

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE CAREER OF JAN ALDERTON

#### HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and honor Mr. Jan Alderton, Managing Editor at the Cumberland Times-News, for his incredible career and his retirement after nearly 48 years of journalism.

Jan started at the Cumberland News in 1967 as a proofreader. Eventually, he worked his way through almost every newsroom position. From his coverage of the Maryland General Assembly in the 1970's, to his work as a sports reporter, Jan showed true commitment to his craft, and worked hard to publish the best stories each day.

In 1987, Jan was named Managing Editor of the Times-News for the first time. There, Jan strived to make sure readers of the Times-News had access to breaking stories and the best reporting. His service to the people of Allegany County will be dearly missed.

Local journalism, like that at the Cumberland Times-News, provides a critical service for communities nationwide, highlighting events that aren't covered elsewhere. When it comes to reading hometown news, there's only one place to find it, and that's your hometown paper.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring Mr. Jan Alderton, for his dedication to honest reporting and his commitment to the people of Cumberland. Let's wish Jan a happy and healthy retirement.

### RECOGNIZING HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA

#### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida as the town celebrates its 90th anniversary. Howey-in-the-Hills is a small town with deep roots in the Florida citrus industry.

Howey-in-the-Hills' rich history began in 1916 with the purchase of 60,000 acres of land in Lake County by William John Howey. With a vision to build a citrus empire, Mr. Howey planted citrus on the majority of his land, and in 1921 he built Florida's first citrus plant. To serve as the commercial hub for the citrus industry, Mr. Howey founded Howey in 1925. A landscape with rolling hills and beautiful lakes, Mr. Howey nicknamed the area 'the Florida Alps' and in 1927 he officially changed the name to Howey-in-the-Hills to better characterize the natural beauty of the community.

Today, Howey-in-the Hills remains a beautiful, scenic small town. Situated on the pictur-

esque shores of Little Lake Harris and dotted with many smaller bodies of water, the town has developed itself into a resort town with the acclaimed Mission Inn Resort and Club. Howey-in-the-Hills is truly a gem worth discovering in Central Florida.

I congratulate Mayor Chris Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem John Ernest, Councilors Joseph Mabry, Ed Conroy, and David Nebel, and most of all, the people that live and work in Howey-in-the-Hills. It is truly an honor to serve the residents of Howey-in-the-Hills, and I thank them for their tremendous contributions to the Central Florida community.

### IN RECOGNITION OF GOLIAD, TEXAS AND CINCO DE MAYO

#### HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the upcoming 153rd anniversary of Cinco de Mayo. In May I will join my constituents in Goliad, Texas, to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. The holiday has come to represent a day of celebration of Mexican culture around the world.

Goliad, Texas is the birthplace of the young Mexican general, and the hero of Cinco de Mayo—Ignacio Seguin Zaragoza. He initially studied for priesthood, yet took up arms in defense of his country when Mexico slid into the War of the Reform. As the conflict came to a close in the late 1850s, General Zaragoza joined federalist troops with the legendary Benito Juarez and fought in numerous battles, including the Battle of Calpulalpan, which ended the War of the Reform. His strategic acumen in those four years led to his rapid promotion to general.

After the war, Mexico's European debt suffocated the economy, forcing then Mexican President Benito Juarez to declare a moratorium on debt payments. In retaliation, Spain, England, and France sent their fleets and forced the surrender of Veracruz, Mexico. President Juarez sent one of his generals to Veracruz in response. When that general observed the forces of the great European powers displayed in front of Veracruz, he resigned. President Juarez turned to General Zaragoza to lead the fight.

The Spanish and English withdrew their forces after negotiations with President Juarez, but the French army, arguably the best during that time, marched on to Mexico City. The intent was to conquer Mexico, join forces with the Confederate Army, and attack the Union. However, General Zaragoza stopped this invasion, in Puebla, Mexico.

The Battle of Puebla lasted most of May 5, 1862. Despite a severe imbalance in forces, the Mexican army held. General Zaragoza was lauded on his return. Later, while visiting his own sick troops, he contracted typhoid fever and died on September 8, 1862, at the

young age of 33. He was honored with a state funeral, and three days later, President Benito Juarez declared May 5, or Cinco de Mayo, a national holiday.

Citizens of Goliad maintain a rich cultural heritage, and are fiercely proud of their legacy. Today, festivities center around Zaragoza Plaza, which is located adjacent to the birthplace of Ignacio Seguin Zaragoza. The Texas Legislature has designated this beautiful plaza as the official celebration site for Cinco de Mayo so that future generations may understand its historical significance.

### IN HONOR OF WARREN WEINSTEIN

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the tragic death of Warren Weinstein, a U.S. development worker who was held captive by Al Qaeda from 2011 until 2015.

Last week, we learned that Mr. Weinstein was an accidental victim of a U.S. drone strike that took place in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region in January of this year. This tragedy has deprived a family of their loving husband, father, and grandfather, and it has deprived our country of a tireless champion of human rights and economic development among some of the world's poorest populations.

Warren Weinstein dedicated over 40 years of his life to international development work. Throughout his career, he worked with vulnerable populations throughout Africa and South Asia. He served as Peace Corps country director in Togo and the Ivory Coast. Most recently, he spent 10 years working on economic development projects as an adviser to J.E. Austin Associates, a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) contractor, in Pakistan.

Mr. Weinstein's life and approach to development work showcased the ideals of the institutions that he served: USAID, the Peace Corps, and others. He left the comforts of home and dedicated his career to improving the lives of others in countries that were not his own. He spoke seven languages and immersed himself in the local culture of the countries in which he worked. By all accounts, he had a warm, outgoing personality and a deep commitment to solving some of the world's most difficult problems.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in offering our deepest condolences to Mr. Weinstein's family and friends, especially his wife Elaine, their daughters Alisa and Jennifer, and their families. His legacy will live on in Pakistan, Togo, the Ivory Coast, and the entire range of countries in which he worked, and his service to our country and the world will never be forgotten.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW CHOW,  
MINKU LEE, AND HELEN WU  
MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL  
YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF THE  
UNITED STATES

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Matthew Chow, Minku Lee and Helen Wu on being selected to represent the United States in New York City and seven cities in China this summer as part of the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America.

Each year, Carnegie Hall selects the most talented young musicians from across our country to assemble an orchestra which shares music with the world. In 2015, the National Youth Orchestra will consist of 114 members and three of them are from the 18th Congressional District of California which I'm privileged to represent.

Matthew Chow, a violist from Los Altos, Minku Lee, a cellist from Palo Alto, and Helen Wu, a violist from Saratoga, are three of the nation's finest young musicians selected to play for the National Youth Orchestra. That each of them were selected is a testament to their superb skills. That a Congressional District would produce more than one orchestra member is extraordinary. After training and performing in New York City, Matthew, Minku and Helen will represent the United States this summer, performing in seven cities in China. Each musician is a source of great pride to their families, their schools, their teachers, our entire community and their Congresswoman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Matthew Chow, Minku Lee and Helen Wu on their extraordinary accomplishments. I congratulate and wish each of them every success as they perform with the National Youth Orchestra in New York City and China, proudly representing the best of the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE LORTON  
COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER  
AND IN HONOR OF FOUNDER'S  
AWARD RECIPIENT MOLLY  
LYNCH

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th Anniversary of the Lorton Community Action Center and join the Center in honoring this year's Founder's Award recipient, Molly Lynch.

Since 1975, Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) has served the residents of Fort Belvoir, Lorton, Newington, and other portions of southeast Fairfax County by providing access to basic needs and the opportunity to empower themselves through self-sufficiency programs.

LCAC began as an all-volunteer organization, working out of a local school and a

church basement. The organization was founded in response to the needs of low-income families in southeast Fairfax, which was an under-served area. For LCAC's first 15 years, the agency served as a resource for information and collected and distributed food for individuals and families. Today, LCAC has a professional staff of five full-time and five part-time employees, who serve a diverse population of ages and ethnic backgrounds.

LCAC aims to break the cycle of poverty and prevent homelessness through a variety of services and programs. LCAC's food program distributes between eight and ten tons of food every month. Clients who need clothing can shop at Lorton's Attic, LCAC's thrift store. Small grants assist families with utilities, rent, mortgage, medical services, and other essential needs.

When LCAC cannot help directly, it works closely with other agencies and organizations in our area that may be able to provide assistance. Perhaps most important, LCAC helps people achieve self-sufficiency through case management, ESL classes, nutrition classes, pro bono legal services, and tutoring. All this would not have been possible without the dedication of time, talent, and resources by the thousands of community volunteers and supporters.

Molly Lynch served on LCAC's Board from 1981–82 and again from 1991–2003. Mrs. Lynch was a part of the all-volunteer organization that operated out of a small building on Gunston Elementary School property in her early board service, providing a variety of much needed services to families in the Lorton community. When Molly rejoined the board in 1991 she helped LCAC pursue new funding opportunities through participation in the Combined Federal Campaign, United Way giving, and Fairfax County Community Funding Pool grants. In 2011, a generous gift from Molly and her husband, Bill, allowed LCAC to open a 2,000 square-foot pantry that doubled LCAC's space and consolidated food operations from five locations to one.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the staff, volunteers, supporters, and partners of LCAC for 40 years of assistance to the Lorton community's most vulnerable residents and in thanking Molly Lynch for her dedication to helping our neighbors in need.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND  
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RE-  
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA-  
TIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. LoBIONDO. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the FY2016 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill. This legislation will go a long way to help facilities,

such as the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Regional Office where thousands of my constituents have their cases managed, in improving their care and treatment of our nation's Veterans. While this is another small step to address the larger problems within the Department of Veterans Affairs, this legislation continues to show The House's dedication to righting this ship. Some important provisions of this bill include:

"Strike force response teams" that would bring in experienced, high-performing managers to implement corrective actions at low-performing facilities and offices

A fully funded request for digital scanning and centralized mail, which will improve speed and accuracy issues

And, this fully funds the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) with a \$163 million increase over FY15, which will allow for more staffing for processing of appeals of claims in Philadelphia and other regional offices

I commend Chairman DENT and his subcommittee for prioritizing care of our Veterans. While South Jersey still has many challenges to be overcome in access to timely care, I am proud to support this bill which continues to fix the system-wide problems within the VA.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE  
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN AMERICAN  
COMMUNITY

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that recognizes and celebrates the 40th Anniversary of the Southeast Asian American community in the U.S.

