

scientific contributions to the research community, but it is also a cornerstone of the Rochester community and helps provide local businesses with the talent they need to flourish.

Perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of this discovery is that it allows us to pose new questions and push the bounds of our collective knowledge. There's no doubt in my mind that RIT will play an essential role in these forthcoming discoveries, and I am proud that millions of people will continue learning about the world around us thanks to the contributions of researchers like Dr. Campanelli and the other members of her team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding all of the individuals who helped contribute to this monumental discovery and especially the six researchers from RIT. These Rochesterians have helped fundamentally change our understanding of the world, and I am proud to support their work in Congress.

HONORING CULTIVATING CODERS

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cultivating Coders, a technology startup from Albuquerque which, on March 13, 2016, won "Startup of Year" at Tech.Col's South by Southwest interactive festival in Austin, Texas.

This past November, Charles Ashley III and Charles Sandidge founded Cultivating Coders which takes an eight-week coding boot camp on the road to tribal, rural, inner-city, and otherwise underserved communities. The program provides graduates with knowledge of full stack web development theories and practical experience including web languages PHP, JavaScript, and HTML. Additionally, the company pairs students with small businesses and nonprofits in our community that need assistance with large web application development. This offers local companies access to technology services and creates job opportunities for the students.

Only 5 months old, Cultivating Coders beat out 18 other startups to share the top prize with another startup called MentorMint. But Ashley and Sandidge are just getting started. Sandidge explained their enthusiasm behind attending the competition, "If [Cultivating Coders] can find large scale partners—IBM, Microsoft, those places that see the benefit of what we're doing and where we're doing it, and helping with diversity in tech—that's a win for us at South by Southwest."

Cultivating Coders is increasing the number of minorities in the technology industry and creating new jobs in the process. Mr. Speaker, we need more forward thinking companies like this which serve our communities, promote local businesses, train future leaders in technology, increase diversity, and drive innovation. I look forward to watching Cultivating Coders continue to grow and achieve success. Congratulations Cultivating Coders, keep up the great work.

HONORING LINDA BECK

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as executive director of the Indian Valley Public Library, Linda Beck's dedication and advocacy has inspired a community and, now, after 28 years she is retiring. It is widely known that libraries can be the heart of the community: Billions of Americans gravitate to public libraries each year to read, borrow books, and study. During Linda Beck's tenure, the role of the Indian Valley Public Library expanded to include services beneficial to the greater community, including Internet access for library-goers who may search for employment, schools and general information at their leisure. As executive director, she, and scores of volunteers, have improved the lives of many citizens and inspired both children and adults to read for enjoyment and learning. And so we salute Linda Beck on this milestone, thank her for the leadership she provided and wish her many active retirement years.

RIVERHEAD FREE LIBRARY

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to honor the Riverhead Free Library's 120 years of service to the community.

Whether it is the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, or the community libraries in our home districts, it is important we recognize the tremendous value provided, even in today's technology-driven society. Since the earliest human civilizations, libraries have served as locations where information has been safeguarded and preserved, in the hopes that future generations are able to read and learn about the events of that time period. Today, our libraries' services to local communities are invaluable, providing important information to our constituents, and serving as meeting locations where people gather or relax and unwind. Libraries are also crucial to ensuring younger generations have access to information for school assignments and otherwise expand their knowledge base.

The Riverhead Free Library was organized and founded on April 4, 1896. The word "free" holds special significance, as it meant that all community residents of the time could borrow books without charge. The Library helped to grow and develop the diverse and bountiful community that Riverhead has become today. This service continues into the present, where members of the community go to utilize the wealth of information the library contains, and learn about the great ideas of both past and present. Today, the Library is chartered to serve over 32,000 residents of the Riverhead Central School District, and more than a dozen towns on the East End of Long Island.

