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RECOGNIZING THE DAVY AND STRANGE FAMILIES AS THE 2016 SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILIES OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the John Davy and Glen Strange Families of Al-lentown for being selected as the 2016 Santa Rosa County, Florida, Outstanding Farm Families of the Year.

Both John and Glen developed a love of farming from watching their fathers. In 1986, the two purchased a small 10 acre tree farm and became business partners when they founded Panhandle Growers, Inc the following year. The farm grows specimen trees between 2"-4" in diameter for landscaping purposes. Now, 30 years later, the farm has grown to 350 acres and supplies trees throughout the Southeast.

John and his wife Sara have two children; Elizabeth, who graduated from Auburn University in 2015, and Emmett, who is a junior at Pace High School. Sara works as a pharmacist; and John, who enjoys growing enjoys growing camellias at home, has served three terms as president of the Pensacola Camellia Society.

Glen and his wife Janet have three children; Ali, who has two children with her husband Ben; Nicole, who is a senior at Troy University School of Nursing and Thomas who is a sophomore at Pensacola State School of Business. In addition to running the farm, Glen also serves as the Director with Farm Credit of Northwest Florida. It is his hopes that the tradition of farming will continue with his children and grandchildren.

Both families are active members of the Olive Baptist Church. The Davys are parent volunteers with World Race Adventures in Missions and the Stranges participate in local and international missions. Glen serves on the missions board.

Mr. Speaker, the Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year Award is a true reflection of the Davy and Strange families' tireless work and their dedication to family and farming. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Davy and Strange families for being outstanding in their field. My wife Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE AVETT BROTHERS INDUCTION INTO THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSIC HALL OF FAME

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my favorite bands, the Avett

Brothers, who were inducted into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame on October 20, 2016. With this recognition, the band joins the ranks of the North Carolina music legends including Andy Griffith, Charlie Daniels, and James Taylor.

Raised in Concord, North Carolina, Scott and Seth Avett took an unlikely path to becoming the music icons they are today. Never forgetting their North Carolina roots, the band has traveled the world but still holds on to their humble beginnings. Before hitting the "big time" the brothers explored every avenue they could to keep their music dreams alive. Whether it was selling shoes, working 20-hour shifts on movie sets, or pedaling grilled cheese sandwiches in the parking lot of Grateful Dead shows they never lost sight of their dreams to connect people through their love of music.

Together with Bob Crawford and Joe Kwon, the Avett Brothers have been delivering high energy performances since the turn of the century. From their father's garage to the Late Show with David Letterman the band has captivated audiences with their ability to connect on a human level about shared experiences anyone can relate to. Their unique blend of rock and folk music with a 21st century spin has found a place in the hearts of people all over the world.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Avett Brothers are extremely deserving of this recognition and I wish them the best as they tour the country and continue to be a great source of pride for Cabarrus County and all of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Scott, Seth, Bob, and Joe—the Avett Brothers—on their induction into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE SACRIFICE OF SGT. DOUGLAS J. RINEY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of U.S. Army Sgt. Douglas J. Riney who was killed in Kabul, Afghanistan on October 19, 2016. I've always believed that the best way to really know who a person was, is to hear the memories from those who knew him best. As friends and family members in Fairview and across our community have come together to mourn the loss of this true American hero, it's clear that Sgt. Riney was a man who believed in the values that have made our nation strong. Like so many who grew up in Fairview, Sgt. Riney believed in service. After graduating from Spoon River Valley High School, Sgt. Riney became a volunteer firefighter with the Fairview Fire Protection District where he earned a reputation as a man who could always be counted on.

In the United States Army, Sgt. Riney was deployed as part of Operation Enduring Freedom from July 2014 to February 2015. In June of this year, he was again deployed as part of Operation Freedom's Sentinel. As part of the Support Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, 1st

Cavalry Division, from Fort Hood, Texas, Sgt. Riney excelled at his work. Through the years, for his courage and commitment to getting the job done, Sgt. Riney was repeatedly recognized as he earned many commendations including the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal. On that fateful day in Kabul, our nation lost one of its finest, and the community of Fairview lost one of its best.

