton Arts Council traces its roots back to 1967, when the Denton Chamber of Commerce formed a Fine Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee to demonstrate its support of the arts. In 1969, this committee became an independent entity and renamed itself the Greater Denton Arts Council (GDAC), becoming the umbrella organization for area arts, cultural and educational entities.

To address the need for a permanent arts facility in Denton, an ad hoc committee began planning in 1973 to reach that goal. A lease was finally negotiated by the GDAC in 1981 to convert several existing industrial buildings located at the southwest corner of East Hickory St. and South Bell Ave. Renovations began in 1984 to convert the warehouse located at the southwest corner of the intersection into what would become the Center for the Visual Arts (CVA). The CVA opened to the public with its first art exhibition in the Meadows Gallery. In 2014, the CVA was subsequently renamed the Patterson–Appleton Arts Center.

The GDAC also renovated the Campus Theatre building in the 1990s, converting the 1,200 seat movie house into a 300 seat live theatre and performance venue. In doing so, the GDAC preserved the unique late-deco design features of the structure and established a suitable local venue to support performing organizations.

In the decades since its inception, GDAC venues have provided local Denton County audiences with high-quality permanent and temporary exhibitions for local and national artists. Additionally, the GDAC has served as an umbrella organization for collaborative efforts with area universities, the Denton Independent School District and the City of Denton, including programs such as the "Get Started with the Arts" program to introduce Denton elementary students to classical music, visual arts, professional theater, ballet and opera.

GDAC has been an integral part of the annual Congressional Art Contest since 2003, serving as host of the annual High School Art Contest for the 26th District of Texas. Each year the GDAC has staged the exhibition and hosted the recognition reception for hundreds of North Texas students, their parents, and teachers following this professionally-judged contest.

As the GDAC meets for the presentation of the Community Arts Recognition Award (CARA) to this year's recipients, I extend my deepest appreciation on behalf of the constituents of the 26th District of Texas. The commitments of those recognized this year, along with the past and future honorees, are well-deserved for their role in support of educational and cultural mission of GDAC and the artistic and cultural presence that makes Denton, Texas such a unique place to call home.

HONORING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
THE NATIONAL RECONNAIS-
SANCE OFFICE, MAJOR GENERAL
STEPHEN DENKER

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Deputy Director of the National Re-

connaissance Office, Major General Stephen Denker.

General Denker is retiring after a long and impressive career in the Air Force. Though his Air Force assignments have taken him around the world, three of those assignments have been in Colorado and his family has called Centennial home for the past three years. General Denker looks forward to returning "home" to Colorado and spending more time with his wife Corinne and sons Ben and Jake. Jake will graduate from Grandview High School this spring. Like his father, Gen. Denker's older son Ben, is serving in the Air Force and has accepted the demanding challenge of training to be a Pararescueman and their motto "That Others May Live".

General Denker was born in Illinois and moved to Wisconsin in 6th grade. He earned his commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer's Training Corps and a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities Institute of Technology as well as a Masters of System Management from the University of Southern California.

During his career General Denker has served in a variety of acquisition, operational, command and staff assignments in the United States and overseas. A true space professional, nearly all of his 32 year career has been dedicated to acquiring space capabilities and leading other space professionals in support of the Intelligence Community and Department of Defense. General Denker held multiple commands at the squadron, group and wing level and was responsible for the development of leaders across the Air Force as the Commandant of Air Command and Staff College and the Vice Commander of the Spaatz Center.

As the Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, General Denker has been critical to coordinating national space capabilities like the National Space Defense Center. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I have appreciated both his expertise and candor in his appearance before the Strategic Forces subcommittee on space issues.

While I'll miss seeing General Denker before the committee, I look forward to seeing him back home in Colorado. On behalf of my House colleagues, I take this opportunity to thank Major General Denker for his service to the nation and wish him well in retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND
GOZIE E. PENSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and birthday wishes to a dedicated man of God and community servant, Reverend Gozie E. Penson, who is celebrating his 100th birthday at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at the Holiday Inn located at 197 East Broad Street in Athens, Georgia.

Reverend Gozie E. Penson was born on May 31, 1918 in Fayette County, Georgia. He is a product of the Peach County School System and a member of Henry Hunt High

School's graduating class. After graduating from high school, he attended Morehouse College and earned a Bachelor's of Divinity degree from Howard University's School of Religion.

Rev. Penson received a calling to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to migrants in Pocomoke City, Maryland and Belle Glade, Florida through the National Council of Churches. He later served with the Presbyterian Church in Tuskegee and Montgomery, Alabama as well as the Urban League in Washington, D.C.

Throughout his life, Rev. Penson was an active member of several civic organizations where he poured his time and energy including Tuskegee's Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Committee for Good Government, Oenology Club, and the Tuskegee Civic Association.

Acts 20:35 says, "I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Truly, Reverend Penson has abided by this scripture, understanding his calling and purpose to serve God's people and his community.

Reverend Penson has accomplished many things in his life, but none of these would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his late wife, Claudine, and their children, Merryll, Elvin, and Nari.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in recognizing Reverend Gozie E. Penson for his selfless service to God, his church, and humankind. We extend our best wishes to him as he, his family, and friends celebrate his 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO THE JONES FAMILY,
TRIPLE J ENTERPRISES, INC.