Over the past 40 years, Southeast Asian Americans have become an integral part of the social and economic fabric of our country.

They left war-torn nations, tyrannical regimes, and even genocide, to make better lives for themselves and their children.

Today, over 2.5 million Southeast Asian Americans trace their heritage to Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

In these four decades, they have contributed to our armed forces, arts, business, and politics.

In fact, I have seen firsthand their enormous impact in my own district of Silicon Valley.

This resolution honors their struggles in coming to America, and thanks them for all they've done—and continue to do—for our country.

H.R. 2028 AND H.R. 2029

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I voted against H.R. 2028, the FY16 Energy and Water Appropriations Act and H.R. 2029, the FY16 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, because they failed to provide funding for programs that help our veterans, protect the environment, and grow a

clean energy economy. We should be able to do better than this.

The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill is usually something that we can all find common ground on—the importance of standing up for our nation's veterans transcends partisan battles. This year, however, the bill Republican leadership put on the floor not only shortchanged our veterans and servicemen and women, but the modest increase in spending over last year's bill will require cuts to critical public spending on education, health care, and infrastructure in later appropriations bills. Even veterans service organizations like Veterans of Foreign Wars urged opposition. The bill also included a policy rider preventing the transfer of detainees from the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, a prison whose very existence undermines America's security and international standing. Further, part of the spending of this bill is through the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) fund, an unrelated war slush-fund that is exempt from all budget caps.

During consideration of this bill, I offered an amendment that would have allowed VA doctors to recommend medical marijuana to their patients in the states where it was legal if they so choose. Our veterans should have the same medicines available to them as everyone else, and we should not prohibit VA doctors from consulting with their patients in accordance with their medical training and state law. I am disappointed that my amendment very narrowly failed, but I remain encouraged that we continue to build momentum in this issue, and gained significantly more bipartisan support than last year.

The Energy and Water appropriations bill, while it contains some infrastructure funds that are critical to ports, waterways and freight movement integral to Oregon's economy, ultimately contained too many provisions bad for the environment for me to support. It prohibits the Army Corps of Engineers from finalizing and implementing rules to ensure clean water in streams and wetlands that provide drinking water for one in three Americans. It dramatically underfunds renewable energy support programs, while propping up fossil fuels and nuclear weapons spending, and delivers deep cuts to programs that assist low income families with energy bills. It also contains nonsense amendments, such as a measure to prevent the Department of Energy from implementing a law requiring incandescent light bulbs to be more energy efficient, even though American manufacturers have already adopted the new standard.

In addition, both of these bills adhere to the Republican budget's overall spending caps that account for sequestration. These caps reflect the lowest discretionary spending we've seen in ten years, and we simply cannot continue to cut government programs that are so critical to environmental protection, health, education, economic stability and defense.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2014 RESTON ASSOCIATION SERVICE AWARDS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2014 Reston

Association Service Awards. The Reston Association (RA) is the largest homeowners' association in Virginia and one of the largest in the country with more than 21,000 homes under its jurisdiction. Among other roles, RA serves as the steward of Reston's architectural aesthetics, recreational amenities, and environmental resources.

RA relies on hundreds of volunteers and dedicated staff who serve on boards, committees, and projects to carry out its mission to keep Reston a model community where all can "Live, Work, Play, and Get Involved." I am pleased to submit the names of the outstanding 2014 honorees.

2014 Reston Association Volunteer of the Year—Mark Elder

Mark Elder has volunteered his time as a tennis instructor for the last two years. He fills the gaps and works interchangeably with RA staff instructors. Mark gives his time willingly, energetically and consistently to the youth tennis community to ensure programs like this and many others are successful.

2014 Reston Association Volunteer Group of the Year—Senior Movie Day Volunteers (Laura & John Cole, Pat Coshland, Michelina Johnson, Kurt McJilton, Otto & Rosemarie Tubito)

This dynamic group of volunteers is the backbone of Senior Movie Day in Reston Town Center, which benefits up to 400 seniors each month. The group has been volunteering since 2007 and contributes 150 hours annually, thereby reducing staff time needed to put on this great community event for the seniors in our community.

2014 Reston Association Community Partner of the Year—Clarke

For three consecutive years, Clarke has selected Reston for the Annual Clarke Day of Caring. Clarke employees monitor for mosquito larvae in Reston's restored streams and help educate RA's watershed staff on mosquito collection and identification. More than a dozen Clarke employees spend a full day removing invasive plants and removing trash from streams and other natural areas. This commitment to Reston and corporate volunteerism makes Clarke a standout partner.

2014 Employee of the Year—Rob Tucker

For 15 years Reston community members have been fortunate to see the smiling face of Rob Tucker on RA tennis courts. His passion for tennis is equal to his commitment to the community and the RA staff. He provides top-notch customer service, personalized instruction, and overall cheerleading for the RA tennis programs. RA and the entire community couldn't find a better advocate for the tennis and recreation programs available to Reston members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2014 Reston Association Service Awards and in thanking them for dedicating their time, energy, and resources to the improvement of the quality of life and health of the Reston community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LAKE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lake County Chamber of Com-

merce which is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary this year. Established in 1915 as the Waukegan Chamber of Commerce, the Lake County Chamber of Commerce has undergone significant change and has prospered despite difficulties over the past one hundred years.

Today the Chamber assists businesses and citizens through weekly events catered to improving opportunities for networking and marketing. In short, Mr. Speaker, the Chamber successfully works to advance the overall welfare and prosperity of Lake County citizens and small businesses.

I offer my most sincere congratulations to The Lake County Chamber of Commerce for its success in helping to strengthen our community and wish them continued success in the future.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANN WAGNER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 30 and Friday, May 1, 2015, I was proud to join my son, Raymond Wagner, III in Fort Campbell, Kentucky and participate in the ceremony marking his promotion to Captain in the United States Army.

Due to the extraordinary nature of this event, I was unable to be in Washington, D.C. and vote on legislative business during this time.

On Adoption of the Conference Report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11—FY2016 Budget Resolution (Roll Call Vote #183), had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Passage of H.R. 2029—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (Roll Call Vote #193), had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Passage of H.J. Res. 43—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act of 2014 (Roll Call Vote #194), had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Passage of H.R. 2028—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (Roll Call Vote #215), had I been present I would have voted yes.

#### ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2028) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chair, I rise to congratulate Chairman MIKE SIMPSON and Ranking Member MARCY KAPTUR for their leadership in preparing the FY 2016 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. Both of you deserve thanks for your hard work putting together a bill that supports programs critical to our nation's security, safety, and economic competitiveness. Your bill prioritizes investments in our critical nuclear security enterprise, and creates more opportunities to advance American competitiveness, and assumes the key role of the Army Corps of Engineers in resolving so many issues important to every state and Congressional District in the nation: navigation and flooding emergencies.

To my mind, the defense programs included in your bill are its single most critical responsibility. The bill funds Weapons Activities at the National Nuclear Security Administration to ensure that the Secretary of Energy has the investments he needs to certify to the President that our nuclear stockpile is reliable. It is essential that we provide the safety, security and reliability of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. These weapons are a vital part of our national defense postures and they are essential to meeting our commitments to our allies, even if they are never used. They are a deterrent.

The bill also funds Naval Reactors, which supports our U.S. Navy's nuclear-powered Fleet including the Ohio class replacement submarine and our aircraft carriers and other submarines.

The Appropriations committee has always provided vigorous support for these national defense priorities and I thank Chairman SIMPSON for his work in this area.

Additionally, scientific research at the Department of Energy strengthens American competitiveness and enables true breakthroughs in the energy sector, and the bill preserves and protects it, especially in fusion energy, nuclear and fossil energy, and areas that will bolster our nation's electric grid. The bill also protects public safety and keeps America literally open for business by providing for the Army Corps of Engineers to meet the need for navigable rivers and open and accessible ports.

Finally, a word about Yucca Mountain. Many Members of Congress have been advocates for Yucca Mountain as we consider it essential to our nation's energy independence. Decades of analysis, millions of documents, and billions of taxpayer dollars have been put towards the scientific examination of Yucca Mountain as a safe and secure geologic repository for nuclear waste. Your bill includes funding to keep the license processing for Yucca Mountain moving forward and it also prohibits the Administration from moving ahead with any other plan not authorized by Congress. This will ensure that we keep Congress in the driver's seat for nuclear waste policy.

Mr. Chair, former chairman of this subcommittee, I know the challenge that you and Ms. KAPTUR faced crafting this bill. I commend you on the fine bill that you put together. This is a fiscally conservative bill, which funds critical national security, jobs, and infrastructure priorities. This bill deserves our support.