Mr. Speaker, as we mourn the loss of Sgt. Douglas J. Riney, let us also give thanks for the positive impact and legacy that he leaves behind. While words offer little consolation to soothe the pain of losing a loved one, our nation offers its deepest condolences and heartfelt gratitude to the family of Sgt. Riney, today and always.

HONORING KANSAS CITY'S FLIGHTLESS HONOR FLIGHT VETERANS

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 17 Kansas City area veterans who took part in a special "Flightless" Honor Flight last week on Friday, November 11, 2016—Veterans Day. Among other activities, the group had the opportunity to visit and tour the World War I Museum and Memorial, near my district in Kansas City.

The Honor Flight Network's mission is to transport America's veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices. However, this is not always possible, so the local extension, Honor Flight Kansas City, decided to start a Flightless Honor Flight program for those who are unable to make the trip to Washington.

Now in its second year, the Flightless Honor Flight program has helped contribute to the goal of the national organization by continuing to honor those who have served.

Representing every branch of the military, this unique group was made up of veterans who served in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. The Veterans who participated are as follows: Tony Arnone, Air Force (Korea); Bill Barr, Navy (WWII); Russell Callahan, Coast Guard (WWII); Max Deweese, Marines (WWII/Korea); Bob Edwards, Army (Vietnam); Mike Elrod, Army (Vietnam); Ace Fasenmayer, Army (WWII); Tom Garrett, Navy (Korea); Floyd Greenwood, Army (Korea); Clyde Reece Hulet, Army (WWII); George Nicholson, Army (Korea); Dennis Owens, Marines (Vietnam); Agapito "Pete" Sanchez, Army (Vietnam); Juanita Smith, Navy (WWII); Robert Willis Sprague, Army (Vietnam); Delbert Stephens, Navy (WWII); Gene Taylor, Navy (Korea).

Each of these brave Americans deserves our everlasting thanks for their contributions to the war effort, and for their sacrifice on behalf of our country and way of life.

On behalf of a grateful country, we say thank you for your service.

CONGRATULATING THE LANGLEY
HIGH SCHOOL BOY'S GOLF TEAM
ON WINNING THE VIRGINIA 6A
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Langley High School golf team on winning the Virginia 6A state golf championship. Their dedication, hard work, and perseverance helped earn their school its first state championship in golf since 2011. This achievement comes in spite of the physical hardships and tough course conditions the team endured during the final round.

The night before the second and final round, senior Brandon Berry came down with what was likely food poisoning. His condition had him bedridden for almost 14 hours. Nevertheless, Brandon took the course for the final round and recorded a 77. Also two freshmen, Nikita Gubenko and Brian Feinstein, recorded rounds of 75 and 80, respectively. Nikita's round was Langley's lowest of the day and helped the Saxons secure a 22-shot victory. It is this dedication that creates the level of excellence which these young men have achieved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Langley Saxons on winning the Virginia 6A state golf championship. I am proud to represent these students and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING STEVE NAKAJO

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Nakajo who has served as the executive director of Kimochi, Inc. for 45 years and has grown the organization into one of the most precious senior service organizations in the Bay Area. Steve is a sensei in every sense of the word: a respected person who has achieved a high level of mastery in his skills. He leaves behind an incredible legacy which frankly few of us do. I am honored to call him a friend and colleague for over 20 years.

Steve co-founded Kimochi in 1971 to bring social services to non-English speaking, first generation Japanese Americans in San Francisco's Japantown. Today, Kimochi provides 3,000 seniors from San Francisco and surrounding communities with services including transportation, nutrition, day care, housing, referral, consumer education, social services, and in-home care every year.

The creation of Kimochi Inc., which means feeling in Japanese, was inspired by the feeling for elders, first generation Japanese Americans or Issei, by third generation Japanese Americans or Sansei. The Sansei recognized that language and cultural barriers prevented the Issei from accessing every-day services, so they helped them to apply for government services or health benefits, they offered transportation and walking escorts, and they made

sure seniors could safely leave and return to their homes. The appreciation of the elders' sacrifices and hardships is integral to the organization's philosophy and Steve has been the embodiment of that philosophy. Respect, gratitude and love for the elders are expressed through the services that allow each generation to age with dignity, pride, support and friendship.