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, Robert H. Jones, his wife Margaret A. Jones, and their family are known in the Marianas and throughout the Western Pacific for their successes in business. They are also known for the vision and heart with which they have used their personal successes for the benefit of the communities where they live and do business.

Born in North Carolina, Robert ("Bob") Jones moved to Guam in 1957 to work for the company his brother Kenneth had started—Jones & Guerrero, Incorporated. Bob would work alongside Ken for the next 24 years, rising to be Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the company.

In 1984, though, he struck out on his own and established Triple J Enterprises on Guam, a reference to the Jones' three children—Julie, Jeff and Jay. Starting with a Subaru distributorship he bought from Ken the company did well, later venturing up two years later to Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands.

From the inception, it was a family business: Margaret did the buying, handled advertising and public relations, and was the company treasurer. Sister Georgia J. Stafford also lent

a hand when needed; and the children helped out cleaning cars and working in the parts and service departments.

At first, Triple J distributed Subaru automobiles, Hino heavy trucks and buses, and Bluebird school buses. As business grew they added the Ford, Mazda, Lincoln, Hyundai, Isuzu, Suzuki, Volvo, Honda, Acura, Kia and Mitsubishi brands to the company's automobile business portfolio. And when the children returned from college the business began expanding beyond automobiles and beyond Guam and the Northern Marianas.

In 1987, in alignment with Bob's visionary persona, Triple J began working in wholesale foods and retail grocery with a business on Ebeye in the Marshall Islands. Further expansion years later added nearby Majuro, where the company today continues to operate similar businesses. In 1998, the wholesale business would expand west to Palau along with a bakery, convenience store, and Shell service station.

Triple J would further diversify into the restaurant business beginning in the mid-1990s with the purchase of an Outback Steakhouse franchise on Guam and, later, Tony Roma's, Capricciosa, Bubba Gump Shrimp Company, and Great Harvest Bakery franchises on Saipan. Scheduled to open in 2019, a Red Lobster franchise restaurant now under development on Guam will be a new addition to the restaurant group.

In 1994, Triple J had a hand in negotiating the arrival of K-Mart on Guam. That store, bucking a national trend of closures, remains to this day one of the most successful K-Marts anywhere.

Into the new millennium, by 2005 Triple J had grown to be the fourth largest business in Micronesia, as ranked by the Guam Business Magazine. The Guam Chamber of Commerce named the company Business Laureate of the Year and inducted Triple J into the Guam Business Hall of Fame—the youngest corporation to receive the honor.

And they just kept growing. Triple J acquired Hertz Rent-a-Car rights and became exclusive distributor in all of Micronesia for Solahart—an Australian solar water heater company.

Capitalizing on another opportunity, Triple J developed a first-of-its-kind affordable housing development on Saipan, subsidized by the U.S. Treasury's Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program. Sandy Beach Homes—a \$27 million, 60-unit project—was completed in late 2011; and a second, affordable housing project—Saipan Comfort Homes—quickly followed with another 40 units.

Sharing in the value of philanthropy, the Jones family and Triple J make efforts to enhance the quality of life of those in need. On Guam, Triple J partners with the American Cancer Society Guam Chapter annually to support their signature funding event, Relay for Life, raising as much as \$40,000 in one year alone. In the Northern Marianas, the company regularly contributes to the Red Cross Walk-a-Thon, the Marianas March Against Cancer, Make-A-Wish Foundation, and numerous other charitable programs raising money for relief efforts and cancer research. They have also been the official car sponsor of the Miss Marianas Pageant and the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

This larger concern for the welfare of the whole community came into further relief when

the Marianas was hit by Typhoon Soudelor in 2015. The worst typhoon in decades, Soudelor carried sustained winds exceeding 100 miles per hour. In the wake of the devastation, which left most people on Saipan without power for a month, Bob Jones donated thousands of dollars in food to help the Salvation Army set up a hot meals program in Kagman, one of the hardest-hit villages. For his selflessness and support, when the community was in dire need, the Rotary Club of Saipan awarded Bob Jones its Citizen of the Year award in 2016.

"Customers first" is Triple J's simple mission statement and yet, it holds a more complex meaning displayed in the actions behind their successes. That people-centric view serves as a model to other businesses in the communities they serve.

Through all these years of dynamic growth, the importance of family remains central to the successes of Bob and Margaret. Son Jeffery is the president and chief operating officer of the company. Son Jay is senior vice president with a focus on automotive operations. And, while daughter Julie spends much of her time in a professional counseling practice, her husband, Dan Murrell, serves as senior vice president in charge of real estate, food, and restaurant operations. Mother Margaret remains company treasurer. Bob is chairman and CEO. Growing into the third generation, five of their eleven grandchildren have begun working for the family business. Today, the Triple J group employs over 900 employees across the Micronesia region, many of whom have been with the business for twenty plus years.

Please join me in thanking and congratulating true citizens of the Marianas, Bob and Margaret Jones and all their family for over 60 years of service and success in the Marianas and throughout Micronesia.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. DEBORAH
LELIAERT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deborah Leliaert, Vice President for University Relations and Planning, as she retires from her position at the University of North Texas.