## RECOGNIZING THE 24TH ANNUAL BEST OF RESTON AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 24th Annual Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. These awards are the result of collaboration between Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith) and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and are presented to individuals, organizations, and businesses whose extraordinary efforts make our community a better place. I am pleased to submit the names of the following recipients of the 2015 Best of Reston Awards:

Civic/Community Organization: His Hidden Treasures (Troy and Lois Hughes)—Working in partnership with organizations dedicated to ending homelessness, His Hidden Treasures transforms transitional rental housing into homes for families, personalized with lovingly restored furniture, donated store floor samples and new housewares.

Small Business Leader: Maid Bright (Maria Fedick, Yusuf and Zeynep Mehmetoglu)—Maid Bright has made a difference by providing free house cleaning services to women with cancer, catering dinners for the hypothermia shelter, performing cleaning for Cornerstones' transitional housing units, offering discounts to seniors, veterans, firefighters, and teachers, and donating funds to help the homeless and Syrian refugees.

Corporate Business Leader: Leidos (Mike Coogan, Director, Corporate Responsibility)—Since establishing its headquarters in Reston two years ago, Leidos—a worldwide leader in science and technology—immediately made broad and deep connections in the community. Leidos employees have provided more than 32,000 volunteer hours benefitting a wide range of organizations. The company also has contributed significant financial support to the community. Leidos has lent its support to meeting basic human needs, and supports training, education, and employment opportunities for returning veterans.

Corporate Business Leader: MAXIMUS (Susan Boren, Mark Andrekovich, Tom Romeo)—MAXIMUS provides health and human service programs to a diverse array of communities. MAXIMUS and its employees have supported a wide range of organizations that work locally to strengthen the safety net for homeless and at-risk families, or those with special needs.

Individual Community Leader: Francis C. Steinbauer—A true Reston Pioneer, Fran Steinbauer has been an integral part of the community's history and success for five decades. In 1964, Mr. Steinbauer became the Design Engineer responsible for the creation and government approval of plans for Reston's buildings and infrastructure, and he remained professionally involved in the development of Reston until the 1980s. As a volunteer to this day, he has played a vital role in making sure Reston's economy, community, and inclusive culture were as well developed as its physical environment. At Cornerstones, he is revered as the architect of its successful affordable housing program, and he continues to work for

the ideal that anyone can live in our community.

Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award: Casey Veatch—A dedicated volunteer for many different organizations, Casey leads by example and inspires others to follow suit. He has generously supported and cultivated leadership through his work with Leadership Fairfax, Reston Bible Church, Northern Virginia Family Service, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, and numerous children's sports teams.

Individual Community Leader: Larry Butler—The Reston Association's Senior Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources, Larry's lifelong passion for the outdoors and physically active lifestyle has inspired his tireless volunteer work. In more than 30 years with Reston Association, Larry has been instrumental in the success of Reston's many outdoors and athletics activities. These events help create environmental awareness, build community spirit, promote healthy lifestyles, and raise funds for a wide variety of causes.

2015 Robert E. Simon Community Service Award: Lynn Lillienthal—A Restonian for more than forty years, Ms. Lillienthal was named a Best of Reston recipient in 1998, and has certainly not rested on that accolade. She has served on the board of directors of virtually every major nonprofit institution in Reston, including Reston Interfaith, the Embury Rucker Community Shelter Citizens Support Committee, Greater Reston Arts Center, and the Reston Historic Trust, just to name a few. Her decades of service have touched thousands of lives in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2015 Best of Reston honorees for their tremendous contributions to our community. I express my sincere gratitude to these individuals, businesses, and organizations for lending their time and energy to the betterment of our community.

## HONORING THE CITY OF CAPE MAY AS A UNITED STATES COAST GUARD COMMUNITY

**HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the County of Cape May on its designation as a "Coast Guard Community" on October 1, 2014 by the United States Coast Guard and the United States Congress.

In 1924, the Coast Guard established operations to support U.S. Customs efforts in Sewell's Point. By 1948, the Training Center, which is the only recruit training facility in the country, became the entry-level training facility for all of the East Coast and eventually the entire country. Today, the base has more than 860 military and civilian personnel, and graduates an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly.

This new designation reflects the mutually beneficial relationship between the Coast Guard and Cape May County. Over the years, the recruits and military and civilian personnel have become part of our Cape May County family. And nothing says family more than Operation Fireside. Since the program's inception

in 1981, Operation Fireside places more than 500 recruits with over 180 families each year to celebrate the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

On May 8, the people of Cape May County and the United States Coast Guard will celebrate this designation at the Training Center in Cape May. My thanks to all who helped make this designation a reality.

#### BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

### HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of the start of Building Safety Month, to recognize the importance of building safety and to recognize the leadership of the International Code Council (ICC) that develops and publishes the model building safety and energy efficiency model codes used in my home state of Vermont, and each of the other 49 states. Increasingly, these codes, developed in the United States, are being adopted in other nations where safety in construction is desired.

Over the past few years, we have had several sobering reminders about the importance of building codes. In other nations, much like the case in the U.S. before the codes were widely adopted, natural events and poor construction practices still cause catastrophic loss of life. Every year, deadly fires, tornados, windstorms, floods, earthquakes and other events remind us of the critical need for strong buildings. As Congress discusses the need for resilience and greater energy efficiency in our communities, Building Safety Month reminds us that key elements of resilience and energy efficiency are properly enforced building and energy codes.

The theme of this year's Building Safety Month is "Resilient Communities start with Building Codes." I want to congratulate the leaders of the ICC, which has sponsored Building Safety Month in May every year for over 30 years. The leaders of ICC, including President Guy Tomberlin, Branch Chief Residential/Light Commercial Inspections for Fairfax County, Virginia; Vice-President Alex Olszowy III, Building Inspection Supervisor, Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government, Kentucky; Secretary/Treasurer M. Dwayne Garriss, State Fire Marshal, State of Georgia; Past President of the Board of Directors, Stephen Jones, Construction Official, Millburn Township/Short Hills, New Jersey will join ICC's Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims in Washington the week of May 25th to discuss the critical need to support the adoption and enforcement of current building codes, to make sure Americans are safe at home, at work, at school and at play.

I also want to congratulate the leaders of the Building Safety Association of Vermont ICC, including President Glenn Moore and the other leaders of the Vermont ICC Chapter.

I would also like to thank the thousands of men and women who work every day to make sure our buildings comply with building and fire codes. Their work, largely unseen and often unnoticed, is critical to keeping Americans safe. The model building codes, developed by ICC members from all 50 states,

allow every community to share the advantage of adopting building codes that are adaptable to local conditions, but at the same time incorporate the very latest research, materials, and building practices. This is achieved in a private-public partnership, saving local jurisdictions from bearing the large expense of code revision, updating and coordination. These model codes are produced through the cooperation of thousands of local U.S. code officials working with the building industry to produce codes that represent a consensus on what the minimum safety requirements are for various building types, all without a dime of Federal taxpayer money.

Congratulations to the hard working members and leadership of the International Code Council.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on April 30, 2015, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote number 193, On Passage of Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

Should I have been present I would have voted No.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM C. PHELON FOR HIS SERVICE

### HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal William C. Phelon, Jr. and his distinguished contributions to the United States Air Force. Mr. Phelon enlisted in the United States Air Force immediately after graduating from Mineola High School in June of 1943 and entered active service August 16, 1943, at the height of American involvement in World War Two. Mr. Phelon served valiantly until he left the service in March of 1946. Corporal Phelon flew as part of the illustrious 96th Bombardment Group, serving as a Radio Operator Mechanic and Waist Gunner in a B-17 Flying Fortress. He was responsible for all radio equipment aboard the B-17 while in flight.

In his position as Airman, Corporal Phelon participated in Operation Chowhound, a humanitarian mission which delivered over 11,000 tons of food to Nazi-occupied Holland during the Dutch Famine. This mission was so appreciated by the Dutch people that commemorative ceremonies have been held every five years in Holland to remember the men who helped feed their starving people. The Third Air Division of the 8th Air Force was responsible for delivering 4,103 tons of food, of which the 96th Bombardment Group dropped 366 tons. For his efforts, Corporal Phelon was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross by Governor Thomas Dewey on behalf of the people of New York.

Sadly, Mr. Phelon passed away in December of 2014. I rise today in memory of a brave man who was an exemplary member of the Armed Forces and the community at large, and to posthumously thank him for his years of dedication and service. I hope we all remember the courage and dedication shown by Mr. Phelon in everything he did.

#### RECOGNIZING THE BURKE VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT'S 67TH ANNUAL BANQUET

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, which is hosting its 67th Annual Installation of Officers Banquet, and in thanking its volunteers for filling an essential role in keeping the community safe.

The Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department was founded in January 1948, and for more than 6 decades it has provided life-saving fire suppression/prevention and emergency medical/rescue services to the residents of Burke, Fairfax County, and the surrounding communities. It also provides, houses, and maintains firefighting and emergency medical equipment; provides opportunities for professional growth and development for the membership; and maintains and fosters a strong viable organization.