It is my distinct honor to represent the Riverhead Free Library in the First Congressional District of New York, and I am grateful for all of the services it provides to my con-

stituents. 120 years of service to the public is no simple feat. It is only through the hard-work and dedication of its employees, and the tireless hours spent overseeing its maintenance and preservation, that have made the library the great center of learning and knowledge it is today. I would like to thank the employees of the Riverhead Free Library and the community of Riverhead for helping to preserve such a significant and special place in my district.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate the 155th anniversary of the start of the Civil War today, my colleague Representative DONNA EDWARDS joins me to introduce a bill to recognize and preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington located in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland. The defenses of Washington, including forts, unarmed batteries and rifle trenches, created a ring of protection for the nation's capital during the Civil War. This bill would redesignate the 22 Civil War Defenses of Washington currently under National Park Service jurisdiction as a national historical park, and allow other sites associated with the Civil War Defenses of Washington that are owned by a unit of state governments to be affiliated with the national historic park through cooperative agreements. This bill would also require the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the storied history of the Civil War for both the North and the South, including the history of the defenses of Washington and the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, being assembled, arrayed and conveyed for the benefit of the public for the knowledge, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

The Civil War Defenses of Washington were constructed at the beginning of the war, in 1861, as a ring of protection for the nation's capital and for President Abraham Lincoln. By the end of the war, these defenses included 68 forts, 93 unarmed batteries, 807 mounted cannons, 13 miles of rifle trenches, and 32 miles of military roads. The major test of the Civil War Defenses of Washington came with the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, when Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early, directed by General Robert E. Lee, sought to attack the nation's capital from the north, causing Union Forces threatening to attack Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, to be withdrawn. General Early was delayed by Union Major General Lew Wallace at the Battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864, and was stopped at the northern edge of Washington at the Battle of Fort Stevens on July 11–12, 1864. The Shenandoah Valley Campaign ended when Union Lieutenant General Philip Sheridan defeated General Early at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, on October 19, 1864.

Nearly all the individual forts in the Civil Defenses of Washington—on both sides of the Potomac and Anacostia rivers—were involved in stopping General Early's attack, and the Battle of Fort Stevens was the second and

last attempt by the Confederate Army to attack Washington.

Taken together, these battles were pivotal to the outcome of the war and the freedom and democracy that the war represented for this country. It is therefore fitting that we recognize these sites by redesignating them as a national historic park as we commemorate the 155th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING PASTOR LINDA SWEEZER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a driven and ambitious woman, Pastor Linda Sweezer. Pastor Sweezer has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to make a positive difference in doing God's will and spreading his Word.

Linda Sweezer was born the youngest child in a family of ten to Bessie Dillard and the late Alfred Dillard, Jr. in Vicksburg, Mississippi. She was saved at the tender age of ten.

She is a 1978 graduate of Vicksburg High School and attended and graduated from Milsaps College, Jackson, MS in 1982. She worked at Vicksburg Family Development Service for 19 years—fourteen of those years as the Co-Director.

She was called into the Gospel Ministry on February 5, 1995, ordained in 1997 and again in 2006 by Bishop T.D. Jakes of Dallas, Texas at The Potter's House International. She was called to pastor and founded The House of Peace Worship Church in December 2001. It is known as: "The Church Where the Holy Spirit is in Charge." In May 2006, the Holy Spirit led Pastor Sweezer to begin another church in the Rolling Fork area; it is known as The House of Peace Worship Church International/Delta.

Apostle Linda Sweezer is also a playwright and has written, produced and directed fifteen major productions, which were performed in the theater in the surrounding areas of Vicksburg, Rolling Fork and Fayette, Mississippi and Texarkana, TX.

She is the author of a book entitled, "Eating Along the Way!—A Survivor's Guide for People Who Are Serious About Hearing God's Call." In addition, she was the co-owner of a Christian bookstore.

She was affirmed into the Apostolic calling on July 29th 2011. The Affirmation Ceremony was conducted by Apostle Michael O. Exum, Executive Director of The Potter's House International Pastoral Alliance and Apostle Eyvone Smith of His Harvest Ministries, Oxford, Mississippi.