Ms. Leliaert joined UNT in 1992 as director of news while attending UNT's Toulouse Graduate School. In 1996, she advanced to associate vice president for marketing and communication and UNT System associate vice chancellor for communications and marketing. She held this title until 2001 when the UNT System Board of Regents approved the creation of associate vice president for university relations. Ms. Leliaert was promoted into this new role to oversee the university's communications and marketing as well as visitor and public relations. She continued in this capacity as associate vice chancellor for communications and marketing for the UNT System.

In a career spanning more than a quarter century of UNT's history, Ms. Leliaert witnessed a tremendous period of growth, challenge, and celebration, serving six presidents and three chancellors as the institution's chief internal and external spokesperson through

much of this time. This window of UNT's history included its acceptance as a full member of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities; countless new programs and building projects; new campuses; recognition of UNT as an emerging research institution and the development of ground-breaking relationships for the University through research efforts and public partnerships such as exists with UNT's current relationship with the Dallas Cowboys.

Managing much of the marketing and communications involved in supporting UNT's brand management and institutional reputation, Ms. Leliaert also supported UNT's ambitious student recruitment and retention objectives for a campus that has grown by almost 20 percent in only the second half of her tenure with UNT. Her efforts to bolster UNT in the media intersected with the rapid rise of social media and modern transformation of the media landscape.

Ms. Leliaert's talents, particularly her eloquence and skill to respond in times of crisis, will be sorely missed by the UNT community. As a proud UNT alumnus, I thank her for her contributions as a long-serving member of UNT's staff, and I wish her much happiness as she commences her retirement after a significant and successful career.

DARLYNN BLEA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Darlynn Blea for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Darlynn Blea received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Darlynn Blea 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 Darlynn Blea for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE FORTIETH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE ARC OF
SCHUYLER

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the fortieth anniversary of The Arc of Schuyler.

The Arc of Schuyler is a private, not for profit organization providing support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism, and their families. The Arc of Schuyler is a Chapter of the Arc of New York,

which is the largest not for profit organization working with and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in New York State and is a member of The Arc of the United States.

A courageous group of family members and friends of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities founded The Arc of Schuyler on May seventh, in the year nineteen hundred and seventy-eight. From modest beginnings it has become the most comprehensive provider of support in Schuyler County to hundreds of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc of Schuyler is an advocacy agency that believes all people have the fundamental moral, civic, and constitutional rights to live, learn, and work in safe and respectful communities of their choosing without prejudice. A volunteer Board of Directors including relatives of persons with a developmental disability and dedicated community leaders continue to provide their experience and insight to ensure the rights of people with developmental disabilities.

The Arc of Schuyler urges all citizens to give full support to the efforts empowering people with intellectual and developmental disabilities so that they may live full and productive lives of inclusion in our communities.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to commend The Arc of Schuyler upon the occasion of its fortieth anniversary in the year two thousand eighteen.

CELEBRATING DEDE TERNS- THORPE OF GREENE COUNTY

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound respect that I rise today to recognize and celebrate Dede Terns-Thorpe of Haines Falls for being named Greene County's 2018 Senior Citizen of the Year. This is a designation reserved for the outstanding individual in Greene County who has continuously and selflessly gone above and beyond to make a positive impact on the community.

From her time working as a nurse and for the U.S. postal service, to her volunteerism delivering meals to her neighbors and gardening, Dede has been dedicated to the Greene County community and has shown compassion and care in all that she does. As the town historian of Hunter, Dede has made great contributions to the history of the area, unearthing the wonders, stories, and heroes of Greene County's past.

I am grateful for Dede's many years of dedicated service to Greene County, to the 19th District, and to New York State. I wish her the best as she continues to preserve the region's history and I am thankful for her many contributions to the community.

AMBER COOPER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Amber Cooper for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Amber Cooper received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Amber Cooper 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 Amber Cooper for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

SHARING STUDENTS' "MARCH FOR OUR LIVES" REMARKS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on May 9, I came to the Floor and spoke about the March For Our Lives on March 24 and the nine extraordinarily poised students in Morristown, New Jersey, who spoke at the rally there, which I attended. I included in the RECORD remarks by Nile Burch. I hope my colleagues will read them and internalize the sense of fear in which our nation's students are living every day—and our responsibility as Members of Congress to do something to address this crisis of gun violence.

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES' REMARKS (By Nile Burch)

Hello and good morning! My name is Nile Birch and I am from Morristown High School.

I would like to begin by thanking Ms. Bosrock for this incredible opportunity. I appreciate all of her support and help in making this possible. I am so proud to be representing my African-American and social activism club, Melanin Minds, at the march today. Melanin Minds consists of a group of united and ethnically diverse individuals dedicated towards raising awareness within our communities. Encouraging change is exactly what our club is about, and I am honored to speak to everyone today about the issue of gun violence on behalf of our president, Bella Simon. So why should I take such a vested interest in this issue?

I can understand how it is a Constitutional right for people to own guns. But, as we've all come to realize, there is a lot of gray area in that. Nevertheless, that area should never include questioning public safety. If people choose to own guns, that is their prerogative, but in no way shape or form should their interest threaten the lives of anyone or anything else. Yet, the trouble I think we all experience is that the current laws we have are nowhere strict enough to make people feel at ease. Then again, there is a fine

line between feeling 'at ease' and feeling 'safe.' We do not need politicians to acknowledge what happened in past and recent school shootings. We need them to look at Columbine, Sandy Hook, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, and countless others as an incentive to want to prevent more shootings from ever happening again. In simpler terms, we need to emphasize that it's okay to recognize what happened in the past as long as we use those events to carve out a pathway towards our future! To truly understand what it feels like to be safe, we must first realize what it is like to live in fear. As an African-American male, living in fear means wearing a hoodie and being scared to walk to the store for some skittles or an Arizona Iced Tea, or wanting to sell CDs. What I am saying is that having this angst festering inside of me every day is my reality, but it does not have to be yours too.

