

Reverend Dr. Steve Bland Jr. has made on the congregation of Liberty Temple Baptist Church as its pastor for the last ten years and the larger impact he has made on the communities around him. I wish Dr. Bland, his family, and the congregants of Liberty Temple many more blessed years of spiritual fellowship.

HONORING THE OPENING OF THE  
ULSTER COUNTY PATRIOTS  
PROJECT

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the opening of the Ulster County Patriots Project in Kingston, New York. The Patriots Project, which will open on July 2, addresses an issue that plagues many of our veterans, including many in my district—homelessness. Once open, the Patriots Project will provide eight clean and safe rooms, two of which will be handicap-accessible, for Ulster County homeless veterans as they work through the many challenges confronting our veteran population.

I also rise today to thank Ulster County Executive Mike Hein and all the leaders from across Ulster County who made the Patriots Project a reality. I was honored to join with leaders from across the region who wrote letters of support and leveraged a variety of governmental programs to fund the program. Moreover, Mike, his team, and volunteers from across my district donated their time, resources, and expertise to ensure that this noble project came to fruition. On behalf of the people of New York's 19th Congressional District, I thank them.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREERS OF  
ALLAN AND JILL ROSS

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the noteworthy careers of Allan and Jill Ross, of the Quad Cities.

The Ross' married in 1973 and both joined the U.S. Army that year. Allan, a veteran of 20 years, retired in 1994 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He served domestically and abroad, ending his military service at the Rock Island Arsenal. Following his career in the Army, Allan worked in commercial real estate, investments, and internet sales, and he has been serving as the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities since 2002, an organization that addresses the needs of its community in a wide range of issues.

Jill, served as an Army Personnel Specialist and Team Leader, and rose to the rank of Sergeant. She later worked for the Army library system in Germany, managing three libraries. Following her time in the military, Jill manages and owns Jill Ross Vintage Clothes, which she has done successfully since 1983. Jill has also been a very active member of the Jewish community, which include volunteer work for the Tri-City Jewish Center, the Beth Israel Sisterhood and the Jewish Federation.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank the Ross' for their years of dedicated service to our country and community. Allan Ross and his wife Jill have been, and continue to be, invaluable members of the community, and I am again delighted to recognize their achievements and pleased to know that people like them are contributing to our society.

EASTCHESTER 350TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, our young nation includes many communities that are older than America itself. I am pleased to recognize one of those communities, the Town of Eastchester, as it celebrates its 350th Anniversary.

Eastchester is truly a town steeped in history. A number of America's famed daughters and sons have a connection to Eastchester, including Anne Hutchinson, Aaron Burr, and John Adams.

Eastchester's origins can be traced back to Thomas Pell, who sold his land to original ten farm families migrated from Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1664. The Pell Deed, signed on June 24, of that year, verifies the sale and serves as proof of the Town's founding.

The Eastchester Covenant, signed in 1665, outlines a civil code of conduct agreed upon by the first families. The spirit of their Covenant lives today; neighbors help neighbors, friends show their concern for others, and volunteers work together to ensure the community continues to thrive.

Governor Richard Nicolls, acting as the colonial agent on behalf of James, Duke of York, signed the Royal Patent, or Land Grant, of 1666, which established the initial town boundaries. Three of the original ten farmers—Philip Pinckney, James Everts and William Haiden—were named in this document.

Two other documents—the Indian Deed of 1700 and the Long Reach Patent of 1708—enabled the fledgling community to continue to grow. The Long Reach Patent, in particular, transferred over 3,000 acres of land to Eastchester from Queen Anne. Much of that land is included within the borders of modern Eastchester.

Eastchester is now a thriving, suburban community nestled within Westchester County. Residents of Eastchester, along with the incorporated Villages of Tuckahoe and Bronxville, are celebrating the Town's founding with a year-long celebration honoring Eastchester's storied past.

It is my hope that residents will commemorate the Town of Eastchester's 350 year anniversary with much friendship and joy, as they work together to build an even stronger future.

It has been a pleasure to represent this historic Town in Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MICHIGAN  
POLICE OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women of the Michigan law enforcement community who were recently awarded the 2014 Police Officers of the Year award by the Police Officer Association of Michigan (POAM), which represents over 14,000 frontline officers across the state. As part of the 47th annual POAM convention that was held on May 22, 2014 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, five officers were recognized for recent heroic actions and dedication to their work.

