

to their current home in West Harlem, and African Services' priorities widened to include broader support services for African immigrants coming to the United States including, but not limited to: HIV/STD/TB/Hepatitis B and C testing, diabetes & blood pressure testing, legal services, immigration assistance, advocacy, and policy work.

The services have expanded to serve over 12,000 people each year in their Harlem location and continue to grow each year. Though they are based in Harlem, they primarily service the African community in the Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring African Services Committee, Inc. for their consistently remarkable dedication to servicing the African community.

URBAN AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly submit the Urban Agriculture Production Act of 2016.

Across America, too many urban neighborhoods are absent stores where community members can purchase fresh, healthy foods. More than 23 million individuals reside in these so called "food desert" neighborhoods, where no stores are located within one mile in which they can buy healthy food.

Without accessible healthy options, all that is available and affordable is unhealthy, processed, junk-food. The Urban Agriculture Production Act is a step to correct this unacceptable trend.

I am pleased to recognize and support the growing resurgence of locally grown and produced product happening across our great country. I see it in my own community at the Sustainable Local Foods and the Toledo Grows Community Garden.

Individuals, non-profits, and co-ops have stepped up to take action to address the challenge of access to healthy food, and developed local food sources and community gardens to provide fresh, affordable produce throughout underserved communities. Not only are they growing product to provide to communities, they are also engaging and encouraging community participation throughout the stages of growth and production.

They are reconnecting community members to Mother Earth and how to farm in the process.

As the ancient proverb says, "give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." And so goes my bill, the Urban Agriculture Production Act.

The measure will encourage economic development in underserved communities by furthering the mission of local farming. It provides programmatic funds to educate people on health and wellness, supports marketing and development networks, and will inspire communities to create self sufficient food production systems to stimulate community development and healthy eating options.

Throughout our urban and suburban communities there is an abundance of unused

land and space conveniently located to neighborhoods that is ripe for agriculture development. We must support and encourage the means to development these plots so they become local sources of wholesome food options.

My bill will spur the development and expansion of community agriculture in nontraditional agricultural production areas across this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, urban and suburban farming and food production is a viable solution to support healthier dietary options and improve overall health of communities. The Urban Agriculture Production Act is the appropriate means to further develop alternative, more urban agricultural production and to help meet all communities' food production needs of the future.

RECOGNIZING DREW KERIN

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated member of my staff, Mr. Drew Kerin, who will be retiring from my office at the end of the year.

Mr. Kerin began working in my Colorado District Office in 2010 after a long career teaching elementary school in Mexico, Texas, and Colorado. During his seven years in my office, he has served countless constituents with a smile and a caring spirit.

Drew is still a teacher at heart as he is able to share wonderful anecdotes from history, sports, and personal stories about former students that can quickly warm your heart. He is an avid sports fan, a dog lover, and someone both my staff and I are proud to call a friend.

I am grateful for Drew's tireless work on behalf of Colorado's Sixth Congressional District and I wish him all the best in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL CARR

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rachel Carr, who has served as Counsel for the Subcommittee on Aviation for the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. House of Representatives, since I became Ranking Member in 2013. As a long-time Member of the Committee, I have had the pleasure of working with Rachel on numerous transportation issues, from railroads, pipelines, and hazardous materials safety to unmanned aircraft systems and efforts to defeat faulty legislative proposals to privatize the Air Traffic Control system. Her hard work and wise counsel have been invaluable to me and to many Members of the Committee, and I look forward to continuing to work with her as she embarks on a new endeavor.

Rachel is a long-time aviation lover. In a recent Congressional Quarterly article which featured key staff on Capitol Hill, Rachel reminisced about how she went to air shows as a

child, and then studied engineering thinking she would get into a technical aspect of the industry, but after an internship at an airport, Rachel became intrigued with the policy side of transportation and, in particular, aviation. Indeed, Rachel began her career on Capitol Hill serving as Staff Assistant for the Full Committee in 1999 and, just a short time later, the Subcommittees on Aviation and Railroads, a foreshadowing of her accomplishments to come.

Rachel went on to serve as Manager of Legislative Affairs for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; an attorney at Coddington, Hicks & Danforth in Redwood City, California; and then, in 2009, Counsel for the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials for the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In that role, she helped lead efforts to investigate the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, which resulted in numerous improvements to the Department of Transportation's hazardous materials safety program. She also played a key role in defeating Republican efforts to privatize Amtrak, our national passenger rail system before landing on the Aviation Subcommittee.

Rachel's understanding of complex transportation safety issues has been an asset to the Committee for over a decade. Rachel was instrumental in drafting significant pieces of legislation including H.R. 4441, the "Aviation Innovation, Reform, and Reauthorization Act of 2016"; An Act to allow the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to enter into reimbursable agreements for certain airport projects (P.L. 114-); and the FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-190). The latter legislation includes provisions that will substantially improve aviation safety and accommodate an emerging group of new airspace users who operate unmanned aircraft.

Last month, Rachel was appointed Federal Policy Advisor for the Denver International Airport. Her expertise and counsel will be truly missed.

I join my colleagues on the Transportation Committee in wishing Rachel and her dog, Sasha, all the best in her new endeavor.

RECOGNIZING KERVEN W. CARTER, JR.

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Kerven W. Carter Jr., a cherished Stop Six educator and beloved member of the Fort Worth community, who was laid to rest on October 25, 2016.