School shootings? Children in school. A place where students go to learn, make friends, and find themselves as human beings. A place parents can drop their kids and feel safe in knowing that their precious children are protected at all costs. It isn't true. It doesn't exist. And that, my friends, is the sad reality of today. Why we are here. Why we care. We must stand together so that every single one of us can feel safe. You guys might be wondering 'what does he mean by starting to make a difference, how can I, a high school student, have any influence?' Let me tell you guys a brief story to make it clearer.

I remember being on the playground and looking up at those tall monkey bars towering above the field. They seemed so big and tall, like something incredible. Of course, to any seven-year-old, climbing it seems a feat worth trying. But, no matter how hard I tried it was still physically impossible for my short arms to reach the highest bar. I tell this story because on this day, March 24, 2018, our end goal may seem impossible to reach. It may seem so idealistic that we doubt seeing such immense change within the course of our lifetime. However, I am confident that meeting our goal can become a reality by taking the right steps to get there. I didn't finish my childhood story. As I started to climb the bars, I had multiple encounters with failure and defeat by slipping off of the handlebars. Enacting change to the issue of gun violence is no different. We have and will continue to encounter obstacles that will try to prevent us from succeeding. In order to overcome these difficulties, it is imperative that we lobby Congress to change the gun laws to ensure that only those who are able to handle the responsibility of owning a gun can do so. It is also paramount that organizations such as the NRA accept the consequences of prioritizing profit over life. I remain optimistic that we'll be able to do this because, despite having fallen multiple times on the wood chips, I persevered and, yes, eventually reached the top. The feeling at the top of those monkey bars was one I'll never forget. For a brief moment in time I felt like the king of the world with nothing to stop me. I made my way down, and yes, fell again, but this time it was worth it. I have no doubt that this movement will feel the same way when we make strides. The obstacles will never truly go away, but we will enact laws, start protests and incite conversations that will make these obstacles irrelevant.

Piece by piece we will inspire other students to gain the courage to stand up for what they believe in. Piece by piece we will show youth that they have a voice and that it does matter. And piece by piece we will once again feel safe enough to walk our school hallways without feeling as if that is the last day we'll walk at all.

Contact our congressmen! These men are in the government speaking for and representing you. Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, Rep. Leonard Lance, Sen. Cory Booker, and Sen. Robert Menendez all need to hear from you about how we feel about gun violence. If we want to save lives, it begins with speaking with our powerful elected officials. You've already climbed your first bar just by being here today. Hopefully you've been listening, and hopefully you take the next step to putting an end to gun violence! I am so impressed with the numbers here today and I want you guys to keep fighting, and keep climbing, because eventually, we will reach the top, together! Thank you and have a good day!

ANESSA FLORES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anessa Flores for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Anessa Flores received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anessa Flores 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 Anessa Flores for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF SAULT SAINTE MARIE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the city of Sault Sainte Marie upon the occasion of its 350th Anniversary. Through three and a half centuries of community investment and growth, the Soo has become an indispensable part of the Upper Peninsula and the state of Michigan.

For centuries before the arrival of Europeans, the area now known as Sault Sainte Marie was inhabited by Chippewa Native Americans. In 1668, French missionaries Jacques Marquette and Claude Dablon founded a Jesuit mission near the rapids of the St. Mary's River—establishing the oldest permanent settlement in what is now the state of Michigan. The first link connecting Lake Superior to Lake Huron was constructed in 1855, and since then a steady flow of goods and materials have flowed through this critical junction. Over its 350 years, the settlement grew from a mission and base for fur trappers into a modern city and major artery for the industry of the Great Lakes.

In honor of the Soo's semiseptcentennial, the city is hosting a variety of events and celebrations throughout the year. The festivities kicked off with the ball drop that welcomed the New Year, and has already included the 50th Annual I-500 Snowmobile Race and the annual opening of the Soo Locks. From July 20th to the 27th, the city will host a week-long 350th Festival filled with history, games, kids' entertainment, music, and food. The closing ceremonies for the year-long festivities will be December 16, 2018, with a performance at Pullar Stadium and the closing of the Semiseptcentennial Time Capsule.

Mr. Speaker, day after day, the city of Sault Sainte Marie continues to set a positive example of what can be achieved when the people of a community work together for the common good. It's my honor to congratulate them for their 350 years of success and community growth. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the Soo all the best as it ventures into the future.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR OF AURORA, COLORADO, STEPHEN D. HOGAN

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of a truly great citizen of the United States, the Mayor of Aurora, Colorado, Stephen D. Hogan. Mayor Hogan passed away on May 13, 2018. Throughout his nearly eight year tenure as the mayor of my hometown, Steve Hogan oversaw a remarkable and exciting renaissance in the city. Aurora has become Colorado's third largest city, and a driving force of innovation, development, and economic opportunity. Aurora has also become an even greater place to live, work, and raise a family.

