

truck with him and promptly deputized her as a volunteer firefighter. Ever since that day, Mrs. Fletcher supported the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department through her service as an officer of the Ladies Auxiliary. Her selfless legacy will forever be a part of both organizations.

Always willing to lend a hand to a neighbor in need, Gertie was an irreplaceable pillar of our community. Mrs. Fletcher was active in all phases of community life in Ashburn, from her leadership at the Calvary Baptist Church to her role in forming the Blue Ridge Speech and Hearing Center. She always worked tirelessly to better her community. Mrs. Fletcher is survived by her son, Tom Fletcher, two grandchildren, Brian and Catherine, and two great-grandchildren, Taryn and Brock and a sister, Aileen. She will be missed by the countless lives she has touched over her years of public service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the life of, and bidding farewell to, Gertrude Mae Smith Fletcher. May she rest in peace, and her family be comforted.

RECOGNIZING IMPACT BROWARD

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Impact Broward and the critical work they do in South Florida. This vital organization has served Broward County through a dedicated commitment to providing at-risk children, veterans, senior citizens, and other individuals with the resources and care that they so urgently need.

Each day, Impact Broward provides students with academic assistance, offers support to veterans, assists struggling senior citizens, and supports Broward County Non-Profits. These programs exist because of the strong commitment of all Impact Broward's staff, and I would like to especially acknowledge their President and CEO, Peter Kaldes, for the exceptional work that he has done to ensure that all Broward County residents get the care and support that they need.

Congratulations to today's honorees: Dr. Philip Greenberg of the William "Bill" Kling VA Clinic, receiving the 2016 Edith S. Lederberg Wisdom in Action Award; Bruce Williams of the Pride Center, receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award; Deputy Lauren Apollo of the Broward Sheriff's Office, receiving the Individual Award; Whole Foods Market, receiving the Award of Excellence; Flora Lathem of the Foster Grandparent Program, receiving the Robert Scott Public Service Award for Volunteering with Children; Jacqueline Coleman, receiving the Senior Companion Volunteer Award; Lisa Pohle, receiving the RSVP Seniors, Teachers Achieving Reading Success Volunteer Award; and American Express receiving the Corporate Excellence Award.

I express deep appreciation for Impact Broward's great work. Their dedication to provide struggling individuals with critical attention and support is noble.

RECOGNIZING DIRECTOR GALE McCOY

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Gale McCoy and all of her accomplishments as Director of the Atlanta Passport Agency.

Over the last 5 years, the Atlanta Passport Agency has assisted a copious amount of Americans with passport issuance for immediate travel since the agency opened in 2011. This year alone the Atlanta Passport Agency has helped more than 38,000 citizens.

Director McCoy has worked with the Atlanta Passport Agency since its inception, providing a service which is important to residents across Georgia because, otherwise, Georgians would need to travel to New Orleans, Miami, or Washington, DC, to gain an urgent, new passport. In addition to her time working with the Atlanta Passport Agency, Director McCoy has worked for the U.S. Department of State in various other capacities for more than 30 years.

Later this year, Mrs. McCoy will retire as the Director of the Atlanta Passport Agency. I rise today to recognize her effort and accomplishments in assisting U.S. Citizens and thank her for the service she has provided to many people in the First Congressional District of Georgia. I wish her the best with her future endeavors.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC OP- PORTUNITY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. With the mission of promoting self-sufficiency among low-income and vulnerable populations by confronting the causes and reducing the effects of poverty, CEO has consistently advanced the wellbeing of my constituents and our community in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Commission on Economic Opportunity was established in 1966 as a multi-service, nonprofit organization. With its central office in Wilkes-Barre, CEO has expanded to include offices throughout my district in Hazleton, Tunkhannock, and Kingston. CEO operates more than 20 community development programs, and, with over 150 full and part-time employees, their work serves over 32,000 individuals in Northeastern Pennsylvania each year. CEO's ability to adapt to the changing nature of poverty has been a key part of their success, and this allows them to use flexible and local solutions to promote self-sufficiency in our region.