Kerven Wyncelar Carter was born on October 15, 1922 in Wortham, Texas. His family eventually relocated to Fort Worth, Texas where he ultimately graduated from the historic I.M. Terrell High School. Following his high school graduation, Mr. Carter earned a bachelor's degree from Wiley College and continued his education at the University of Denver, University of Southern California and University of Wyoming.

In addition to demonstrating a commitment to furthering his own education, Mr. Carter

was a distinguished educator in his own right. He served as a professor at Wiley College and worked in various capacities at the Fort Worth Independent School District. Mr. Carter ended his career in education working in administration and teacher appraisal work and was later recognized for his commitment to education when he was selected as an honoree by Tarrant County Community College during the dedication of its Opportunity Center Resource.

Mr. Carter was also dedicated to serving his community outside of the classroom. He served as Deacon and Chairman of Finance and Superintendent in the Youth Sunday School at his church. Additionally, he was a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for more than 75 years and co-founded the Texas Council of Alpha chapters. He was a president of the Texan Christian University chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International Education Fraternity, co-founder of the Texas State Teacher's Association, and a Master Prince Hall Mason, where he served as Grand Treasurer and Grand Worshipful Master.

CONGRATULATING THE CULVER CITY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Culver City High School Girls Varsity Volleyball Team.

Under the leadership of Coach Tanner Siegal and Assistant Coach Eriko Gambol, for the first time in Culver City High School (CCHS) history, the Girls Varsity Volleyball team, the Lady Centaurs, has won the 2016 California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division 5 Championship.

I salute the team members for the enthusiasm and competitive play that won the team and the school this distinction: Octavia Mott-Collins, Megan Shimoda, Alyssa Hernandez, Katrina McCoy, Jessica Stewart, Carmen Reyna, Destiny Padilla, Jayli Nealy, Haien Anderson, Sonya Allen, Sarah Miller, Neusha Parsa, McKenna Stevens, Lena Johnson, Layla Grant Lauren Tishkoff, Krista Hernandez.

I would also like to recognize the many people who dedicated time and energy to the team's success: first and foremost, the team members' parents and guardians; Dr. Joshua Arnold, Culver City Superintendent of Education; Dr. Lisa Cooper, CCHS Principal; DuBois McMillan, Assistant Principal for Athletics; Tom Salter, Athletic Director; and last but not least, the Culver City High School Band and Cheerleaders, who participated in both home and away games.

No team reaches the top of its division without a passion for improving both individual skills and its strengths as a team. Becoming Division 5 Champions required that the Lady Centaurs give their best effort at every practice, demonstrate good sportsmanship, and build their teamwork from one game to the next.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Culver City High School Girls Varsity Volleyball team for its outstanding achieve-

ment in winning the 2016 CIF Division 5 Championship.

IN RECOGNITION OF BAN KI-MOON,
8TH SECRETARY GENERAL OF
THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the tenure of Ban Ki-moon, the 8th Secretary General of the United Nations. His appointment and inauguration nearly ten years ago marked a historic achievement for the Republic of Korea.

In his two terms in office, Secretary General Ban has advanced the cause of global peace through his work on economic, security, and human rights issues.

He remains firmly and resolutely committed to the UN's long-term development goals and to helping those who suffer from international crises and humanitarian disasters.

His leadership on global threats, such as the spread of infectious diseases, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, has contributed to international peace and security.

And he has worked tirelessly to advance human rights around the world. Secretary General Ban has promoted women's empowerment and gender equality everywhere, and fought to improve human rights in North Korea.

Under his tenure, the UN's Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put together the most comprehensive report to date on the horrific abuses carried out by the Kim regime. As this report found, these abuses "shock the conscience of humanity," and demand that we hold the regime accountable.

Before serving as Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-Moon served as South Korean Foreign Minister, where he worked towards denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

I hope that the next Secretary General will continue Secretary General Ban's work to advance the UN's mission of peace and prosperity around the world.

As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I wish to recognize Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's service to the United Nations, to express my deep appreciation for his contributions to global peace and security, and to extend my sincere best wishes for his future endeavors. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING CHRISTINA GOSSNER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christina Gossner, whom I have named a 2016 Public Safety Hero of the Year for Sonoma County in California's 5th Congressional District. This award is given to exceptional members of our community who perform beyond their duty as a public servant.

A paramedic with American Medical Response (AMR) Sonoma, Ms. Gossner started

her Emergency Medical Services (EMS) career with training at the Santa Rosa Junior College Fire Academy in 1992 and Paramedic Academy in 1994. For more than two decades, Ms. Gossner has been an enthusiastic and generous emergency responder.

To help others further their EMS careers, Ms. Gossner became an Adjunct Faculty for the Santa Rosa Public Training Center. During her career, Ms. Gossner has also worked as a volunteer firefighter with the Windsor Fire Protection District and as a rescue operation flight paramedic with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Helicopter. Her commitment and diverse experience exemplify the dedication and character of our community's best public servants.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. Gossner for her dedication to our community's safety. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that I honor her here today.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON S. 1632

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters exchanged between myself and the gentleman from California, Mr. NUNES, Chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, regarding S. 1632, an Act to require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

Washington, DC, December 8, 2016.

Hon. DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on S. 1632, a bill to require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram, and for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of that bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the Floor. I concur in your understanding that the assessment required by section 1(b) shall be conducted and provided in a manner that protects intelligence sources and methods.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your Committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future.

I will seek to place our letters on S. 1632 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with your Committee as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

December 7, 2016.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: On September 24, 2015, S. 1632, "A bill to require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram," was referred to the Committee on