I would first like to honor Southfield Police Officer Nicholas Smiscik who, on New Year's Day 2013, bravely pursued an armed carjacker who shot and injured two people in Redford Township.

Officer Smiscik subdued the dangerous suspect and placed him under arrest. During his acceptance speech at the POAM convention Officer Smiscik stated that he was simply "doing his job." I want to thank him for his service and for risking his life to keep our communities safe. I am honored to have him as a constituent in my District.

I would also like to recognize Crawford County Officers Matthew Swope and Michael Jacobi, who were honored as Police Officers of the Year for putting their lives on the line while apprehending a dangerous individual who was deemed a proven threat to the community.

In addition, Grand Blanc Officers Andrea Carlson and Lindsay Witthuhn were honored with the 2014 Police Officers of the Year award for acting with great bravery and discipline when responding to a domestic disturbance and preventing a far more tragic outcome.

Mr. Speaker, as a long-time friend, supporter and ally of the Michigan law enforcement community, I am proud to recognize the commitment of Michigan's police officers and the sacrifices they and their families make each and every day. Like Officer Smiscik, they will say they are just doing their job, but their dedication and bravery in the line of duty make our communities safe and enjoyable places to live.

It is a great honor to represent these heroic men and women and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating all five Michigan officers on receiving this award.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE DECALOGUE SOCIETY

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, which this year celebrates its 80th anniversary.

Founded in 1934 to fight anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance,

the Decalogue Society has a proud record of achievement. It is the oldest Jewish Bar Association in the United States, representing the values and concerns of the Jewish community while working to protect the rights and privileges of all Americans. The Decalogue Society strives to promote justice in society and to advance and improve the law, the administration of justice, and the legal profession.

All of us are proud to be a nation of laws, and we strive to ensure that "equal justice under the law" is not just a motto but a reality. The Decalogue Society recognizes that lawyers play an essential role in maintaining a free society committed to equal justice. It works to ensure that we as a nation understand and value the role of the legal profession in reaching that goal, even as its lawyers participate in social action and cooperate in diverse movements for the public welfare.

The Decalogue Society maintains vigilance against public and private practices which are anti-social, discriminatory, anti-Semitic or oppressive and joins with other groups and minorities to protect legal rights and privileges. The Decalogue Society's active Social Action Committee has organized volunteers for "Mitzvah" projects at soup kitchens, food pantries, and retirement residences. With a strong commitment to public welfare and human rights, the Decalogue Society, in conjunction with other minority bar associations, has raised awareness about special situations in the courts and in the workplace that present challenges for people of various faiths.

Access to competent legal representation is an essential ingredient for making sure that the laws of the land are just and fairly enforced. The Decalogue Society provides free continuing legal education to assist members and non-members alike in becoming better informed lawyers. It extends critical educational and financial support to those lawyers who work to end discrimination and represent the rights of the most vulnerable among us. The Decalogue Foundation was created in the 1960s to provide scholarships for deserving law students. It has established nine endowment funds at the Hebrew University Law School and six Chicago-area law schools. It also has a mentorship program for law students and young lawyers to help them network, hone their interviewing skills, and find jobs.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Decalogue Society for its commitment to the ideals of religious freedom and racial tolerance and for its efforts to encourage and assist those women and men who want to pursue future legal careers in public service. Chicago, Illinois and the United States all benefit from its activities and from its commitment to the principles of law and equality.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS  
ENTERING OUR ARMED FORCES

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor high school graduates from the

Broome/Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services area who are entering the U.S. Armed Forces. These young men and women have made an admirable decision to defend our country. I join the Conklin Kiwanis Club and Our Community Salutes of Broome County, New York in honoring them.