When I was mayor, I worked with Gene Brady and CEO to develop the Pine Street neighborhood in Hazleton. This area was in need of renovation, and after a four block section of land was donated, Gene and I brought

the community together to build single-family homes. Staying true to their mission, CEO helped these families take control of their mortgages and become self-sufficient homeowners. Over ten years later, the Pine Street neighborhood is still thriving thanks to the work of Gene and all of the employees and volunteers at CEO, and this truly exemplifies their ability to increase the standard of living for all.

As a father of four and grandfather of four, I recognize the importance of providing our children with every opportunity to succeed. That's why I am grateful that an organization like CEO has taken a leading role in creating child and family-centered services in my district to ensure that the challenges of poverty do not limit anyone's potential. The Commission on Economic Opportunity also understands the need for strategic partnerships to address the root causes of poverty. Their efforts to provide funding and leadership for groups such as Luzerne County Head Start, the Child Development Council of NEPA, Rural Health Corporation of NEPA, and Maternal and Family Services of NEPA, have allowed them to reach the community at large, while efficiently using their resources to establish more low-income organizations in the region. The Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan Center for Healthy Living exemplifies their strategic partnerships, as they utilize their own Weinberg Food Bank to store and distribute food to a network of regional agencies, with the intent of helping people go "from hungry to healthy."

Mr. Speaker, with 50 years of successful service in Northeastern Pennsylvania, the Commission on Economic Opportunity has consistently set an example of what can be achieved when a private organization engages with their community. On behalf of my constituents, I want to thank the board of directors, staff, and volunteers that have worked tirelessly to make their goal of "People Helping People" possible, and I look forward to their continued success in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAXINE PRATHER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge one of my constituents, Maxine Prather, who turned 99 years old on September the 19th. Mrs. Prather's life has been a truly American story. Born in 1917, Maxine lived through some of the most uncertain times in American history during which she not only endured, but flourished.

Maxine Prather, affectionately called Gigi by her grandkids, worked as a secretary for many years. She was a devoted wife to her husband who was a Methodist Minister. Through the years, the family travelled the country to preach the scripture. It was through these travels that Maxine developed an interest in collecting beautiful china for her home. To this day Maxine Prather still enjoys entertaining guests, shopping and visiting the great museums our nation has to offer every chance she gets.

Mr. Speaker, this is a woman of extreme courage and fortitude, whose life story serves as an inspiration to all. She has spent nearly her entire life in service to others and her selflessness should be acknowledged for all to witness. I would ask my fellow members to stand with me and applaud Mrs. Maxine Prather and wish her well.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRAL
SERVICE WEEK

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October 9th–15th, 2016 as International Central Service Week.

During this week, we recognize and show appreciation to the Central Service Professionals across the world, who work each day to guarantee that all surgical instruments are clean and sterile.

I think everyone has either experience themselves or has a loved one who has experienced a surgical procedure where a Central Service Professional was directly responsible for decontaminating, cleaning, processing, assembling, and sterilizing the instruments used throughout that procedure.

To all of those dedicated Central Service Professionals, thank you for what you do. Please know your work is appreciated and you are an important part of keeping our nation healthy.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE FLYNN

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, George Flynn, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of dedicated public service as Pulaski County Circuit Clerk in Somerset, Kentucky.

George has honorably served as Circuit Clerk since winning his first election in 1987. Since then, he has proven to be one of the most beloved and respected leaders in the county with his unmatched work ethic and quick wit. Everyone "south of the river" in Pulaski County is related to George, or claims to be, and his support has never wavered. Whether you have known George for five minutes or fifty years, he treats you like family, earning him a loyalty with friends in and out of the political arena. He always has a personal story to share—and at a moment's notice, he can rattle off the history of Pulaski County, along with the genealogy of nearly every family in town. He has never been one to pass through with a quick hello—but genuinely inquires about the well-being of friends and family.