I first met Steve Hogan 35 years ago when I returned home to Aurora after serving in the Marines. I have had the distinct pleasure to call him a friend ever since. Mayor Hogan's career in public service has taken him from serving in the Colorado House of Representatives in the 1970's, to serving six terms as an Aurora City Council Member, and finally to two terms elected as the Mayor of the city I know he loved so dearly.

Throughout his time serving the citizens of Aurora, Mayor Hogan managed its remarkable growth. Although thought of by many as simply a suburb of the city of Denver, Aurora is so much more. In fact, Aurora is now the 54th largest city in the United States. During Mayor Hogan's tenure, Aurora saw the expansion of the E-470 highway, the continued buildout of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, the final stages of the construction of the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center, and the openings of an Amazon Fulfillment Center and a Walmart Distribution Center. In addition, he worked closely with the Regional Transport District on the innovative public private partnership that resulted in the completion of the R-Line light rail that runs throughout the city years ahead of schedule. These new developments have contributed millions of dollars to Aurora's economy, creating new jobs and exciting economic opportunities. Buckley Air Force Base, the largest em-

ployer in the City of Aurora, also flourished under Mayor Hogan's leadership. While other military installations have troubled relationships with their local communities, Mayor Hogan was an avid supporter of the base and a supporter of efforts now nearing completion to add over 1,000 acres of open space around the base that will protect it from encroachment. In April, as a mark of its respect of the Mayor, Aurora City Council voted unanimously to rename the 6th Avenue Parkway Extension as the Stephen D. Hogan Parkway.

Mayor Hogan exemplified the spirit of public service, and my hometown of Aurora would not be the wonderful place that it is without his vision and his leadership. We are all better off because of his decades of hard work. My heartfelt thanks to Mayor Hogan and I salute him for his service to our fellow citizens. I am proud to have been able to call him a friend and his family are in my thoughts and prayers.

DEVAN GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Devan Garcia for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Devan Garcia received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Devan 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 Devan Garcia for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF DR. DON STOCKTON

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize and thank Dr. Don Stockton for his tireless service and unwavering commitment to the students and employees of the Conroe Independent School District.

A graduate of both Purdue University and Texas A&M University, Don Stockton began his career in education as a math teacher in Lafayette, Indiana, but just two years later, Don found his way to Conroe ISD, where he continued to teach math and coach at Conroe High School and Travis Junior High School.

Over the course of seventeen years, Don served throughout Conroe ISD: working as the Assistant Principal at Oak Ridge High School, the Assistant Principal and Principal of McCullough Junior High, the Assistant Principal and Principal of Knox Junior High, the Principal of The Woodlands High School, and

the Interim and Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

In 2003, Don was appointed Conroe ISD's Superintendent of Schools—a posting he has held for fifteen years. Under his leadership, Conroe ISD has reached new levels of success and earned countless performance and achievement awards—becoming the largest school district to ever be named Exemplary by the Texas Education Agency and one of only three school districts with the highest academic achievement rating eight years in a row.

Throughout his time in Montgomery County and the Greater Houston Area, Don has used his talents to serve his community in both Conroe ISD and a wide variety of educational and civic organizations. These tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed. Don's hard work and passion for service have earned him the title of Superintendent of the Year, Citizen of the Year, and many other community and public service awards.

Don dedicated his career to making a difference in his community that reached far beyond the classroom, and thousands of students, families, educators, and staff have been changed for the better due to his efforts.

I am proud to join his wife, Kara; his daughter, Brooke; his friends; and his colleagues in thanking Don for his career of service and wishing him the best as he begins his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING CENTENARIAN RESIDENTS OF EVERLASTING PINE HDFC

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the contribution of seven centenarian residents of Everlasting Pine HDFC on Chung Pak Local Development Corporation's Elderly Appreciation Day, and in recognition of Older American's Month and Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Built in 1993 through a HUD senior supportive housing program, Everlasting Pine HDFC has provided a home and a community to low-income seniors. Safe and affordable housing is essential to low-income seniors and allows residents to live independent and vibrant lives.

Symbolizing decades of longevity and hard work, this occasion reflects an important milestone in a growing segment of American life, the Centenarians. Over the years, these special individuals have contributed to our nation, witnessing remarkable changes and extraordinary progress. They have lived through some of the most exciting times in our nation's history.

Li Keng Tsuei, Hai Liu, Mark Chan Sze, Rong Guo Xin, Ng Kwa Ying, Wu Siu Ying and Yee Mee Ting are all lifelong residents of Chinatown who are 100 years of age and older. They have individually contributed to the fabric and welfare of their neighborhood and New York City. They have earned the respect and affection of people from all walks of life.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these remarkable centenarians and wish them continued health and happiness.

BABITA GAUTAM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Babita Gautam for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Babita Gautam received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Babita Gautam 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 Babita Gautam for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ALBERTA LOGAN GRIFFIN SHIPMAN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and birthday wishes to a dedicated woman of God and respected librarian, Mrs. Alberta Logan Griffin Shipman, who celebrated her 90th birthday on April 28, 2018 at the Doubletree Hotel in Columbus, Georgia.