I am honored to recognize several of the dedicated men and women of the Burke Volunteer Fire Department who have volunteered for extra duty as officers or as members of the board of directors or who are receiving awards for their superlative service to the department and the community. It gives me great pleasure to submit the names of these individuals:

#### Board of Directors:

President Rich Guarrasi, Vice President John Powers, Treasurer Patrick Owens, Secretary Greg Fedor, Board Members-at-Large Larry Barnett, Larry Bocknek, and Alisha Sunde

#### Line Officers:

Chief Thomas Warnock, Deputy Chief John Hudak, Deputy Chief Tina Godfrey, Administrative Member Manager Catherine Owens, Captain II Melissa Ashby, Captain II Larry Bockneck, Captain II Keith O'Connor, Lieutenant Kevin Grottle, Sergeant Jennifer Babic, Sergeant Emily Fincher, Team Leader Peter Hamilton, Team Leader James Reyes, Team Leader Paul Stracke, Team Leader Harry Chelpon, Staffing Coordinator Shaun Kurry, Chaplain Harry Chelpon

#### Length of Service Awards:

5 Years: Richard Guarrasi

10 Years: Harry Chelpon, Ed Gilhooly

15 Years: Tina Godfrey

Life Member: Harry Chelpon

#### Department Awards:

Founders Award: John Hudak

Rookies of the Year: Caitlin Curran, Megan Bush, Barry Brown

Firefighter of the Year: Peter Hamilton

EMS Provider of the Year: James Reyes

Officer of the Year: Tina Godfrey

Admin. Member of the Year: Becky Dobbs

Career Members of the Year: Tim Barb, David "Happy" Gilmore

Team Award: BVFRD Train Team: Melissa Ashby, Kevin Grottle, Shaun Kurry  
 Chief's Award: Shaun Kerry  
 President's Awards: Nancy Stone, Charlene Murphy

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the department for 67 years of service and in thanking all of the brave volunteers who do not hesitate to drop everything when the community calls in need of help. To all of these men and women who put themselves in harm's way to protect our residents I say: "Stay safe".

#### HONORING THE COALITION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Coalition for Healthy Communities on their 20th Anniversary. The Cancer Treatment Centers of America at Midwestern Regional Medical Center assembled the Coalition of leaders in the Zion-Benton Township to effectively address the need to improve the health and wellness of our community.

The Coalition's focus is to provide the community with education on ways to access primary health care, sexual education, immunizations for young children, parental education, and adolescent substance abuse. The leaders of the Coalition are working hard to provide healthcare that extends beyond the walls of hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, the Coalition of Healthy Communities is essential to ensuring that Zion, Beach Park and Winthrop Harbor's residents receive the proper tools to lead a healthy, safe and fulfilling life. I offered my sincere thanks to the Coalition for their efforts over the last 20 years and wish them continued success in the future.

#### HONORING JOHN BROOKS SUPERMARKET AND NETTIE ALVARADO

##### HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Brooks Supermarket, and in particular, Nettie Alvarado for her exceptional customer service and dedicated commitment to our senior citizen community.

Since 1979, John Brooks Supermarket has prided itself as a locally owned and operated establishment. The John Brooks on Candeleria and 12th Street in Albuquerque, New Mexico, certainly takes on this persona; it's a neighborhood corner spot that caters to each of its customers on an individual level and takes great lengths to serve our senior community.

That's how I first heard about Nettie Alvarado, a radiant, compassionate woman who has spent thirty years of dedicated service to John Brooks' customers. Every Monday and

Thursday, store owner John Brooks and Nettie trade off delivering groceries to the senior community living at The Good Samaritan Society: Manzano Del Sol Village on 5201 Roma Avenue NE. These are crucial services for many of the seniors there who are unable to drive or take transportation to the grocery store.

Nettie takes this dedication one step further. Customers will inform her of a sick friend, disabled relative or struggling senior and it's not long before numbers are exchanged, a grocery list is filed and Nettie is off making deliveries. Nettie has earned a reputation for her selfless actions and genuine, heartfelt appreciation for others. When asked, Nettie will tell you "I want them to be taken care of" and has no qualms about dipping into her free time to ensure her beloved Albuquerque residents receive the services they need.

Nettie's sentiment towards others extends beyond age, gender, race, and socioeconomic status—it's universal. I am inspired to see that we have individuals like Nettie in our community and stores like John Brooks that put people first and serve our ailing seniors. By valuing our community and continuing these practices of goodwill and shared responsibility we will achieve a better tomorrow and build a stronger America.

#### IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

##### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor and pleasure to extend my sincerest congratulations to the students, parents, staff, and supporters of the Head Start program as they celebrate 50 remarkable years of eliminating poverty through education, services, and partnerships. Enrichment Services Program, Inc. (ESP) will celebrate Head Start's 50th anniversary on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at noon at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia.

After President Lyndon B. Johnson declared the War on Poverty in his 1964 State of the Union speech, Sargent Shriver, a key social and political figure, took the lead in assembling a panel of experts to develop a comprehensive child development program that would help communities meet the needs of disadvantaged preschool children. The brainchild of this panel was Head Start, a program designed to help break the cycle of poverty by providing preschool children of low-income families with the tools and resources to meet their emotional, social, nutritional, and psychological needs.

In 1965, the Office of Economic Opportunity launched an eight-week program called Project Head Start. Fifty years later, Head Start has served more than 30 million children, becoming an integral component of America's education system.

Enrichment Services Program, Inc. is a community action agency that provides essential services to alleviate poverty levels, promote family stability, and gradually build self-sufficiency. It was established in 1964 and operated as the Community Action Development Committee. The Agency was incorporated in

1965 as the "Lower Chattahoochee Community Action Agency, Inc." In 1974, when President Gerald Ford signed the Head Start Economic Opportunity and Community Partnership Act, Head Start funding was allocated to local community action agencies such as ESP.

Enrichment Services Program, Inc. administers the Early Head Start and Head Start programs within a nine-county area, including Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, and Talbot counties, located in Georgia, and Russell County in Alabama. Each year, ESP serves approximately 1,000 children ages 0–5 from low-income families.

The Head Start program has been essential to the early childhood development and forward progression of many children and their families. Head Start evaluates and works to improve six domains of early childhood development: social/emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and mathematics. Through Head Start, ESP addresses the basic needs of each child and prepares them for entry into kindergarten. ESP also encourages parent involvement by offering services such as family literacy functions and parental input into the curriculum.

In the 2013–2014 program year, children in ESP's Head Start program made remarkable accomplishments. In the Cognitive domain alone, an average of 96% of children exceeded growth range. There were 505 three- and four-year-olds who were ready to read by the end of the school year.

Enrichment Services Program, Inc. has done an outstanding job of administering the Head Start program in the area that it serves. Because of the dedication and commitment of the teachers and the staff, thousands of children have gone on to achieve greater heights in primary, secondary, and higher education than they otherwise would have done. I firmly believe that Head Start's outreach will continue to help preschool children and their families overcome the cycle of poverty to lead successful and productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in expressing our profound gratitude to Enrichment Services Program, Inc. and to Head Start for working to improve educational outcomes for preschool children, which not only produces positive effects throughout their lives but also creates a ripple effect of improvement in the communities in which they live.

#### RECOGNIZING HERNDON-RESTON FISH, INC. AND THE 2015 "STAR FISH" HONOREES

##### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. and the 2015 "Star Fish" Honorees.

Since 1969, Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. has provided Friendly, Instant, Sympathetic Help for neighbors in need in Reston and Herndon. FISH meets immediate critical needs for rental assistance, furniture, utilities, medical care, and other emergencies. FISH also manages a thrift shop, operates an information and referral service, and offers financial workshops to

provide clients with the tools necessary to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

During fiscal year 2014, FISH assisted a total of 2,337 families (5,665 people), gave emergency financial assistance to 1,328 families, and helped 180 families by providing them with used furniture and/or other household necessities. FISH collected, assembled, and distributed Thanksgiving food baskets for 965 people and holiday food and gift baskets in December for 967 people. More than 800 volunteer hours were spent working at United Christian Parish on these two projects in coordination with other human service providers in Fairfax County. In addition, volunteer drivers provided 294 free rides for the elderly and other needy individuals to and from their medical appointments.

At its annual gala, FISH recognizes individuals and companies who have made extraordinary contributions over the past year. I am pleased to submit the names of the 2015 "Star Fish" honorees:

Jocelyn Colao has been a volunteer pricer at FISH's thrift shop, The Bargain Loft, for over 20 years. Jocelyn specializes in identifying, cleaning, pricing, and displaying donated linens. Her careful handling of vintage lace and fragile fabrics greatly increases their value. In addition to her work with donated linens, Jocelyn's lifetime of traveling makes her an indispensable part of the pricing team. The years she lived in Europe and Africa make her a great resource when identifying unusual and valuable donations.

Jane and Mike Drewes were long-time Reston residents who volunteered in the community in many capacities. In 2007 they moved to Shepherdstown, WV but continued to drive to Reston for volunteer activities. They started volunteering for FISH in 2006, the year of the first FISH Fling Gala and Fundraiser. Jane designed the decorations and they built the huge FISH sign that has been used behind the band at every Fling Gala. Mike created an auction check-out program that accelerates the check-out process and has been used at many charitable events.

Diane Mandel manages the huge tasks of establishing and maintaining the schedule of Assistance Workers who handle the client requests for financial assistance from FISH. These volunteers make FISH's "Instant" help a reality. Diane makes certain the volunteers are trained and ready to take calls and she serves as a phone volunteer herself.

Chuck Veatch, owner of Charles A. Veatch & Associates, provided three storage units for FISH free of charge for many years and is well known throughout the community for his support of a wide variety of organizations and causes.

CDW is a leading provider of integrated information technology solutions in the U.S. and Canada and has been a FISH Fling sponsor since 2008. CDW has provided many fabulous electronic products for our games and for both our silent and live auctions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Herndon-Reston FISH for 46 years of service. I also extend my personal congratulations to this year's honorees and express my sincere appreciation to these individuals for contributing their time and energy to helping the most vulnerable in our community.

## HONORING RICHARD ARROWOOD

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Arrowood for 50 years of exceptional winemaking, exclusively in Sonoma County. Mr. Arrowood has been, and continues to be, a tireless advocate and fierce supporter of grape growing and wine making in Sonoma County. We therefore recognize and thank Mr. Arrowood today for his unwavering support and relentless efforts to preserve and promote the Sonoma County wine industry.