Over the last three decades, George has brought the Pulaski County Circuit Clerk's office up to speed with 21st century technology—overseeing the digitization of thousands of records and managing growing court dockets on a daily basis. His operation is top-notch.

Outside of the clerk's office, his volunteer service has been second to none. From the Lake Cumberland Friends Association, to the Boy Scouts of America, to the Ducks Unlimited Club and the Pulaski County Lincoln Club—his tireless efforts to improve local quality of life expands across the Lake Cumberland region.

Everyone is equipped with the same components to make a difference in their community, but it is only those with the courage of conviction and dedication, like George Flynn, who will leave a legacy of community service, such as he has done. My wife, Cynthia, and I wish George and his wife, Resa, many years of joy and good health in their retirement.

CONGRATULATING EL COMERCIO
DE COLORADO

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate El Comercio de Colorado on their award-winning editorial excellence.

El Comercio de Colorado is a bilingual newspaper which has served Colorado and the Denver area since 1999 with articles about international, national and local news topics of importance to our community. El Comercio de Colorado has embodied leadership in the Hispanic printed media industry. In recognition of their quality publications, the National Association of Hispanic Publications (NAHP) has presented El Comercio de Colorado with four Gold José Martí Publishing Awards.

El Comercio de Colorado was noted as having the number one Classified Ads section in the nation during the 34th edition of the José Martí Publishing Awards. For industry leading distinction, the sports section was awarded two gold awards for content and design, as well as cartoonist Angonoa, who received gold for outstanding work. El Comercio de Colorado also received honorable mentions for editorial content, photography, illustrations and design.

I would like to congratulate partner and Editor Eva Tejada, as well as the entire staff at El Comercio de Colorado on a job well done. These awards show El Comercio de Colorado's unwavering commitment to quality publications and the Hispanic printed media community.

TRIBUTE TO ISAAC B. ROSENBERG

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, our Ranking Minority Member, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Isaac B. Rosenberg, who is leaving the House to join the United States Department of Justice, National Courts Section. Mr. Rosenberg has served in the Office of the General Counsel for nearly three years as an Assistant General Counsel. Mr. Rosenberg provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation

to the House community, particularly in connection with federal court litigation involving issues of great institutional importance. Mr. Rosenberg provided extensive advice and litigation expertise to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Committee on House Administration, the Committee on Ethics, House Leadership, and numerous Members, officers, and other committees of the House. House staff came to rely on Mr. Rosenberg's expertise and guidance, particularly in connection with their investigative and oversight activities. Mr. Rosenberg has played a very significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives. He has served the House with great distinction, and we know he will continue to serve our Nation with that same level of distinction at the Department of Justice. On behalf of the Committee on House Administration and the entire House community, we thank Mr. Rosenberg for his devoted service, and extend to him our very best wishes for continued success.

RECOGNIZING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE RON STEPHENS

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Representative Ron Stephens from Savannah, Georgia, for being awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award from Armstrong Atlantic State University.

Representative Ron Stephens represents the 164th District in the Georgia General Assembly. During his time as Representative, he has done a remarkable job representing his constituents. Currently, he is Chairman of the House Economic Development & Tourism Committee and a member of the Appropriations, Rules, and Ways and Means Committees allowing him to advocate important issues for his constituency. In addition, Governor Nathan Deal appointed Representative Stephens to the Georgia Tourism Foundation.

Before his time in the Georgia General Assembly, Representative Stephens was already working for the betterment of his community. He began in pharmacy and served the medical needs of others for thirty-seven years. Thereafter, he served as a councilman in Garden City.

Representative Ron Stephens has accomplished a great deal for his community. I am proud of my friend for his work and overjoyed that he is receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award from Armstrong Atlantic.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE SILICON VALLEY
COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today together with my colleagues, Congress members ANNA ESHOO and MIKE HONDA to acknowledge the Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN). As is widely known, Santa