Mrs. Shipman was born on May 5, 1928 to Rogers and Hattie Whiteside Logan of Rutherfordton, North Carolina. She received her Bachelor's degree from Albany State College (now Albany State University Library Media Specialist and Master of Education degrees from Columbus State University, and Master of Library Science degree from what is now Clark Atlanta University.

In 1973, Mrs. Shipman became the Director of the South Columbus Branch Library in the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System, making her the first African American and first professionally degreed librarian to hold that position. Throughout her career, she served her community with unparalleled commitment as the Vice President of the Board of Directors for Columbus State University's Alumni Association, Secretary of the American Association of University Women, Board Member for the League of Women Voters, and Chairperson for "Attack on Illiteracy Campaign" sponsored by Gamma Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, of which she is a Life member.

Mrs. Shipman lives by the following words: "Our God has done great things for all people and we should strive to love more and continue to help each other through Jesus Christ Our Savior." Mrs. Shipman used her love for the Lord to positively shape her community. As a lifetime member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, she has served in several capacities and has regularly incorporated her faith into her commitment to public service.

Mrs. Shipman is a noted speaker for religious and civic events such as Women's Day, Missionary Day and Educational Leadership Seminars and Workshops. Her efforts in the church and as a citizen of the world have earned her many accolades. She was the first recipient of the Boundless Missionary Award for dedicated service to the Women's Missionary Society. She also received the Holding Up the Light Award and the central District Presiding Elder's "Spirit Award."

Mrs. Shipman has accomplished many things in her life, but none of these accomplishments would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of her current husband, Roy and her seven wonderful daughters from her late husband, Reverend John R. Griffin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in recognizing Mrs. Alberta Logan Griffin Shipman. She is truly a woman of faith whose heart never stops giving and whose hands never stop serving the people of her church and her community. We extend our best wishes to her on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

ALIANA MONAE GUILLORY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aliana Monae Guillory for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Aliana Monae Guillory received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aliana Monae Guillory 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 Aliana Monae Guillory for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN IKARD

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. John Ikard's generous philanthropy and dedicated service to the State of Colorado.

In 2017, Mr. Ikard retired from his position as CEO of First Bank after 17 years of leading one of Colorado's largest and most successful financial institutions. Under his leadership, John also helped to give back to his community. Since 2000, FirstBank has donated over \$50 million to disability and wellness charities throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Although Mr. Ikard has since stepped down from

his position, he remains on First Bank's Board of Directors, ensuring the continuation of the company's benevolent culture.

Mr. Ikard's success at FirstBank is rivaled by his service and commitment to bettering his community and the State of Colorado. He has previously served as Chairman of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Denver Area Boy Scout Council, Colorado State University Board of Governors, and the Denver Economic Development Corporation. Today, Mr. Ikard continues to be an active member on the Colorado Children's Hospital Foundation and Board, as well as a pro-business advocate for Colorado Concern.

Mr. Ikard's extraordinary efforts to better the lives of others have not gone unrecognized. This year, Mr. Ikard was honored with the Mizel Institute's Community Enrichment award; a highly, esteemed decoration bestowed on community leaders. This accomplishment is another noteworthy addition to Mr. Ikard's long list of achievements.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. John Ikard's role as a business and community leader can serve as an inspiration to all Americans and I thank him for his contribution to the betterment of our community and of the State of Colorado.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call No. 200.

ALEX KANE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alex Kane for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Alex Kane received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alex Kane 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 Alex Kane for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF DR. VICTOR JAIME
ON RETIRING AFTER 38 YEARS
OF SERVICE TO THE IMPERIAL
VALLEY

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Victor Jaime, whom after 30 years of service, will be retiring as President of Imperial Valley College.

Dr. Victor Jaime was born and raised in the Imperial Valley. He was the first in his family to go to college and Imperial Valley College became the key to his successful career. After graduating with his associates from Imperial Valley College, he went on to attain his Bachelor's degree at UC Irvine, his Master's degree at San Diego State University, his Educational Specialist Degree at Point Loma Nazarene College, and finally his Doctorate degree in Education from Northern Arizona University. Despite all of his diplomas, the two he cherishes the most are his Doctorate, that prepared him to lead our educators and students towards a successful path; and his Associates Degree from Imperial Valley College, which helped pave the way to his mission in life.

Throughout his career, Dr. Victor Jaime, has worked in various roles such as Counselor and later Director of the Talent Search Program, Dean of Financial Aid and State Programs, Vice President for Student Services and finally Superintendent/President; all at the very college that awarded his Associate's Degree: Imperial Valley College.

Dr. Victor Jaime firmly believes that his father and grandfather were his main sources of influence and credits them for his accomplishments in academia and his career. Dr. Victor Jaime and his wife, Caroline Treadway-Jaime, have three children; two who are former Imperial Valley College students, and one who is currently at Cal State Fresno, and the grandparents of three grandchildren.

I would like to recognize Dr. Victor Jaime for his dedication and commitment to Imperial Valley and for being a champion to the community college system and leaving behind a legacy that will continue to impact the students in my district. I wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

ANGELA LOPEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angela Lopez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Angela Lopez received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angela Lopez 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 Angela Lopez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE "LARRY" CLARK

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Lawrence "Larry" Clark—a beloved husband and former mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes—who passed away on May 2, 2018 at the age of 69. It was an honor for me to have known Larry.

