

played an integral role in supporting women in education across the world. Here at home, the Alpha Upsilon chapter has been promoting their values of uniting, honoring and advancing female educators in our very midst for seven-five years.

Founded in 1929 in Austin, Texas, Delta Kappa Gamma was conceived as a forum for teachers from all environments to come together in the spirit of professional betterment. DKG has always sought to reach out to teachers from all walks of life. From rural school teachers to urban college professors, it has been the vision of the organization to celebrate distinguished female educators.

On June 30, 1941, the Alpha Upsilon chapter of DKG was established at the historic Park Plaza Hotel in downtown Boston as the 44th such chapter in the nation. Since its founding, this Massachusetts chapter has flourished—providing many opportunities and resources for its active members.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the women of Delta Kappa Gamma for all they have done in advancing the cause of education around the world and in celebrating their 75th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING KEITH LEVY OF ROYAL CANIN USA FOR RECEIVING THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 2016 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD—MANUFACTURING/INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Keith Levy. He is the President of Royal Canin USA and is receiving the 2016 Employer of the Year Award, in the Manufacturing/Industrial Category from the City of St. Charles Economic Development Department.

Royal Canin USA is a global dog and cat food company which originated in France in 1968. In the United States, you'll find Royal Canin associates hard at work at the company's headquarters and manufacturing facilities located in St. Charles, Missouri. Royal Canin USA has created an inviting workplace for its employees with numerous incentives: family day for all associates to attend with their families, pet friendly offices where associates can bring their pets to work, take your sons and daughters to work day, and two off-leash dog parks outside its offices.

Over the last year, Royal Canin USA has added 25 associates in the St. Charles office and 100 overall. It has expanded its office to add workspace for 90 new associates. Royal Canin USA honors the longstanding tradition of rewarding its employees for their dedication and work. Associates are eligible for bonuses and to be recognized by Royal Canin's "Make a Difference Program." This program recognizes employees who have made a positive impact on the company.

Royal Canin USA's dedication to the community is made evident by its involvement with numerous community leadership initiatives. Royal Canin provides dog food to the state's Puppies for Parole program, where offenders

train shelter dogs. This training makes the dogs eligible for adoption, while positively impacting the inmates and offenders. Royal Canin also hosted an Advanced Puppies for Parole Gala, which was attended by the First Lady of Missouri. In addition, the dog food company donates food to a pet food bank called "Rescue Bank." This bank distributes pet food to shelters in need across the country. Royal Canin USA recently held a local 5k run and walk with proceeds benefitting a local dog therapy association.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Royal Canin USA for its accomplishment as the 2016 Employer of the Year Award—Manufacturing/Industrial Category.

HONORING GOVERNOR JOSEPH KERNAN FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Governor Joseph E. Kernan and honor him for a long career in public service.

Kernan is the oldest of nine children and a graduate of St. Joseph High School in South Bend, Indiana. He attended the University of Notre Dame where he was a catcher on the baseball team and earned a degree in government. Upon graduation, Kernan joined the U.S. Navy where he served as a Naval Flight Officer aboard the U.S.S. *Kitty Hawk*. During a reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam, Kernan was shot down and held captive as a POW for nearly 11 months. After his release from captivity, Kernan continued to serve his country on active duty. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal, two Purple Hearts, and the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service.

After his military service, Kernan worked in the private sector as a successful businessman before serving as South Bend's City Controller from 1980 to 1984. In 1987, he was elected Mayor of South Bend and would become the longest serving mayor in the city's history.

In 1996, Frank O'Bannon and Kernan were elected as Indiana's governor and lieutenant governor and were reelected in 2000. As lieutenant governor, Kernan served as president of the Indiana Senate, director of the Indiana Department of Commerce, and commissioner of Agriculture. In particular, Kernan played a vital role in improving services for veterans, having spearheaded a Veterans Outreach Initiative to educate veterans on available benefits through the state and federal government.

In 2003, after the unfortunate passing of Governor Frank O'Bannon, Kernan assumed the role of Governor until 2005. Since then, he has been active in the community, serving in various leadership roles.

Governor Kernan and his wife Maggie have spent their careers serving the city, state, and nation. On behalf of Hoosiers in the Second Congressional District, it is my honor to thank them both for their service and sacrifice to our community.

HONORING SHIRLEY DOBSON

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and honor Mrs. Shirley Dobson on her 25 years of service as the chair of the National Day of Prayer Task Force. With the focus being to mobilize prayer and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture of the United States of America, the National Day of Prayer includes over 40,000 prayer gatherings in all 50 states. Millions of people across the nation participate at courthouses, city halls, community centers and at the U.S. Capitol Complex in Washington, D.C.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance that occurs on the first Thursday in May and people of all faiths are asked to pray for the nation. The National Day of Prayer dates back to 1952 when a joint resolution was passed by both the House and the Senate.

Shirley Dobson has worked diligently along with so many others over the last 25 years to bring the nation together around prayer. In addition to her leadership with the National Day of Prayer Task Force, Mrs. Dobson is nationally recognized for her many contributions to women's affairs, Christian Organizations, and the institution of the family.

Shirley Dobson has been invited to the White House by many Presidents over the past 30 years and has been recognized by numerous national organizations that are focused on faith, family and spreading God's word to the world.

Mrs. Dobson is also an author. She and Gloria Gaither have co-authored a four-book series for families. The books are focused squarely on faith and the family and how those two should always go hand-in-hand. Shirley and her daughter also wrote a book together titled, *Welcome to Our Table*.

Shirley Dobson is the wife of psychologist and author, Dr. James Dobson, founder of Family Talk. She and her husband reside in Colorado Springs, Colorado and have two grown children, Danae and Ryan. They also are proud grandparents of two grandchildren.

It is my privilege to honor such a fine person as Shirley Dobson and to recognize her contributions to faith and family in America and especially her tremendous work with the National Day of Prayer.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF AURORA,
COLORADO

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my hometown of Aurora, Colorado on its 125th birthday.

Aurora has been a center of rich history throughout its 125 years as a city.

In the year 1866, on the heels of the gold rush, a man named Thomas Gully and his family decided to settle into a quiet ranching and farming life in what is now the city center of Aurora.

Less than 30 years later, thirty-six Aurorans voted to incorporate Aurora, then known as Fletcher, and it was officially formed on April 30, 1891. Throughout the years, Aurora has transformed from the Gully's quiet ranching and farming community to the bustling urban metropolis we see today.

From humble beginnings, Aurora has grown to be the 3rd largest city in Colorado with a rich and ethnically diverse population.

Aurora continues to thrive and grow, with a number of new construction and redevelopment projects already in motion. New businesses and residences, revitalized community centers, and even new light rail expansion all mark the 125th anniversary of the city of Aurora.

Even in the face of this advancement, the Gully House, believed to be the oldest structure in Aurora, still stands as a symbol of our

humble past and a reminder of the progress we have made together as a city.

So, in recognition of our past, present, and future, Happy Birthday, Aurora, and I look forward to celebrating many more.