Born and educated locally, Mr. Arrowood began his wine-making career in 1965. He got his start at Korbel Champagne Cellars and soon moved on to work with the legendary Rodney Strong. His education and experience helped his first vintage receive critical acclaim, and each subsequent vintage after that cemented his status as one of the most respected vintners in the area.

A pioneer in the field of viticulture, Mr. Arrowood worked with a wide array of unique varietals, a concept that was ahead of its time. His efforts changed the perception of wine from Sonoma County, and the total number of vineyard acres in the county has increased fivefold over the time he has been in business. He was one of the first to emphasize vineyard designations on his wines, a trend that has since spread across the world. This success and influence on the industry led to an offer from Robert Mondavi to buy Arrowood Winery, which Mr. Arrowood accepted so he could return to focusing on the art of fine winemaking.

Amapola Creek Vineyards is his latest project, which is quite simply Richard's quest to make his greatest wines ever, and is a perfect example of the phrase "saving the best for last." Its main focus is using the special fruit grown on Moon Mountain and its unique terrior. Devoting himself entirely to the new Sonoma vineyard, Richard bought the adjacent land and built a home for his family. The vineyard uses exclusively organic methods to produce just 3,000 hand-crafted cases annually in its state-of-the-art facilities. Here, he continues to showcase Sonoma County in the groundbreaking way he did many years ago when he started his journey.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Richard Arrowood for his role as an outspoken supporter of the production of high quality wines in Sonoma County. His impact on the growth of Sonoma wine cannot be overstated and for this it is only right that he be honored here today.

## HONORING MANUEL PROL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Manuel Prol, who will turn 100 on April 4, 2015. Manuel is a World War II veteran and cherished father of three, grandfather of three, and great-grandfather of five.

Manuel was born on Easter Sunday in Samieira, a tiny village or "aldea" in the northwest corner of Spain in 1915. He was the youngest of four children and only son of Agripina Rodino and Antonio Prol. In 1932, he bade farewell to his mother for the last time and emigrated to the United States. Manuel would also not see his three sisters, Agripina, Peregrina, and Dolores, again until 1960.

He was reunited with his father in New York City, where he settled in a Spanish-speaking neighborhood around 14th Street. Manuel embraced his new home, learning English at Julia Richmond High School in Gramercy Park while working at the Roosevelt Hotel.

In 1941, he married Vicenta Prol and soon after entered the U.S. Army Air Force at the outset of World War II. Manuel saw action on three continents over the course of the war, honorably serving his country in Europe, Africa, and Asia. When he returned home, Manuel and Vicenta settled in the Bronx and had three daughters: Pilar, Victoria, and Consuelo. Over the years, their family has grown and spread out across the country.

Pilar, their oldest daughter, was a nurse for over forty years. She married Charles Sergis in 1964 and had three children: Alicia, Laura, and Charles. They also have five grandchildren: Catie, Noah, Matthew, Juliana, and Grace. Pilar and Charles live in Redondo Beach, California.

Victoria lives in Bronxville, New York. She worked in Westchester County as a high school language teacher for over thirty years.

Consuelo is married to Richard Liebowitz and lives in New York City and Montclair, New Jersey. She retired from the business world after thirty-eight years in sales.

Manuel and Vicenta retired to Southern California in 1982, where they lived happily until Vicenta's death in 1997. Manuel then moved to Montclair, New Jersey, where he currently lives with Consuelo and Richard. He spends winters in Redondo Beach, California with Pilar and Charles.

Next month, Manuel will turn 100 years old—yet shows no signs of slowing down. He still writes letters and reads the newspaper every day. Manuel attributes his longevity to the Mediterranean diet, a glass of red wine every day, and yes, an occasional Rusty Nail, his favorite drink.

I hope all my colleagues will join me in wishing Manuel Prol a happy 100th birthday, and continued health and happiness to him and to his family.

## RECOGNIZING THE 2015 ASIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER "JEWELS OF ASIA" AWARDS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce and the recipients of the 2015 Asian-American Chamber Awards.

The Asian-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) is dedicated to improving economic development opportunities for Asian Pacific American-owned businesses in the Washington, D.C., region. The 11th District of Virginia is blessed by its diversity. About 1 in 4



residents are foreign born and approximately 40% are minorities. Half of our foreign-born population emigrated from Asia, and more than 80,000 of our neighbors speak an Asian language at home.

Northern Virginia has a robust international business community and is home to the largest concentration of minority-owned technology firms in the nation. The AACC and its members contribute greatly to our economic strength and stability; Asian-American businesses generate more than 52% of total revenues generated by all minority owned businesses in this region.

In Fairfax County alone, more than 19,000 businesses are Asian-owned. These businesses generate approximately \$5 billion in revenue and create more than 30,000 jobs. Each year, the AACC recognizes businesses and non-profits in the Asian-American community for their outstanding contributions to the Metropolitan Washington community and economy. I congratulate the following honorees:

Small Business Award: The Tu's Group  
Champions of Diversity: Morgan Stanley  
Asian Business Excellence Award: Zantech IT Services, Inc.

Non-Profit of the Year: Asian-American LEAD

Corporate Partner of the year: Capital Bank  
Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the honorees of the 2015 Asian-American Chamber of Commerce Awards and in commending the Chamber for its work to support Asian and Pacific Islander owned businesses throughout our region.

#### HONORING SHANE FENLEY

#### HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to recognize an act of great kindness by one of my constituents, Shane Fenley. Shane lives in Griffin, Georgia and has been a UPS employee since 1999. It was at his job that Shane met Wayne Goree, they've been coworkers and friends ever since. The Goree family lives in Senoia and they have a 14 year old son, Justin. Justin has been sick off and on for some time, and was in need of a kidney transplant. When Shane heard that his friend's child was in need, he volunteered his own kidney.

Shane went through the process of getting tested to see if he was a match. The results showed that he was a 90% match and the doctors knew that wasn't close enough. Next, Shane and Justin entered the Paired Donor Exchange program, where patients and donors are matched together. Because Shane wasn't a match for Justin, he gave his kidney to another person, who in return gave their kidney to Justin. Shane gave his kidney to a complete stranger, so that Justin could receive the kidney he so desperately needed. To give a child the gift of life is one of the most admirable acts a man can do.

My nephew Todd, has also worked at UPS with Shane for many years. When describing Shane, Todd explained that he has always been willing to give the shirt off his back to any one in need. Now he will be known as the

man who will literally give you the kidney out of his back and ask for nothing in return. Shane said the reason behind his donation was that he had 41 years of good health under his belt, and Justin, at the age of 14, had not had any. The selflessness and kindness that Shane displayed is lacking in our world today and we could use more people like Shane Fenley.

Shane and Justin—It is an honor to represent you. I wish you both a speedy recovery and that you both live a long and happy life.

#### TRIBUTE TO SCOTT A. BAILEY

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Scott A. Bailey, an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Moreno Valley, California are exceptional. Moreno Valley has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated people who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Scott Bailey is one of these individuals.

After graduating from Moreno Valley High School as an Eagle Scout, Scott married his wife Beverly and started working as an electrician in 1981. The couple had three children, bought a home in Moreno Valley, and had humble, yet unselfishly universal dreams about putting their children through college and saving enough to retire easily. Living in the economy of the early nineties, Scott and Beverly brainstormed about the best options to keep her from returning to her job in real estate and decided to start their own electrical contracting business out of their own home.

The Baileys had a remarkable vision to create a construction company based on an unwavering commitment to quality and not only did they achieve this goal, but by doing so, everything else seemed to fall into line. Stronghold Engineering built a solid reputation as the go to contractor for civil, design/build, and high voltage electrical projects on both a national and international level. This allowed the company to become ranked and win several awards.

Scott is responsible for day-to-day operations as the Chief Operating Officer and supports all Stronghold Engineering field personnel, resources, and projects. Over the course of the company's 23-year history, he has managed and directed over 450 projects, with the average project sizes ranging from \$500,000 to well over \$100,000,000.

Scott has always been a hands-on manager making visits to each project site ensuring only the best quality and safety standards are met whether he's making trips to Europe, South Africa, Russia, Canada, or Mexico, he remains humble and true to his roots by giving back to the world community as well as his own. Scott has chaired the ABC Craft Championships Committee, has helped in the rebuilding efforts in devastated New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and in Mexico, helped to build an orphanage for at risk children. Stronghold recently donated all labor in helping two local Riverside churches switch to solar energy.

In light of all Scott Bailey has done for the community of Moreno Valley, it is clear that he

deserves the Distinguished Citizen Award. Scott's tireless passion for the community has contributed immensely to the betterment of Moreno Valley, California. He has been the heart and soul of many community projects, and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

#### RECOGNIZING VFW POST 7327 AND THE 2015 AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Springfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 and the recipients of its 2015 Annual Awards.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) traces its beginnings to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish American War established local organizations to bring awareness to their service and to advocate for veterans retirement benefits and improved medical care. Annually, the nearly 2 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 8.6 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

With approximately 600 Comrades and 150 Ladies Auxiliary members, the Springfield VFW Post 7327 stands out for the depth of its commitment to our community. Often called "The Friendliest VFW Post in Virginia," Post 7327 has one of the most aggressive ADOPT-A-UNIT programs in the entire VFW organization to support our service members stationed overseas. VFW Post 7327 visits the VA hospital at least quarterly, bringing along goodie bags for our Wounded Warriors. Each Thanksgiving and Christmas, VFW Post 7327 adopts military families in need through the USO and provides them with meal baskets for each holiday, gifts for children, commissary cards for the parents, and a Christmas party where the children can meet Santa and receive a gift-filled stocking. The Ladies Auxiliary members collect, sort, and distribute more than 2,000 pieces of clothing each month to various charitable organizations. VFW Post 7327 is a strong supporter of local youth organizations including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Little League Baseball that contribute greatly to the education and well-being of our children.