Larry was born on January 19, 1949 in Orange, California. Larry double majored in both psychology and sociology at California State University, Fullerton. Later, Larry also received an MBA from California State University, Dominguez Hills. After graduating, Larry began a 40-year career with the federal government where he was able to work with several agencies such as the Air Force, the Department of Defense, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in the communications and information systems field. Before being elected to the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council in 2001, Larry served on the View Commission and Planning Commission. Due to his passion to serve the public and his perseverance seen through his dedication and hard work, Larry was elected for a second term. While in his second term, he was appointed twice to the California State Coastal Commission. Larry was elected as mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes in 2008, and served for two years.

After retiring from the federal government in 2012, Larry was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Despite his diagnosis, Larry went on to volunteer with the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN), create the PanCAN Survivor Council, and serve on the Executive Committee for PurpleStride Los Angeles. In 2013, Larry received the Spirit of Hope award at the PanCAN's Evening with the Stars gala for his advocacy on behalf of the nonprofit organization and was shortly appointed one of five national ambassadors for PanCAN. Larry fought cancer with tremendous courage, grace and dignity.

Larry is survived by his wife of 24 years, Becky, and their two corgis Milo and Katie, whom I hope take comfort in the way Larry lived his life as a deeply thoughtful, compassionate and moral citizen. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

PASTOR DANIEL PRICE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Daniel Price on the occasion of his retirement after 25 years of dedicated service as senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Eureka.

In 1974, Daniel Price graduated from Westmont College in Santa Barbara with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies. After obtaining a Master of Divinity degree in 1978 from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, he was ordained through the Presbyterian Church (USA) and served as Associate Pastor of the Easton Presbyterian Church in Fresno. In 1987, Pastor Price pursued his Ph.D. in Theology at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. After completing his doctorate, he became pastor at the International Protestant Church of Zürich, Switzerland, where he gained experience serving in a more urban setting.

In 1993, Pastor Price moved to Eureka, California, where he has served as senior pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Eureka for the past 25 years. During his tenure, Pastor Price led a major renovation of the First Presbyterian church facility, which was completed in the fall of 2005. He implemented two services, one contemporary and one traditional, and writes a weekly column for his parish.

Throughout his career, Pastor Price has engaged in his community through volunteer and community efforts. He currently serves as president of the Betty Kwan Chinn Foundation and is a former member of Eureka Rotary and de facto chair of the Eureka Interfaith Fellowship and North Coast Presbyterian Parish. He taught religious studies courses at Humboldt State University and the North Coast Bible Institute.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Daniel Price's leadership and service have left many lasting and positive impacts on his community and is worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to him and best wishes in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 2018, I was improperly recorded as a Yes vote on Roll Call No. 198. This was in error and I wish to be recorded as a No on RC No. 198.

ALEXANDRA MACHADO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexandra Machado for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Alexandra Machado received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alexandra Machado 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 Alexandra Machado for winning the Adams

County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF KENNETH H. HOFMANN

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kenneth Harry Hofmann. I join his family and friends to celebrate his life and service to the community.

Born and raised in the Bay Area, Ken attended Fremont High School in Oakland, and went on to graduate from Merchant Marine Academy. He would later be known as a dynamic builder, entrepreneur, and philanthropist.

In 1957, Ken started the Hofmann Company, which by the mid-1980s had built more than 30,000 homes and apartments throughout the Bay Area. He was also a two-time president of the Building Industry Association, and co-owner of the A's and Seattle Seahawks.

A philanthropist in the community, Ken opened the De La Salle Academy, which provides a program—food, books, tutors—for underprivileged youth to help prepare them for high school. Ken was passionate about early childhood education and highlighted the importance of outdoor educational studies on nature, wetlands, and waterfowl protection in K–12 curriculums.

As a conservationist, Ken operated a ranch in the Sacramento Valley where he converted farmland to wetlands to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl and songbirds. He also proposed the Pacific Flyway Center, a major educational facility that will introduce the public to bird flight patterns and inspire environmental stewardship.

Ken will be remembered for his dedication to the Bay Area. He is survived by his wife, Jean, two daughters, and will be sincerely missed by everyone who knew him.

AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2) to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act, known as the Farm Bill. This bill weakens our ability to fight hunger, undermines conservation efforts, and fails to address the needs of small and family farms.

The Farm Bill should provide a safety net for both the hard-working farmers who

produce food and those who consume it. In the past, bipartisan Farm Bills have met the needs of both rural and urban communities and have found a balance in the policies that support farmers and those facing food insecurity. Unfortunately, this year Republican leaders on the House Agriculture Committee halted a bipartisan effort and brought a very partisan bill to the floor. The proposal is the result of an ideologically-driven process that was rushed and inadequate, leaving farm and food programs in jeopardy.

More than 80 percent of the funding in the Farm Bill supports nutrition assistance programs for the nearly 41 million Americans facing food insecurity. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) allows low-income families to purchase food, and the program continues to play a critical role in helping these families escape the devastating effects of poverty. This program is vital for families in Oregon and across the country. According to a Census Bureau report, nearly 20 percent of families in Oregon rely on SNAP. Unfortunately, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act would slash more than \$23 billion in SNAP benefits, removing food from the tables of tens of thousands of hungry Oregonians, and an estimated one million households nationwide.