Some other achievements include: appointed Board Member of the United Way of West Central Mississippi (2011–2014); Director of The House of Peace Substance Abuse Prevention Program; appointed for a second term to the Election Commission (2009–2012); appointed to the Election Commission (2005–2009); appointed twice to the City of Vicksburg Civil Service Commission. Pastor Sweezer was honored as a Local Recipient of 100 Black Women; recognized as a Distinguished

African American by St. Mark Freewill Baptist Church; nominated as one of the 50 Leading Business Women of America.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. named a scholarship in Pastor Linda Sweezer's name at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast and she was appointed to the Vicksburg-Warren School District Advisory Council to develop plans for building Mega Schools. She also has received several awards and recognitions. She was selected by the Iyettes of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. as one of the Religious Role Models; Outstanding Young Women of America; Woman of Excellence Award in Art and Literature; Sower of the Lord Award and Peacemaker Award given by the Flying High for Jesus Outreach.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Linda Sweezer for her passion and dedication to spread the word of God and desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

COMMEMORATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PATTY FUCHS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Patty Fuchs on her twenty-two years of dedication and service to Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois.

From the very beginning, Patty Fuchs, a native of Peoria, Illinois and the CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, strived to support the people around her and ensure success for every facet of the Central Illinois community. A graduate of Peoria High School and Bradley University, where she ultimately earned her master's degree, Patty decided to first give back to the Peoria education system by becoming a teacher at McKinley Grade School. At this point in her life, she discovered her passion for watching people grow to their full potential.

When Patty accepted the CEO position at Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, she turned a struggling non-profit into a flourishing and successful institution. Under Patty's nearly two decade long tenure, Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois underwent a period of tremendous expansion. Currently, the non-profit oversees eleven stores and provides vocational programs across twenty-one counties. Because of their annual successes, total persons served grew from 100 in 1993 to 1,800 served in 2014. In addition, the organization, today, employees nearly 400 people compared to the mere 65 employed in 1993 when Patty began her role as CEO. These statistics attest to Patty's dedication to the organization and her tireless efforts to successfully expand and develop the non-profit to serve more individuals and families in the community.

Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois as well as the Central Illinois community ultimately benefited under Patty's leadership. I wish her a wonderful retirement surrounded by her family and loved ones. Again, congratulations, Patty, on your successful career and retirement.

TRIBUTE TO WARREN D. "DUSTY" WILLIAMS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to Riverside County, California, are exceptional. On April 14th, Warren D. "Dusty" Williams will be retiring from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District after 39 years of dedicated service, including over 13 years as its General Manager-Chief Engineer.

Dusty began his career in June 1977 as a student intern with the District. For the next four decades, he dedicated himself to loyal, conscientious, innovative and outstanding service to residents of the area, culminating with his leadership of the organization. Dusty is recognized as a national leader on flood safety, stormwater capture and environmental regulatory issues. He served as President of the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, on national committees including the National Committee on Levee Safety, and has testified before several Congressional Committees on such important issues as levee safety and amendments to the federal Clean Water Act.

Dusty has also been a strong local partner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; guiding ongoing and critical federal projects including the Santa Ana Main Stem Project and the Murrieta Creek Flood Control Environmental Restoration and Recreation Projects through technical, fiscal and administrative hurdles. I believe the reason Dusty was such an effective leader was the depth and range of his technical expertise, effective communication skills, commitment to excellence and loyalty to his community.

In light of all that Dusty has done for our region and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, it is only fitting to honor him on the occasion of his retirement. Dusty has contributed immensely to the betterment of our community and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and my friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker I want to thank Dusty for his service to the people of Riverside County—his dedication, insight and passion for flood management will be greatly missed.

HONORING VIVIAN LEE ON THE OCCASION OF HER INDUCTION INTO THE WASHINGTON STATE NURSES HALL OF FAME

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Vivian Lee for her recent induction into the Washington State Nurses Hall of Fame. This a fitting recognition of her years of considerable contributions to the healthcare community.

Mrs. Lee has been an influential leader in Seattle's nursing and healthcare industry for decades by demonstrating her exceptional