

TANIA PEREZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tania Perez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Tania Perez is an 11th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Tania Perez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING HAROLD EUGENE  
"GENE" HAYWOOD FOR HIS  
SERVICE AS A EULESS POLICE  
OFFICER

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Harold Eugene "Gene" Haywood for his 31 years of public service as a police officer for the City of Euleless, Texas.

Gene began his career with Euleless in 1981. He was hired on as a jailer, and within a couple of months he was promoted to a sworn officer.

In 1988, Gene was one of the founders of the Field Training Program for Euleless. He wrote the Standard Operating Procedures and created the training program. In 1990, Gene founded the Euleless Honor Guard program. In 1991, Gene transferred to the Criminal Investigation Division where he worked as an investigator.

In 1993, he transferred to the Patrol Division and was promoted to corporal. During this period, Gene managed the implementation of the Field Training Program. He continued to train new officers and ensure that they were ready to meet the demands of police service. In 1994, Gene was assigned to the Tarrant County Auto Theft Task Force where he worked along with officers from several cities within the county to combat vehicle thefts.

In September, 2001, Gene transferred to Keys Alternative School to serve as a School Resource Officer. He finished his career at Keys where he was able to positively influence students.

During his tenure at Euleless, Gene has been nominated for Officer of the Year twice. He has received 15 commendations from citizens, other police agencies, and his peers. Gene

has served on the board of the Euleless Benevolent Peace Officer Association which provides city employees with scholarship money to their children and donates to other worthwhile causes.

Gene has accumulated 2,300 hours of training while at Euleless. He was certified as an Instructor in 1987. He received his Masters Police Officer Certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education in 2005.

Prior to his employment with Euleless Police Department, Gene served for five years as Sergeant in the Police Reserves at Winters Police Department in Winters, California, and then two years as a firefighter for South Placer Fire Department in Granite Bay, California. During this period of time in California, Gene served for six years in the National Guard from which he was honorably discharged in 1978. Before becoming a Euleless police officer, Gene worked for the University of Texas Health Science as a campus security officer.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in thanking Gene Haywood for his 31 years of public service as an officer of the Euleless Police Department.

AMPLIFY GYMNASTICS, 2013 WINNER OF SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S PHOENIX AWARD

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and perseverance of Paul Comstedt, Derek Hammeke, and Kip Johnson, owners of Amplify Gymnastics, and as the recipients of the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2013 Phoenix Award.

In May 2011, Paul, Derek, and Kip were preparing for the grand opening of their business, Amplify Gymnastics. Tragically, just days before the opening, an EF5 tornado tore through the Joplin community, destroying 20 percent of the city. In addition, their entire building was destroyed and a single slab of concrete was all that was left of the gym. In fact, on the day of the tornado Kip stopped by the gym to complete some finishing touches. During that time, the tornado ripped through the gym and a two-ton truck that Kip used for cover was thrown 20 feet. Thankfully, he survived.

After surviving the catastrophic event, the men were forced to rebuild their entire gym. Paul, Derek, and Kip applied for an SBA disaster loan to cover rebuilding costs and operating expenses. After 9 months of rebuilding, Amplify held its grand opening with over 200 young athletes registered. In the following months, Amplify added 300 more athletes and grew their staff from 10 to 23 employees. In just a few months following the grand opening, Amplify Gymnastics surpassed their five-year goal.

The efforts of these three men encompass all the characteristics of true entrepreneurs.

Despite overwhelming odds, Amplify Gymnastics has become a place in the community where local kids can train their bodies and exercise their minds. I am grateful for the contributions they have given to the Joplin community.

The Small Business Administration's Phoenix Award is awarded to businesses, public officials and volunteers who are tested by disasters like the Joplin tornado but work to overcome the disaster by rebuilding and helping their communities recover.

I would like to take this opportunity to express how grateful I am by the courage and ingenuity of Paul Comstedt, Derek Hammeke, and Kip Johnson. May God bless them and the continued recovery of the Joplin community.

CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF  
MILLBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that the House of Representatives join me in congratulating the town of Millbury, Massachusetts on their 200th anniversary. Millbury has grown tremendously since its inception in 1813 as a small New England Mill town, from which their name and seal are derived. To celebrate their 200th anniversary, the people of Millbury have come together over the past year by facilitating community events to honor this historic day.

Millbury's rich history can be traced back to the 18th century when John Singletary built the oldest continuously running mill in the United States. The power of the Blackstone River provided the energy to run the mill and helped propel Millbury into the Industrial Revolution as a leading textile producer.

Millbury's significance is further punctuated as the historic summer home of President William Howard Taft's childhood, continuing this summer tradition into and after his Presidency. On one of his many trips to Millbury, he celebrated alongside their residents as they rung in their first 100 years.

The bicentennial celebration kicked off last June with a performance by the Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra. Continuing with tradition, Millbury recently celebrated the Period Ball. Millbury is also looking forward to the town parade this weekend. Similar town parades were held at the celebrations of Millbury's 100th, 150th, and 175th anniversaries. The celebration will culminate with Millbury's largest parade which features bands, antique cars, floats, and a fireworks display.

