

HONORING NATHAN WILONDEK

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Nathan Wilondek, of Defiance Ohio. Mr. Wilondek was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross on Monday, November 12 during a Veterans Day program at Tinora High School.

The Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) is a military decoration awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the United States Armed Forces who distinguishes himself or herself in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight, subsequent to November 11, 1918."

Wilondek was a Warrant Office 1 helicopter pilot serving in the Republic of Vietnam. On August 18, 1969, WO1 Wilondek volunteered along with his crew to fly a resupply mission to an infantry company that had become completely surrounded by the NVA. Without gunship cover WO1 Wilondek and his crew (Wallace Honda, Stewart Brooks, and Terry Paxton) flew nap of the earth down a hillside and hovered the UH-1 Huey low enough to drop ammo and supplies to the embattled infantrymen.

The entire time the re-supply was happening the NVA were hitting the helicopter with accurate small arms fire, and WO1 Wilondek's door gunner was unable to return fire because the US troops were too closely intermingled with NVA in close combat. It was determined that without the re-supply effort of WO1 Wilondek and his crew, the infantry unit would have been completely overrun by NVA, instead they survived. Mr. Wilondek is awarded this DFC for his heroism that day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in the acknowledgment of Nathan Wilondek's heroism and recognize his service and dedication to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I missed recorded votes last week attending to official business back in the district. If I had been here, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 609; "yea" on Rollcall No. 610; "yea" on Rollcall No. 611; "nay" on Rollcall No. 612; and "yea" on Rollcall No. 613.

CONGRATULATING MR. LARRY LANG OF HOLMES COUNTY

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Larry Lang of Big Prairie, OH who has spent over twenty years of his life serving the Holmes County community through the Red

Cross, local school boards, Farm Bureau and other programs with outstanding dedication, honor and merit. Mr. Lang is a model citizen and his efforts are truly inspiring. He has been an excellent example and partner in working with the Amish community and his amazing efforts in recruiting platelet donors have saved countless lives.

Mr. Lang's strong relationship with the Amish community in Holmes County has resulted in an Amish representative being present on the Holmes County Chapter board and has led to thousands of hours of volunteer service from the Amish community. Mr. Lang has served as assistant director of the Holmes County Chapter of the American Red Cross and is the recipient of this year's prestigious Biomedical Partnership Award from the American Red Cross for his tremendous efforts resulting in 490 donors, 3600 platelet units and approximately 6100 single donor platelet units. Mr. Lang personally made over 300 trips to support, donate and bring donors to the Cleveland apheresis center.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to represent a man who has worked tirelessly on behalf of others and who has made such a positive and lasting impact on my community. I ask all of our colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Larry Lang for receiving the Biomedical Partnership Award from the American Red Cross.

CARRIE BAZEWCZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Carrie Bazewicz for her service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Carrie brought the Environmental Learning for the Future program to Mitchell Elementary in Golden, Colorado. This program promotes the understanding and appreciation of the natural world to each of the young students. Her commitment to the education of the children in Golden serves as a model for teachers throughout the state of Colorado and our nation.

Carrie exemplifies education and preservation of Golden's beauty. She encourages and empowers her students as an enthusiastic, supportive classroom volunteer.

As a recipient of one of the Mayor of Golden's 2012 Awards for Community Excellence, Carrie was chosen based on her outstanding initiatives, leadership, problem-solving, and community values, all of which directly aided the community of Golden in its great success this past year.

Carrie Bazewicz has been a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate her on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure she will exhibit the same dedication and commitment to all her future endeavors.

HONORING UNITED STATES COAST GUARD VETERANS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor our veterans.

There are no words that can express the gratitude that the American people owe all of the men and women who choose to serve the United States of America in the armed services. We are all humbled by the sacrifice they make—knowingly putting themselves in harm's way while also leaving loved ones behind. This commitment is the mark of America's finest citizens and those who answer to a higher calling. Allow me to honor, from the United States Coast Guard: Sammie Stewart, Jr., Steven Bernard Rising, Omar K. Payton, Shane J. Nicholas, Randy Kevin Jopp, Jr., David R. Hetticher, Andrea Naomi Johnson, Christopher Daniels, William O'Boyle, Jacob G. Bryan, Sandy Guerra, Eric Driggs; from the National Security Agency: Allyn C. McKinney.

Finally, it is not our tanks, weapons or machinery that make the United States Armed Forces the best military in the world. It is our young men and women who serve professionally with honor and distinction. If not for these exemplary citizens, freedom and the American way of life would not be safe and secure. For these sacrifices, we respect and should commend their service everyday of the year. Congress has designated, November 11th 2012 as the official day showing our gratitude.

Please join me in honoring these American heroes for their bravery and sacrifice in defense of this great nation.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION TO CREATE A HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE U.S. CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI, LIBYA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a resolution to establish a House Select Committee on the Terrorist Attack in Benghazi to ensure a unified investigation of the attack and the Obama Administration's response. A select committee is essential to combine the myriad existing investigations into a single, comprehensive and exhaustive review. I believe such a combined effort will yield even more information regarding the true nature of these terrorist attacks and the administration's response.

More than 80 days have passed since the terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate and annex that occurred during the late evening and early morning hours of September 11–12. The attack took the lives of four Americans, including a U.S. ambassador—the first ambassador to be killed in the line of duty since 1979. Yet the American people still have been told little about the timeline of this attack and the administration's response in the hours,