Each year, VFW Post 7327 bestows awards to local students who have submitted outstanding essays on a theme and to local teachers and public safety officers in recognition of their extraordinary actions and dedication. I am honored to submit the names of the following 2015 honorees:

##### PATRIOT'S PEN

First Place—Connor Michael Ringvelski  
Second Place—Margaret Odom—6th Grade, Keene Mill Elementary School  
Third Place—Cameron Garber—6th Grade, Silverbrook Elementary School

##### VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

First Place—Regine Marie Victoria—12th Grade, Mount Vernon High School



## TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Tiffany Graczyk—7th Grade History, Edgar Allan Poe Middle School, Annandale, VA

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Dr. Jeffrey Alton—Franconia Volunteer Fire Department. Nomination

Officer Christopher F. Cosgriff—West Springfield Police District Station

PFC James Lopez—Mount Vernon District Police Station

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2015 Awardees and in thanking the members, Ladies Auxiliary, program sponsors, and supporters of VFW Post 7327 for their continued service to our country and our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF LTC JOEL DAVIS, JR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a terrific educator, strong civic leader, and outstanding citizen, Lieutenant Colonel Joel Davis, Jr. (U.S. Army). LTC Davis will be retiring from his post as Professor of Military Science and Commander of the Senior ROTC Wildcat Battalion at the Fort Valley State University (FVSU). He will be honored by the administration, faculty, students, and supporters at FVSU's 2015 Spring Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 2, 2015 in Fort Valley, Georgia.

A native of Swainsboro, Georgia, LTC Joel Davis, Jr. graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Savannah State College, now Savannah State University, in 1990. In 2004, he earned a Master's degree in Military Operational Art and Science from Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, and a Master of Science degree in Human Resource Management from Troy University in Troy, Alabama.

LTC Davis' overseas tours of duty include the Republic of Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Panama, Marshall Islands, Guam, Kuwait, Baghdad, Iraq, and Haiti. His most recent assignments include serving as Chief of Intelligence for the United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Mission in Haiti, where he served as the Senior Military Intelligence Advisor to the Force Commander, Contingent Commanders, and staff in support of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. In 2007–2009, he served as the Chief of Intelligence/G2 for the 8th Theater Sustainment Command, the Brigade S3/Operations Officer, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade and the Battalion Executive Officer, 205th Military Battalion in Fort Shafter, Hawaii. LTC Davis has held several other Command and key billets during his 30 years of military service, including his time as an Infantryman in the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a respected and compassionate leader when LTC Davis arrived in Fort Valley, Georgia in June 2011 to serve as Professor of Military Science and Commander of the Senior ROTC Wildcat Battalion at Fort Valley State University, with partnerships at Albany State

University and Darton College in Albany, Georgia. In this capacity, LTC Davis provided command and control over recruiting, developing, training, and retaining more than 155 Cadets, as well as the commissioning of 13 second lieutenants annually. He developed guidance and program objectives for 10 Cadre/Staff members to meet annual training and mission requirements. As the Department Head, LTC Davis managed an effective and efficient military science program that exceeded the high standards set by the U.S. Army and Fort Valley State University.

During his time at FVSU, LTC Davis has fostered valuable relationships with the University administration, faculty, community partners, and external centers of influence, as well as with Army recruiting organizations, the U.S. Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard. He supports numerous JROTC units and high schools throughout the state of Georgia and beyond to help motivate America's youth to become better citizens. An excellent role model and mentor, LTC Davis is a loyal and altruistic leader who is committed to assisting young command members develop life skills and realize their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the Fort Valley State University community in honoring Lieutenant Colonel Joel Davis, Jr. for his contributions to the Fort Valley State University and to our great nation.

HONORING RABBI LEONID FELDMAN OF TEMPLE BETH EL IN WEST PALM BEACH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Leonid Feldman, who is the rabbi of Temple Beth El in West Palm Beach, Florida. Rabbi Feldman has led a remarkable life. Growing up in the Soviet Republic of Moldavia, where the open practice of Judaism was forbidden, he was unaware that he was Jewish. At age 21, he had learned enough to become a passionate Zionist and applied for a visa to emigrate. For this, he was imprisoned by Soviet authorities as a "refusenik."

Eventually, Rabbi Feldman was allowed to leave the Soviet Union and emigrated to Israel, where he became a citizen and served honorably in the Israeli army. Following his time in Israel, he became Director of Education for Soviet Emigres in Italy. Rabbi Feldman eventually came to the United States, where he decided to attend the Jewish Theological Seminary, becoming the first and still the only Soviet-born Conservative rabbi in America.

Rabbi Feldman has testified in front of the U.S. Congress and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission). A respected and much in demand lecturer, he has spoken to audiences in 37 states and 19 countries and authored featured articles in national newspapers. Rabbi Feldman has been a visiting professor at the Jewish University of Moscow and the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, his alma mater.

Since 2004, he has been the spiritual leader of Temple Beth El in West Palm Beach where,

in 2013, he was bar mitzvahed at age 60. Rabbi Leonid Feldman is widely known and much loved by the members of his congregation, his fellow clerics of all denominations and people throughout Palm Beach County. I am pleased to honor this remarkable man, who is truly deserving of being recognized in the annals of our nation.

RECOGNIZING DEAN KLEIN FOR RECEIPT OF LEADERSHIP FAIRFAX'S KATHERINE K. HANLEY PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD FOR 2015

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize this year's recipient of Leadership Fairfax's Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award. This year's award goes to Dean Klein, a 1997 graduate of Leadership Fairfax.

Leadership Fairfax is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to finding, training, and growing leaders in Northern Virginia. Leadership Fairfax seeks to build leaders who raise the tide not only in their organization or local community but also across the whole Northern Virginia region. Graduates from its programs become part of and stay connected to a fast growing number of civic leaders. I've always said, "When you walk into a room, it's easy to spot the Leadership Fairfax graduates—they just stand out!"

Northern Virginia is blessed with many leaders who have given their time and service to make a difference in our community. To recognize these outstanding leaders among us, Leadership Fairfax instituted the Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award. This annual award, now in its 12th year, honors an individual for his or her outstanding accomplishments in the areas of public service employment or service on a public board, authority, or commission and for lasting contributions to the quality of life in the community.

Dean Klein has stood out in our community for many years. He currently serves as Director of the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness in Fairfax County since being appointed by the Board of Supervisors in March 2009. I was pleased to help establish that office under the 10-year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, an initiative the County launched when I served as Chairman of the Board. Under Mr. Klein's leadership, Fairfax has partnered with the neighboring City of Falls Church so that these jurisdictions can take a regional approach to the problem of homelessness. One of his many successes has been to increase the number of individuals moving out of emergency shelters to permanent housing. He grew this number from 243 in 2010 to 926 individuals in 2014. As a result of that and other efforts, Fairfax has actually reduced the number of people experiencing homelessness by more than one-third, becoming a standout model for success for those communities still struggling to break the cycle of homelessness. For his accomplishments Mr. Klein was recognized in 2014 with Fairfax County's highest employee honor, the A. Heath Onthank Award.

Prior to working in his current position he served as the Senior Community Relations

Manager at the Freddie Mac Foundation, the metropolitan area's largest corporate philanthropic funder. He oversaw the Foundation's support for housing programs throughout the United States and oversaw the Foundation's investments in the Gulf Coast area after Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Klein came to the Foundation from Doorways for Women and Families in Arlington, where he was executive director and oversaw all operations for the organization including a Safehouse for Domestic Violence, Emergency Shelter for homeless families, a Thrift Store, and transitional housing for families. Mr. Klein also served for six years as executive director of Shelter House, overseeing this organization and serving homeless families in our community. He earned a Master of Social Work degree from Howard University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Advertising from Ohio State University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dean Klein for receiving the Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award and in thanking Leadership Fairfax for continuing to develop such talented and passionate leaders for Northern Virginia.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THETA BOULÉ OF SIGMA PI PHI FRATERNITY

#### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize a significant milestone in one of the pre-eminent organizations, not only in the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri, which I proudly represent, but throughout the region—Theta Boulé of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. I am especially proud to be a member of Theta Boulé. The milestone I mentioned is the celebration of its Centennial observance that will be held June 4–6, 2015 in Kansas City.

Theta Boulé was chartered on May 22, 1915 with fourteen founding Archons who laid a strong foundation of fraternal fellowship in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area. Dr. William J. Tompkins met Grand Sire Archon William C. McCard while traveling in the eastern part of the country and was authorized by the Grand Sire Archon to plan the organization of a member Boulé in Kansas City. With the cooperation of Archons from Beta Boulé in Chicago and Eta Boulé in St. Louis, Dr. Tompkins and his colleague, Dr. Lloyd E. Bailer organized Theta Boulé. The charter Archons of Theta Boulé were all outstanding members of the Kansas City community and of their respective professions. Faced with cultural realities of the early Twentieth Century, these Archons found in each other a source of mutual support, enlightenment and a retreat of friendship and fraternity. Each sensed a significant void created by the pervasive permanence of American institutional racism and exclusionary practices predominant during that era. Throughout its history, the Archons of Theta Boulé have upheld the high standards of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, also known as "The Boulé", was founded in 1904 in Philadelphia. Theta Boulé was the 8th Member Boulé founded on May 22, 1915 with 14 outstanding Archons. Our founding members included

Lloyd E. Bailer, Gideon W. Brown, Charles H. Calloway, T.C. Chapman, John A. Hodge, W.C. Hueston, Woody Jacobs, J.P. King, J.E. Perry, J.D. Shannon, M.H. Tompkins, W.J. Tompkins, S.H. Thompson, and Homer Wilburn.

