

and devotes a significant amount of her time running Nebraska Troop Support and Share Our Dream.

Through Nebraska Troop Support, Beth assembles care packages for our soldiers, veterans and their families. She solicits small donations and gifts which are sent in about 40 care packages each month to let all of our servicemembers know how much their sacrifice is appreciated.

Share Our Dream, also run by Beth, has benefitted more than 1600 Nebraskans with small gifts such as cookies, flowers, and short notes to lift the spirit of someone in need. While most of the costs have been paid by Beth, the organization has made it possible for local businesses and citizens to donate small items to help their neighbors. These small gestures not only bring smiles, but also renew the spirit of giving in our State.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in honoring Beth Tielke and her selfless work to bring joy to our troops, veterans, military families and all Nebraskans.

TRIBUTE TO DON ARTHUR McGRIFF

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of a beloved and respected Alabaman who passed away on October 2, 2012, at the age of 70. Don McGriff was a devoted public servant and a tireless advocate for safer communities at the state and local level.

Don McGriff was born in Mobile on April 22, 1942. He was a graduate of Murphy High School, the University of South Alabama, and the Jones School of Law at Faulkner University. Don also served his country honorably in the United States Marine Corps.

Active in state and local politics, Don was the Republican Nominee for Alabama Lieutenant Governor against Democrat Jim Folsom, Jr. in 1986. He served as Chairman of the Baldwin County Republican Party and on the Baldwin County School Board.

Don's reputation for fairness also earned him bipartisan respect in Montgomery. In 2004, Governor Bob Riley appointed him to serve on the newly expanded Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles.

His long political career also included runs for State Senate and State Representative in Baldwin County and service as an assistant district attorney.

Don's public service was marked by his unwavering dedication to fighting crime as well as the rehabilitation of those convicted of crimes. Don was a founding board member of We Care Prison Ministries and the Lovelady Center. He was a charter member of the Fairhope Sunset Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I offer condolence to his wife of 46 years, Jeanne Kelly; their son, Kelly; their daughter, Heather; their eight grandchildren and their entire family and many friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO LT. BOBBY PRICE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to honor a great friend, an honorable man and a tireless champion for all veterans, Lt. Bobby Price. Bobby passed away on November 2, 2012 after many years battling cancer.

Throughout his 24 years of active duty service in the U.S. Navy, Bobby demonstrated tremendous zeal for getting the job done. As an advocate for veterans he brought the same zeal towards fighting on behalf of veterans and he never let up. He never gave up. His heart was in it all the way.

Mr. Speaker, I often credit Bobby with informing me of everything I needed to know to fight on behalf of veterans. He spent many, many hours going over everything that needed to be done legislatively, educating me on what veterans have to confront as individuals and how much we owe to them. His ambitious goals really personify what it means to be a champion for veterans. I hope through my work I was able to justify his confidence in me.

Bobby has received scores of awards recognizing his tremendous service throughout his life—including 2007 San Diego County Veteran of the Year. He was President of the nonprofit Chula Vista Veterans Home Support Foundation at the time of his death, having served on the charity's board for six years.

He was active in the VFW and other veteran's organizations locally, statewide, and nationally. Many of my successes on behalf of veterans came about because of Bobby Price's suggestions. He would say: "We got to do this. We got to do that. We can't have this offset. We have to do this!" I listened to every word, most of which we tried to enact. Bobby, I will miss you and I appreciate everything you did every single day.

Bobby is survived by his wife, Julia; his sons, Paul Hoch, Russ Price, Marcus Bush and Adam Price; and daughter Adriana Bush. Another daughter, Jennifer Crane, preceded him in death. He has five grandchildren, with another due soon.

Bobby will be truly missed by all who were touched by his love for life and his passion for his fellow veterans.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. SAVA SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral. I was so pleased to join members, friends and the community on October 7, 2012, to celebrate 100 years of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral as a congregation.

It was also a time to give thanks for the spiritual leadership, generosity, dedication, and the sacrifices made by generations of your faithful members. Your congregation has contributed much to the religious, social, cultural and civic life of this city.

Your hard work and decades of effort culminated in this beautiful Cathedral, St. Sava. It demonstrates to your community and to people of faith throughout our area the dedication by people of faith, to honor their beliefs and holy traditions. I am particularly moved by the timeline of over 40 years to establish the first place of worship until the Cathedral's final completion—from 1912 to 1958. I wondered about this significant period of time and then realized that your grandfathers, fathers, sons, brothers and husbands, all who could serve, indeed did serve our country in two World Wars. It is a sacrifice that must always be honored and remembered; a sacrifice that many American immigrants have made in our history. We are so very proud and grateful to acknowledge this commitment.

You have accomplished much my friends. You have worked in our factories, our breweries, legislatures, schools and medical facilities to advance our city, state and country. We have all found a home at St. Sava Hall that was established by the St. Sava community as a welcoming place for all; it has served as a meeting place for Presidents, Senators, Congressmen, Congresswomen and elected leaders from all levels of government. You have shared in and contributed to the economic and political life of our community.

October 7, 2012, was a day for St. Sava members to celebrate a work well done and to consider the challenges ahead. Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to St. Sava Orthodox Cathedral's 100th Anniversary. I extend my heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for all they have done to enhance the quality of life throughout the Fourth Congressional District. I look forward to the Serbian community's continued involvement and leadership for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL JOHNSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 604 I was unavoidably detained and therefore was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING MS. KAREN THOMAS

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Karen Thomas, a member of the professional staff of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, and to congratulate her on her retirement at the end of this year. Karen has made invaluable contributions to the function of the Subcommittee, and she will be greatly missed by the Members and her colleagues.

During her nearly 40-year tenure in federal government, Karen has served in all three branches: In the Executive Branch for the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Commerce, in the Judiciary for