The Conklin Kiwanis Club and Our Community Salutes of Broome County, New York will hold a special celebration to honor these graduating high school seniors. "The First to Say Thank You" event will take place on Tuesday, June 10th at Windsor Central High School in Windsor, New York.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you join me in honoring the following students entering the New York State Army National Guard: Ms. Lynn Lyons, Candor; Mr. Victor Beecher, Whitney Point; Mr. Ryan Burch, Susquehanna Valley; Mr. Jordan Little, Binghamton.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Air Force: Ms. Alisha Hubbard, Afton; Ms. Alexis Delgado, Binghamton; Mr. Zachary Hunt, Harpursville; Mr. John Armitage, Union-Endicott.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Army: Mr. Gerald Hastings, Binghamton; Mr. Joshua Williams, Chenango Valley; Ms. Sarah Carpinelli, Owego-Apalachin; Mr. Kristofer Colley, Susquehanna Valley; Ms. Leah Fuller, Union-Endicott; Mr. Trevor Hampton, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Marines: Mr. Dylan Chisolm, Binghamton; Mr. Brandon Davis, Binghamton; Mr. David Contento, Cortland; Mr. Scott Gregory, Harpursville; Mr. Jacob Norton, Homer; Mr. Brandon Miller, Homer; Ms. Kayla Lainhart, Johnson City; Mr. Jackson Beukema, Maine-Endwell; Mr. Timothy Lasher, Maine-Endwell; Mr. Gavin Gates, Marathon; Mr. Brett Kunze, Newark Valley; Ms. Victoria Young, Owego-Apalachin; Mr. Damien Travis, Tioga; Mr. Troy Harding, Vestal; Mr. Nicholes Clark, Whitney Point; Mr. Brendan Smith, Windsor; Mr. Vincent Mathers, Windsor; Mr. Austin Orshal, Windsor; Ms. Helen Kilbury, Windsor; Mr. Trevor Hawk, Windsor; Mr. Noah Jones, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the U.S. Navy: Mr. Logan Dietzman, Harpursville; Mr. Christian Moretz, Harpursville; Mr. Benjamin Shultis, Homer; Mr. Brett Rozelle, Maine-Endwell; Ms. Heather Carpinelli, Owego-Apalachin; Mr. Nathan Garris, Union-Endicott; Mr. Brandon Piech, Whitney Point.

HONORING U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY  
BOUND STUDENTS—CLASS OF 2018

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2014*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a tremendous honor to rise today to recognize the 24 young men and women of the Third District of Texas who have been nominated and appointed to the prestigious United States Service Academies. These brave students will commit to diligently study and rigorously train to become our nation's defenders and protectors. North Texas is home to some of our nation's best and brightest students and I look forward to their future successes.

Throughout high school, these individuals have devoted their time to both athletic and educational ventures, while contributing to their communities. They have excelled both in and out of the classroom. Bottom line is they are the cream of the crop. I have no doubt they will continue this level of excellence as they protect and preserve the freedoms we all hold dear. It is with great pride that I look at these young men and women. It is people like them who give me great hope that our nation's best days are ahead.

I humbly take this opportunity to challenge these exemplary students to uphold the standard of honor, sacrifice, duty, and courage that have been displayed time and time again by our troops and veterans. These students will receive a world-class education and the finest military training available. I'm confident that they are ready to join the premier military force of the world.

May we keep these young students and their families in our hearts and lift them up in prayer for their commitment to America and the sacrifices they are willing to make for our citizens. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and celebrating these individuals as they embark on a lifetime of service. God bless you and God bless America. I salute them.

The name and high school of each student follows:

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVICE  
ACADEMY APPOINTEES—CLASS OF 2018

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

Andre Bergstein, Plano East Senior High School  
Blake William Box, Plano West Senior High School  
Taylor Chambers, Plano Senior High School  
Timothy Johnson, McKinney Boyd High School  
Jonathan Lara, Plano Senior High School  
Kenneth Nead, Centennial High School  
\*Jesse Palmer, Plano West Senior High School

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Natasha Blaskovich, McKinney North High School  
Collin Charles, Heritage High School  
Brock Crawford, Legacy Christian Academy  
Julie Hodges, Allen High School  
Erin Hoppe, McKinney High School  
Curtis Ladd, McKinney Boyd High School  
Jamie Lewis, Plano West Senior High School  
Drew Morgan, Pecan Orchard Academy  
Samuel Schell, Plano West Senior High School  
\*John Carver, Wakeland High School  
\*Emily Krupka, Plano West Senior High School

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

Brock Dudley, Plano West Senior High School  
Jessica Martinez, Ursuline Academy of Dallas  
Simic Tuan, Plano East Senior High School  
Christopher Turner, Liberty High School  
\*Connor Doyle, McKinney Christian Academy

U.S. MERCHANT MARINE

Clayton Foster, Canterbury Episcopal School  
\*Denotes acceptance to one of the academy preparatory schools