Steve's commitment to Kimochi has been unwavering and recognized around the world. In 1999, he addressed the Japanese National Conference on Aging in Tokyo on the history and philosophy of Kimochi, Inc. as the only U.S. delegate invited to the conference. In 2002, he addressed the San Diego Nikkey Elderly Forum. In 2007, he joined Mayor Gavin Newsom in Osaka to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the San Francisco—Osaka Sister City relationship. In 2013, he was honored by the San Francisco Consul General of Japan for Kimochi Home's 30th anniversary. Earlier this year, it was my honor to help cut the ribbon on the new Kimochi House San Mateo, yet another grand vision of Steve Nakajo.

For the last 45 years, Steve has also been an instructor and lecturer in Japanese American and Asian Studies, sociology, social work, critical thinking and ethnic sensitivity training at San Francisco State University, San Jose State University and City College of San Francisco. His teaching career started in the Japanese American Studies Program in SFSU's School of Ethnic Studies. His co-instructors were the late Edison Uno and Dudley Yasuda. Uno, a civil rights advocate, was best known for his opposition to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Dudley was a psychology professor who was tragically murdered by one of his former students.

Steve has further contributed to the community by being one of the original organizers of the San Francisco Nihonmachi Street Fair and by being active with San Francisco's Japantown Cherry Blossom Festival for 46 years. He has also been on the San Francisco Fire Commission for 20 years and served on the San Francisco Arts Commission.

Steve, originally from Salt Lake City, received his education in San Francisco. He attended Morning Star School and Sacred Heart High School and earned his Bachelor's degree in Social Science and his Master's degree in Social Work from SFSU. He and his wife Etsie have three children—Devon, Tracey and Lexus—and four grandsons—Yuki, Kai, Kyle and Jaden.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a remarkable man and teacher who has helped shape the fabric of San Francisco for almost half a century. Steve Nakajo may be retiring today, but his contributions and philosophy will resonate for generations to come.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE OPELIKA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Opelika Chamber of Commerce in Opelika, Alabama.

The Opelika Chamber was organized on January 13, 1941, and incorporated on August 26th by Homer Carter, Yetta G. Samford, R.W. Williams, Edward M. Roberts, Jr., Winston Smith T, A.L. Screws, A.C. Tatum, D.W. Ward, John L. Whatley and John D. McKibben. As recorded in the original Petition for Incorporation, the Chamber is to "promote the commercial, industrial, agricultural and civic interest of the City of Opelika and the surrounding territory; to promote integrity and good faith, just and equitable principles in business. . ." These words still ring true today.

The Opelika Chamber has been instrumental in the growth and prosperity of the City of Opelika. Each year, the Chamber hosts over 200 events, program and advertising opportunities for its members.

Today, the Opelika Chamber is housed in the Whitfield-Duke-Searcy Home, built in 1895, at 601 Avenue A.

On December 15, 2016, there will be a celebration of the past 75 years held at The Aeerie.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Opelika Chamber of Commerce on their 75th anniversary and wish them many, many more.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MINNESOTA VALLEY
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Established in 1976, this refuge managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides vital habitat for migratory water fowl, fish and other species. The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge is a wonderful example of Minnesota's commitment to conservation and the environment.

The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge offers a world class opportunity to experience Minnesota's natural landscape and view wildlife, starting from the heart of the Twin Cities metropolitan area in Bloomington stretching more than 70 miles along the Minnesota River to Henderson, Minnesota. More than 5,000 acres of the 14,000 acre refuge are protected as Waterfowl Production Areas. During peak migration periods, visitors are witness to exceptional bird watching as hundreds of thousands of waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors are funneled into the valley along their migratory routes.

Another significant focus of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge is land conservation and management of habitats ranging from wetlands, to floodplain forest, to tall grass prairie. These diverse habitats are actively managed using modern conservation techniques such as biological control, prescribed burning and invasive plant removal to benefit the resident plants and animals. Refuge staff also reaches out to private local land owners on conservation and restoration efforts to enhance wildlife habitat within the region.

Minnesotans are steadfast stewards of the beautiful and diverse natural environments