Additionally, because SNAP is tied to eligibility for federal school meal programs, this bill would cut access to free school meals for an estimated 265,000 low-income children each year. This cruel and needless policy will result in additional hunger. Children need nutrition to learn and thrive and succeed in school, and hungry children are more likely to stay trapped in poverty.

Under current law, able-bodied adults between the ages of 18 and 49, without dependents, are only eligible to receive SNAP benefits for three months every three years, unless they are employed or in training for at least 20 hours per week. This bill would expand these requirements, harming many older low-income Americans and ignoring the caregiving responsibilities and other barriers to employment that many people face. SNAP provides some of our most vulnerable populations with access to affordable food; it is not and should not be a workforce training program.

The bill would also eliminate the "Heat and Eat" program, which allows Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) participants to receive a modest standard allowance so families do not need to choose between paying their energy bills and having access to food. These cuts would threaten many families, children, and seniors in Oregon and across the country.

The Farm Bill should provide support for farmers and ranchers who are struggling to make ends meet because of low market prices for goods, high production costs, and significant market uncertainty. This is especially important in light of the trade disruptions and tariff tit-for-tat initiated by the current Administration. Unfortunately, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act would fail to raise reference prices for most traditional crops to address the continued decline in farm income, limiting support for those who need it the most.

Northwest Oregon is home to many organic and specialty crop farmers, and I am disappointed that this bill did not increase funding for Specialty Crop Research Initiative and Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, programs that help a wide variety of food producers such as blueberry and hazelnut farms,

as well as vineyards producing world-renowned wines. The bill also neglected to increase funding for research into organic farming practices, an area that has demonstrated tremendous growth and that harbors further potential.

Our state exports a large majority of its agricultural products. Even with market uncertainty as a result of inconsistent messages and a changing narrative from the Administration, this bill failed to increase funding for the Market Access Program, the Foreign Market Development Program, and the Emerging Markets Program. The bill also eliminates the Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program, which supports robust local production and purchasing.

The bill also included troublesome language that would prohibit states from establishing standards and conditions on agricultural products sold within their borders. This could preempt several state laws in Oregon related to labeling malt beverages as beer, prohibiting the sale and possession of shark fins, and prohibiting retaliatory discrimination in farm worker camps. Oregonians should have the right to implement standards around labeling and animal welfare and avoid purchasing out of state products that fail to comply.

Farmers are natural stewards of the land and have direct experience with conserving natural resources. The Farm Bill should support those efforts, but it eliminates the Conservation Stewardship Program, slashing \$795 million in conservation funding. The bill would also remove a requirement that the Environmental Protection Agency consult with wildlife services to protect endangered species, fish, and wildlife from harmful pesticides. Further, it would reduce funding needed to maintain the integrity of the National Organic Program and eliminate existing bioenergy and renewable programs that support farmers, ranchers, and rural businesses.

Finally, I am disappointed that my bipartisan amendment to legalize industrial hemp and define it as an agricultural commodity was not allowed to come to the floor for a vote. American farmers have been growing hemp since the country was founded, and hemp products account for more than \$680 million in annual domestic sales. Thirty four states have legalized hemp production, and legalizing it at the federal level would bolster our economy and allow farmers and universities to continue re-

searching and cultivating the crop. I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance federal policies that support the hemp industry.

This bill fails to support hard-working farmers and takes away food assistance from the most vulnerable. We must do better for our constituents. I am unable to vote in favor of increasing hunger and harming local farmers, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

DESTINY SKATTUM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Destiny Skattum for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Destiny Skattum received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Destiny Skattum 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 Destiny Skattum for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MARK FOX

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Mr. Mark Fox and congratulate him on his assignment as the new Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service (NWS) Forecast Office in Amarillo,

Texas. His expertise and wit will be greatly missed by North Texans.

Mr. Fox is leaving his current position as the Warning & Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) for the NWS Forecast Office in Fort Worth, a position he has held since 2009. Previously, he worked for a decade as a broadcast meteorologist before joining the NWS in 1999. He earned his degree in Meteorology from the University of Oklahoma in 1989.

As the WCM for the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Mr. Fox has fostered dynamic partnerships between the NWS and broadcast meteorologists, emergency management coordinators, elected officials, and the public. One of his primary responsibilities is to oversee the Weather Forecast Office's public awareness program to educate the public on severe weather. Since 2012, he has led the North Texas Integrated Warning Team, bringing professionals and emergency managers together to serve our community.

In addition to analyzing data and predicting weather conditions, Mr. Fox's work takes him out into the field as he leads Weather & Flood Disaster Survey Teams to assess property damage after severe weather and determine what factors occurred during the weather event. He has been instrumental in introducing the Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA) radar to North Texas, and utilizing the data collected as one of the important tools that the NWS utilizes. He is the public face of the local NWS office and has delivered hundreds of storm spotter classes and briefings across the forty-six-counties covered by the NWS Fort Worth office.

Mr. Fox has been a guest presenter several times at my annual Emergency Preparedness Summit, and he regularly addresses both The Texas Severe Storms Association's annual National Storm Conference and the Texas Department of Emergency Management annual conference. He also is an active member of the North Texas Chapter of the American Meteorological Society.

It is my great privilege to recognize Mr. Mark Fox, Warning & Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service, for his commitment to the meteorological profession, his sincere dedication to the safety and well-being of his fellow North Texans, and his many years of exemplary public service.