I would also like to recognize and thank the Millbury Bicentennial Committee, and the many volunteers for the hard work and dedication that they have devoted into the planning of this momentous event.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again congratulate the town of Millbury on their 200th anniversary. May this great American town continue to celebrate its rich history for years to come. I ask the House of Representatives join me in celebrating the history of Millbury on this very special occasion.

TAYLOR SMOTHERS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Taylor Smothers for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Taylor Smothers is an 11th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Taylor Smothers for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING CORONA DEL SOL HIGH SCHOOL'S COMPETITION GOVERNMENT TEAM

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Corona del Sol High School's Competition Government Team, the 6th place winners of the "We the People" national tournament. Corona Del Sol has made all of Tempe, Arizona proud.

The aim of "We the People" is to foster civic engagement and responsibility among young people, and to enhance students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy. "We the People" also strives to enrich students' understanding of the Bill of Rights by emphasizing its contemporary relevance.

The contest is structured as a mock congressional hearing, wherein the entire team works together in preparing and presenting statements before a panel of judges who act as congressional committee members. After reading their statements, each member of the team is asked a series of questions by to test their knowledge of constitutional principles.

Under the guidance of Tim Smith, and assistant coaches Lisa Adams and Justine Centennial, 29 dedicated students from Corona del Sol, not only brought home their 12th state title in February, but were once again nationally ranked for the first time since 2001. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Corona del Sol's Competition Government students on this impressive achievement.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER J. BARNES, JR.

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Peter J. Barnes, Jr. as he is recognized for his tenure as Middlesex County Democratic Organization Chairman at a reception in his honor. Chairman Barnes has been a dedicated public servant for over 15 years and is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Chairman Barnes has a distinguished career in public service. In addition to his tenure as Middlesex County Democratic Organization Chairman, he also serves as Chairman of the New Jersey State Parole Board, a position he has held since 2007. Previously, he represented New Jersey's 18th legislative district as an Assemblyman. Throughout his public service career, Chairman Barnes has made significant contributions to Middlesex County and the State of New Jersey. As an Assemblyman, Chairman Barnes saw 62 bills that he sponsored signed into law. He also served as the Majority Whip from 2002 to 2007.

In addition, Chairman Barnes served his community and country prior to beginning his public service career. He was a Military Police Private First Class in the United States Army from 1946–1948 and then served as a Special Agent for the FBI for over 25 years. Chairman Barnes later served as the Director of Public Safety in Edison and East Brunswick, where he was able to use his FBI training to help maintain safety and order in each municipality.

Chairman Barnes earned his B.A. in Political Science from Providence College and has continued his education with post-baccalaureate studies in Public Administration at Kean University. In addition, he graduated from the FBI Crime Resistance and Hostage Negotiating Schools as well as the FBI Management Training Prop-am.

Once again, please join me in honoring Peter J. Barnes, Jr. for his outstanding accomplishments and thanking him for his years of service as Middlesex County Democratic Organization Chairman.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MACON

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the members of the Junior League of Macon for being recognized by the Association of Junior Leagues International with the prestigious Fund Development Award, which is one of only five awards given each year by AJLI. A press conference to announce the award will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the Junior League of Macon Office located at 2055 Vineville Avenue in Macon, Georgia.

The Junior League of Macon is an organization of women who are committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving the community. It

was first established as the Utility Club in 1924. In 1937, it was adopted by the Association of Junior Leagues of America, Inc. From the first fundraiser in 1924, which raised \$492.35, to the record-breaking 2003–2004 League year, which netted over \$133,000, the Junior League of Macon has been a driving force in advancing the community. The Junior League of Macon celebrated its 75th anniversary last year and currently boasts over 700 members.

The Junior League of Macon has made a tremendous impact on improving literacy and school readiness in the Middle Georgia area since making the decision in 2009 to focus its mission on these particular issues. The organization's members and trained volunteers have been committed to preparing young minds for a quality education through participating in school partnerships, fundraising, advocacy, and hands-on projects. During the 2011–2012 League year, the organization donated more than 2,500 books, served 1,400 children and volunteered 5,320 hours, which is the equivalent of \$106,400.

This year, the Junior League of Macon received international recognition for earning the Fund Development Award from the Association of Junior Leagues International, which represents 293 junior league organizations around the world. This unique honor was awarded to JLM for successfully alleviating economic challenges by developing an effective strategy for fund development that significantly diversified JLM's funding base. As one of only five awards given by AJLI each year, the Fund Development Award is a great honor for the Junior League of Macon and a tribute to their hard work and commitment to the well-being and advancement of the Middle Georgia community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Junior League of Macon for being honored with the Fund Development Award from the Association of Junior Leagues International. This award is well-deserved and I applaud their exceptional efforts to serve and improve the community by promoting literacy and school readiness in the Middle Georgia area.

TREVOR SOWL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2013*

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

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

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