Theta has been privileged to host the Seventh Grand Boulé in 1921 and the Forty-First Grand Boulé in 1992. Many outstanding Archons have been privileged to sit within the august council of Theta Boulé. One of Theta's charter members, Charles H. Calloway served as Grand Sire Archon, from 1921 to 1923. Archon Calloway was also a founding member of the National Bar Association in 1925 and served as its second President. Another founding member mentioned previously was Dr. William J. Tompkins, an outstanding physician and civic leader, who later became a resident of the District of Columbia after he accepted the appointment of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1934 to serve as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. Dr. Tompkins was also instrumental in the establishment of General Hospital No. 2 in 1908.

Theta Boulé of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity is led today by Randall C. Ferguson, Jr., who serves as Sire Archon; Ralph D. Reid is Sire Archon-elect; and Dr. Roger C. Williams, Jr. who serves as Grammateus. The remaining officers are: Thesauristes, Nikki Newton; Agogos, Stewart S. Myers; Rhetoricos, Kelvin Simmons; and Grapier, Lonnie Powell. The Membership Council is Chaired by Judge Jon R. Gray, (Ret.) and includes Herbert Hardwick and Robert Hughes, Jr. as Members.

One Hundred years in the life of any person, organization or institution is a significant milestone and serves as a testament of fidelity to principles, seriousness of purpose and devotion to goals and objectives.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and our colleagues in expressing our collective congratulations to Theta Boulé of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and extending our heartfelt wishes for even greater success as it begins its second century.

#### TRIBUTE TO A. ALFRED TAUBMAN

#### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to A. Alfred Taubman, who made immeasurable contributions to my home state of Michigan and to our nation. Mr. Taubman passed away on April 17, 2015.

Mr. Taubman, known to many of us as Al, loomed large in the business, cultural and religious life of Southeast Michigan and far beyond, but his beginnings were far more modest. The son of Jewish German immigrants, Mr. Taubman began working at the age of 9 after his father's business went bankrupt during the Great Depression. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, Mr. Taubman attended the University of Michigan, where he studied architecture.

The seeds of Al Taubman's success were watered by these experiences—his father's construction company, his studies in architecture, and the drive to work hard from a very young age. He also had a keen understanding of the needs and wants of people in America's

postwar economy, a period in which people migrated from cities to what would become thriving suburbs. Rather than building homes as his father did, Mr. Taubman focused on the shopping needs of suburban families, and helped to pioneer the growth of shopping malls.

Over the years, Mr. Taubman's company designed, built, and operated shopping malls throughout the country. These malls, and other investments, brought him significant wealth—wealth he decided to put to use not just in his business endeavors, but in a vast array of worthy causes. Dr. Mark Schlissel, President of the University of Michigan, quoted Mr. Taubman as having said that his father taught him that "If I make a donation, I have given once. If I then solicit monies, I gave twice. And if my contribution has inspired others to support a good cause, I will have given three times." The University of Michigan and its missions were especially close to Al Taubman's heart, as Dr. Schlissel and the entire U of M community would attest. While it is not possible to list each and every institution which benefited so greatly from Mr. Taubman's philanthropy, some of those which did in addition to the University of Michigan are Lawrence Technological University (where he also studied), Wayne State University, the College for Creative Studies, Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School, Brown University, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Jewish Federation, United Jewish Foundation of Metro Detroit and the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights.

Simply listing the institutions to which Al Taubman contributed so much does not provide the full measure of the person he was. On his death I communicated these thoughts: "Al Taubman impacted the well-being of millions who never met him because of his unwavering support for the health and education needs of all Americans. He earned great wealth but never forgot his roots. He reached the top but maintained compassion for the underdog. He could be very blunt but even more sensitive about the feelings of the others. He was much beloved by all of us privileged to know him over many years."

His commitment and active participation in the issues he cared about was on full display in the successful effort in 2008 to amend Michigan's Constitution to legalize expanded embryonic stem cell research in my state. Mr. Taubman was not only a vital financial contributor to the campaign, but as the Detroit Free Press noted, "... he crusaded in ways that couldn't be measured by dollar signs, arguably providing stem cell advocates with their loudest voice during the 2008 campaign." He organized a fundraiser with former President Bill Clinton, hosted meetings where people could learn more about the science involved, and weighed in with the press and with elected officials on the merits of embryonic stem cell research and the need for the constitutional amendment. The measure passed. There is no doubt that had Al Taubman not so fully invested his time, talents, and resources into the effort the present pioneering efforts now being undertaken at the University of Michigan would not be happening.

Mr. Speaker, the research at the A. Alfred Taubman Medical Research Institute on stems cells and beyond is a legacy of Al Taubman's and is likely to benefit untold numbers of people in our lives facing chronic disease who will

never have heard his name, but fame is not what he sought. His many endeavors have touched and will touch the lives of countless Americans. I encourage my colleagues to join in paying tribute to his many contributions to our country, and in offering condolences to his family, including his wife, Judith Taubman; his children William Taubman, Robert Taubman, and Gayle Taubman Kalisman; his stepchildren Tiffany Dubin and Christopher Rounick; and to his nine grandchildren and great-grandchild.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ISAAC J. CRUMBLY

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a terrific educator and outstanding citizen, Dr. Isaac "Ike" Crumbly, who will be celebrating 50 remarkable years of teaching at the Fort Valley State University (FVSU) in Fort Valley, Georgia. He will be honored by the administration, faculty, students, and supporters at FVSU's 2015 Spring Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 2, 2015 in Fort Valley, Georgia.

Before earning two degrees in horticulture and a Ph.D. in botany, Dr. Isaac J. Crumbly was picking cotton to help support his ten brothers and sisters. With an inherent knowledge of the art of cultivation and the science of plant life, Dr. Crumbly was destined to end up at Fort Valley State University, a state and land-grant university founded in 1895 that has made significant contributions to agriculture and related fields.

Dr. Crumbly joined the faculty of Fort Valley State College, now Fort Valley State University, in 1965 as a Professor in the Biology Department. In the 50 intervening years, his role at the University has grown to include Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Director of the Cooperative Developmental Energy Program.

In 1983, Dr. Crumbly founded the one-of-a-kind Cooperative Developmental Energy Program (CDEP), a dual-degree STEM education program, in response to a call for proposals from the U.S. Department of Energy. The program's primary objective is to increase the number of minorities and women pursuing careers in the energy industry. With more than \$4 million dollars to support their education, students in the program have logged over 250,000 hours of hands-on experience. CDEP has been recognized by the University System of Georgia, the Georgia House of Representatives, and two U.S. Presidents, Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama, for its success.

Always striving to help his students achieve greater heights, Dr. Crumbly has given of his time and talents to mentor thousands of FVSU students in his STEM classes. Through CDEP, he is responsible for the education, employment, and successful careers of over 126 CDEP graduates who are engineers, geoscientists, and health physicists.

Dr. Crumbly's impact has stretched far beyond his immediate students, however. A skilled grantsman, Dr. Crumbly has helped bring in over \$30 million for the University and its students through funded grants, intern-

ships, and scholarships. He also has helped established partnerships with over 70 corporate, private, and university entities. Dr. Crumbly has been recognized numerous times by various professional and scholarly organizations for his work in educating students in STEM.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the Fort Valley State University community in honoring Dr. Isaac J. Crumbly for 50 outstanding years of contributing to the education and success of students at the Fort Valley State University.

CONGRATULATING MARION STILLSON FOR RECOGNITION AS THE RESTON CITIZEN ASSOCIATION'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR 2014

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Marion Stillson of Reston on being recognized as the 2014 Citizen of the Year by the Reston Citizens Association.

The Reston Citizens Association was founded in 1967 to promote and protect Reston's founding principles by serving as a non-partisan forum for all residents and as an advocate for the community with County and State governments.

The RCA Citizen of the Year Award dates back to 1976 and honors an individual whose actions are consistent with the goals of Reston and the RCA. Recipients are recognized for contributing to the quality of life in Reston and for providing assistance to our neighbors in need. Marion and her husband Dick arrived in the Reston area in 1973. Marion's service to the community began in October 1980 when she was selected as one of the first members of the Reston Community Center's Board of Governors and provided valuable input on accessibility issues. Since then, she has been involved in a wide variety of issues important to Reston, the region, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation.

Marion was elected Vice-President of RCA in 2009 and President in 2010 and served our community in that role over two terms. During her tenure, RCA established the Reston Accessibility Committee, which helps ensure that local businesses provide access to retail, office and public amenity locations for those with mobility impairments, created the Reston 2020 Committee to analyze and advocate on land use issues, and implemented the Sustainable Reston Initiative to raise awareness of the need to address the effects on the Reston community of peak oil, global climate change and economic disruption.

At the county level, Marion has been appointed to the Election Improvement Commission, the Wiehle Avenue Steering Committee, the Hunter Mill District Budget Committee and has served as an elections officer.

Marion's passion for fairness and justice have been reflected in her distinguished professional career which has included serving as a lobbyist for the American Association of University Women; Staff Attorney National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws; Staff Attorney for the National Labor Relations

Board; Director of the Criminal Justice Advocacy Project for the DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Attorney/Counselor/Mediator for the Architect of the Capitol Fair Employment Practices Office. In these roles, she directly influenced and in some instances created national policy in numerous areas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Marion Stillson for this award and thanking her for her committed and selfless service to our community.

