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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Elizabeth Porras for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF MICHAEL AND MARIAN ILITCH, UPON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF LITTLE CAESARS

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Michael and Marian Ilitch, entrepreneurs and pillars of the Michigan community, upon the 50th anniversary of the founding of Little Caesars.

On May 8, 1959, fifty years ago, Mike and Marian opened the first Little Caesars in Garden City, Michigan, under the name Little Caesars Pizza Treat. From this one store, Little Caesars would grow to include a pizza empire of many thousands of restaurants through franchising. The company eventually became widely known for its famous catchphrase, "Pizza! Pizza!" which was introduced in 1979. The phrase refers to two pizzas being offered for the comparable price of a single pizza from competitors. In 1998, Little Caesars filled what was then the current largest pizza order, filling an order of 13,386 pizzas from the VF Corporation of Greensboro, NC. Today, Little Caesars is the largest carry-out pizza chain in the world.

Mike was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1929. He is a first generation American of Macedonian descent. A graduate of Cooley High School, Mike also served his country in the United States Marine Corps for four years. After returning home from the Marine Corps, Mike was offered a contract by the Detroit Tigers baseball team and went on to play three years in the minor leagues before he was forced to prematurely end his promising career due to injury. In 1954 Mike met Marian on a blind date arranged by his father. Marian was born and raised in Dearborn, Michigan, a daughter of Macedonian immigrants. They were married a year later.

Over the course of their lives together Mike and Marian have expanded their business and personal partnership very successfully. Today, the family's entities remain privately held. In 1999, the Ilitches established Ilitch Holdings, Inc. to provide their various enterprises with professional and technical services. These enterprises include Little Caesars, the Detroit Red Wings, the Detroit Tigers, numerous property investments in and around Detroit, as well as the MotorCity Casino. They have been

married for over 50 wonderful years and have seven children together: son Christopher Paul Ilitch (born June 1965) is CEO and President of Ilitch Holdings, Inc.; daughter Denise D. Ilitch (born November 1955) is an attorney and former co-President, with her brother, of Ilitch Holdings. Other children are Ronald "Ron" Tyrus Ilitch (born June 1957), Michael C. Ilitch, Jr., Lisa M. Ilitch Murray, Atanas Ilitch (born Thomas Ilitch) and Carole M. Ilitch Trepeck. Further, in Stanley Cup history, only 12 women have had their names engraved on the trophy including Marian and their three daughters.

The Ilitch family has also established a charitable foundation called Ilitch Charities for Children (ICC). Among other things, the ICC sponsors Little Caesars AAA Hockey Scholarship to encourage amateur sports. The ICC in 2009, so far, has given a total of \$50,000 in grants to the Detroit Renaissance Foundation (\$25,000) and the United Way of Southeastern Michigan (\$25,000) for innovative community programs, demonstrating a broader scope for the charitable organization. Most recently, Ilitch Charities presented a total of \$200,000 to benefit the Greening of Detroit's Conservation Leadership Corps and the Guidance Center's Project CEO.

Madam Speaker for 50 years Little Caesars has stood as a tribute to the hard work of Michael and Marian Ilitch and their family. As they celebrate this enormous milestone, they personify a legacy of excellence, ingenuity, and the irrepressible spirit of the American entrepreneur. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Ilitches and recognizing their years of loyal service to our community and country.

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GABBY RIVERA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gabby Rivera who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Gabby Rivera is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Gabby Rivera for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING SEAN P. DENNEHY AS A 2009 SERVICE TO AMERICA MEDAL FINALIST

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions of Sean P. Dennehy, of Vienna, Va., to our nation and specifically to our intelligence community. Mr. Dennehy and his colleague Don Burke, of Alexandria, Va., led an innovative effort to create a sensitive-information sharing system for the Central Intelligence Agency. In recognition of that achievement, they have been named finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security.

As my colleagues know, the Service to America Medals, or Sammies as they are more commonly known, are presented annually by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to celebrate our dedicated federal workforce, highlighting their commitment and innovation, as well as the impact of their work on addressing the needs of the nation.

Mr. Dennehy and Mr. Burke developed and implemented a Wikipedia-like clearinghouse of sensitive intelligence information known as "Intellipedia." The intelligence community has traditionally discouraged the wide sharing of intelligence for fear of compromising classified information, but the downsides of that strategy became apparent to us all after learning of how intelligence agencies failed to "connect the dots" in the months leading up to the September 11 attacks.

The pair spent four years developing the software, cobbling together financing and trying to overcome cultural resistance, but their persistence and dedication paid off.

Eric Haseltine, former chief technology officer of the intelligence community, said, "It's hard to overstate what they did. They made a major transformation almost overnight with no money after other programs failed to achieve these results with millions of dollars in funding."

Once they successfully created the web-based platform for sharing information, Mr. Dennehy and Mr. Burke then shifted their focus to recruiting their colleagues in the intelligence community to actually use it. They became "evangelists," educating analysts and spreading the word about the potential benefits of Intellipedia and other social media tools. The system now boasts more than 900,000 pages and 100,000 user accounts. In fact, leaders in the intelligence community say we are reacting more quickly and more intelligently to potential threats than we would be without Intellipedia.

This initiative has increased the flow of information among the nation's 16 intelligence agencies around the world, and it is still working to break down institutional stovepipes.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Dennehy and Mr. Burke for their tremendous contribution to our national security. Their commitment to public service and innovation serve as an example to us all, and their recognition as finalists for the 2009 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security is well deserved.

JUSTUS REID

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Justus Reid who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Justus Reid is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Justus Reid for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

MEGAN SCHELTINGA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Megan Scheltinga who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Megan Scheltinga, of Hope House, received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Megan Scheltinga for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

NORMA RODRIGUEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Norma Rodriguez who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Norma Rodriguez is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Norma Rodriguez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their edu-

cation and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Norma Rodriguez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

OLGA REPNITSKAYA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Olga Repnitskaya who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Olga Repnitskaya is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Olga Repnitskaya for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

TANIA PRESCOTT

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tania Prescott who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Tania Prescott, of Hope House, received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tania Prescott for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

VITALIY PSHICKENKO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Vitaliy Pshickenko who has received the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Vitaliy Pshickenko is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Vitaliy Pshickenko for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

JOHANNA SERRANO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Johanna Serrano who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Johanna Serrano is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Johanna Serrano for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

DEREK RIEMER

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Derek Riemer who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Derek Riemer is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Derek Riemer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.