IN HONOR OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the 40th anniversary of The Rotary Club of The Woodlands, Texas. Across our nation and world, service organizations make communities stronger through educational, vocational and community health programs. Since its formation, the leaders and members of this Rotary Club, of which I'm a proud member, has achieved all that—and more.

As the Vietnam War was ending, 20 local business leaders stepped forward to find solutions and make a positive difference in a new master planned community known as The Woodlands, Texas. Within two months of their first meeting, Rotary International approved their charter on May 9, 1975.

Over the last four decades, much has changed both within our Rotary and world, but the Rotary Club of the Woodlands continues to grow and serve. Today 174 business and community leaders keep the Club moving forward by putting servant leadership first. The number of service projects and programs has increased, while educational scholarships for local students remain at the heart of it all.

Before this new century the Club's Scholarship fund reached \$250,000, necessitating the creation of a foundation. Over \$1.3 million has been raised for deserving students—and many new community leaders credit their Rotary scholarships for making their education dreams a reality.

Our Rotary Club sponsors five Interact clubs at local high schools where future Rotarians and community leaders connect with mentors, develop leadership skills and make connections through service projects and club meetings.

Our club works with Interfaith of the The Woodlands on a program called "Serving Our Seniors." Twice annually, Rotarians, Interact students, Interfaith staff and volunteers come together to help seniors with a variety of home repair, improvement and landscaping chores.

Our Club annually supports an international exchange student who attends high school in the community. This cultural and educational exchange benefits the hosted student, their home country and local students who get to know more about other cultures.

The Club also provides layettes for the care of newborns in a South American medical clinic near the areas known for the Children of the Dump. This project ensures many lives begin in a sanitary environment and involves out local Interact Clubs who put together the layettes from supplies purchased by the Club with matching funds from Rotary International.

Our club also holds mock interview sessions with local community college students. The "Show Me the Money" project pairs up Rotarians with students in a positive, affirming environment. Our sessions include making the right first impression and financial literacy.

There are truly too many service projects this Club has completed over the past forty years to share them all, but a conservative estimate is that Rotarians from The Woodlands Club have put in tens of thousands of service hours.

So, to my fellow Rotarians I thank you for 40 years of living the Rotary motto of "Service before Self" in thought, word, and most importantly, in deeds. May your exemplary servant leadership continue to bless our community.

I know my Rotarian pride shines through when I share what my home Rotary club does for our community. Today I want all of America to join with us in celebrating 40 great years. I can't wait to see what the future holds for The Rotary Club of The Woodlands.

#### ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2028) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, I thank my colleague and friend, Mr. BEYER, for his leadership on this issue.

Our friends on the other side of the aisle are once again attempting to substitute Congress' will outside its purview, this time by prohibiting the Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA from finalizing their Waters of the U.S. rule.

This is nothing new.

Earlier this year they tried to get into the local permitting process by forcing states to accept the Keystone XL pipeline. As a former local government official you can imagine how shocked I was at that effort.

And let us not forget how often they seek to tell the District of Columbia, and its residents, how they should be governed.

Now, my friends wish to halt federal rule-making prescribed under the Clean Water Act, almost a decade in the making and after more than a million public comments and numerous public hearings and stakeholder meetings, just before a final rule is released.

Remember, it was Congress and the Supreme Court who asked for clarification for what should be defined as "navigable waters."

Today, nearly 60 percent of our nation's streams and millions of acres of wetlands currently lack clear protection from pollution under the Clean Water Act. Current loopholes put at risk 2 million miles of our streams, threatening the drinking water of 117 million Americans, and jeopardizing 20 million acres of wetlands.

The proposed rule would provide an estimated \$388 million to \$514 million annually of

benefits to the public, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat, supporting hunting and fishing, and recharging groundwater. The public benefits significantly outweigh the costs for mitigating impacts to streams and wetlands, and taking steps to reduce pollution to our waterways.

Why don't we let the rulemaking process finish and then we can see if it needs to be fixed. The Beyer-Connelly amendment will do that. But let's not jump to judgement.

Congress has a role to play. But it shouldn't be as an intransigent obstacle.

#### HONORING GUILFORD NATIVE NICK FRADIANI, JR., AMERICAN IDOL SEASON XIV FINALIST

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to join the community of Guilford, Connecticut, as well as the Fradiani family, friends, and fans of all ages in extending my heartfelt congratulations to Connecticut's own Nick Fradiani, Jr. who this week became a finalist on Season XIV of the reality television series American Idol.

With his musician father, Nick Fradiani, Sr., bringing him to gigs as a child and blessed with a special talent all his own it is not hard to believe that Nick developed a passion for music. Though he has really only focused on music as a career over the last decade, it is that passion that makes Nick's performances so special and why he has been able to build such a strong fan base in Connecticut.

A performer, singer, and songwriter, he has taken American Idol Season XIV by storm and, in the process, has sparked a unique enthusiasm across his home state of Connecticut. Bringing his own style to fan favorites like Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers' "American Girl," Billy Joel's "Only the Good Die Young," Maroon 5's "Harder To Breathe," Rod Stewart's "Maggie May," Matchbox Twenty's "Bright Lights," and Rascal Flatts "What Hurts the Most" he has impressed American Idol judges and, more importantly, won the hearts and minds of millions across the country who have voted to ensure his continued appearances.

Nick has created quite the fervor in Connecticut—reflected in the thousands of fans across the state who crowd into viewing parties or watch from each week to see him perform and vote for him to advance. I am honored to have this opportunity to join his parents Nick and Liz, along with his sister, Kristen, his extended family, friends and the Guilford community in wishing Nick Fradiani, Jr. the best of luck in the last weeks of the American Idol competition.

Nick—win or lose you have made us all proud and we are with you.

#### HONORING ESCALADE SPORTS

**HON. LARRY BUCSHON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Escalade Sports, a fantastic Hoosier business in my home district.

Escalade Sports is being awarded the President's "E" Award, the highest recognition a U.S. Company can receive for significantly contributing to the expansion of U.S. exports.

This award was created in 1961 to provide recognition of the work that America's exporters undertake, and honors 45 companies every year for their contributions to the American economy.

Escalade Sports embodies the spirit of this award as it produces many high quality American sporting and gaming products that range from basketball hoops, to table tennis equipment, to archery supplies. These products are then exported and sold to athletes and sports enthusiasts across the globe to enjoy and use.

Escalade Sports is headquartered in Evansville, where it provides quality jobs to Hoosiers here in Southwest Indiana and many more across the United States in its various production and distribution facilities. The company's exports not only help show the world what amazing products are made here in America, but also keep Americans employed and help expand our economy.

Mr. Speaker, we should all be grateful for the fine work of Escalade Sports, and the other "E" Award recipients across the United States for their contributions to the American economy.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARK P. THOMAS FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE SCHUYLKILL CHORAL SOCIETY

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Mark P. Thomas, who will be honored for his service to the Schuylkill Choral Society on May 9. Dr. Thomas has served as the music director and conductor of the Schuylkill Choral Society for three decades.

Under his leadership, the Schuylkill County Choral Society has gained worldwide recognition. Dr. Thomas has been recognized in the United States and Europe for his contribution to the performing arts. In addition to his duties with the Choral Society, Dr. Thomas is a founder of both the Anthracite Philharmonic and Schuylkill County's first children's chorus, Minor Notes Choral.

Dr. Thomas has been a guest artist and conductor for many organizations including the Prague Radio Symphony, the New York Pops, and the Schuylkill Symphony Orchestra. He has made multiple tours throughout Europe and North America which have included multiple performances at Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center and the Riverside Cathedral in New York, Orchestra Hall in Chicago, the State Opera House and the Cathedral of St.

Mary and Paul in Prague, and the Cathedral of St. Stephen in Vienna. Thomas has served as a guest conductor with the Ocean Grove Choral Festival Choir, at Reading's Music-fest, and for PMEA choral festivals throughout Pennsylvania. He has also toured and conducted in Russia, Finland, and Estonia with members of the State Orchestra of St. Petersburg and members of the Eastern Pennsylvania Choral Society. In 2016, he will be leading the Schuylkill Choral Society on a tour to Italy and France which will include performances in Rome, Florence, Paris, and Normandy. Dr. Thomas has appeared nationally on the NPR and PBS as well as local appearances on Comcast Tonight and Comcast Newsmakers. He has served as a music consultant for Maryland Educational Television and as an adjunct professor at Alvernia University, Penn State University, and Bucks County Community College. Thomas and his choirs are also featured performers of the Na-

tional Anthem for the Philadelphia sports community, including regular performances for the Phillies, Sixers, and Flyers.

Dr. Thomas is deservedly listed in the Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in America, Who's Who in Education, and Who's Who among American Teachers. He has received recognition from former President Bill Clinton on behalf of a music program he designed honoring World War II veterans. He has also received recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives, the Pennsylvania House and Senate, the Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners, and the Austrian and German governments. Thomas was named by Philadelphia Magazine as "Best Choral Director" in the Philadelphia region. He has also been recognized by the St. David's Society as a "Citizen of the Year," was Pennsylvania finalist for "Teacher of the Year," and was the first musician inducted into the Upper Merion Valley Academic Hall of Fame.

It is an honor to recognize Dr. Mark Thomas for his work in the musical arts. His passion for music is evident his impressive body of work, which has touched countless individuals over the years. I applaud him for his service to the greater artistic good, and I wish him continued success in the future.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2015*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on Wednesday, April 29. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on Roll Call 176, "Yes" on Roll Call 177, and "No" on Roll Call vote 178.