

artist and a passionate advocate for the arts. And David brought valuable experience to the Board as a former English teacher and leader in community and business organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Mr. David Coen for his 18 years of service to Vermont and the nation and for his deep and abiding commitment to public service. Vermonters, and indeed our country, are better off because of his tireless and distinguished service.

HONORING JERRY MANSBACH AS
HE IS AWARDED L'ORDRE NA-
TIONAL DE LA LEGION
D'HONNEUR

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Gerald (Jerry) Mansbach. On November 17, 2013, Jerry will be honored with l'Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur (the National Order of the Legion of Honor) by Honorary Consul Diane Thomas, representing the French Consulate in Chicago.

Created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, the Legion d'honneur is the highest and most prestigious distinction bestowed by the French Republic to celebrate extraordinary contributions to the country. Given solely based on merit, the Legion d'honneur expresses the gratitude of the French people for the bravery of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces who fought to secure France's freedom during the Second World War. It is an honor today to join the French people in expressing my gratitude for the sacrifices of America's troops during the struggle to liberate Western Europe from Nazi Germany, and especially to recognize one of my constituents, Sergeant Jerry Mansbach.

Jerry was born in New York City and moved to the Hoosier State at the age of ten, where he grew up and attended high school in Fort Wayne. While attending Indiana University, Jerry joined the U.S. Army in January of 1943. He defended France in the Battle of the Bulge and participated in the Normandy Invasion as a tank commander under General George Patton. Tragically, all of Jerry's fellow tank crew died in battle but he miraculously survived, though not without injury. For his courage, Jerry was awarded the Silver Star Medal for "gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States." He was also presented with the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Like many members of the Greatest Generation, Jerry came back home again to the Midwest to raise a family and begin a career. He worked for Merrill Lynch for forty years, retiring in 2000, and has four children, three stepchildren, and seven grandchildren. Jerry currently resides in Carmel, Indiana, with his wife Shirley. I am proud that such an exceptional Hoosier calls my District home.

Jerry Mansbach is a patriot and a hero. Along with the Honorary Consul and the French people, I am honored to recognize his sacrifices and bravery during the Second World War today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 574 I was unable to be present for the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CONGRATULATING ERIC
LARRABEE AS HE CELEBRATES
HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an extraordinary milestone of Durham resident Eric Larrabee, as he celebrates his 50th birthday today, November 14, 2013.

A fourth generation Californian, Eric is an active member in the communities of Butte City, Chico and Durham. Eric and his wife, Treasa, are busy raising their twin daughters—Abigail and Jillian—in Durham, while simultaneously running a thriving agricultural operation and giving back to the communities he works and lives through volunteer efforts and serving on boards.

Eric currently serves on the boards of the Association of California Water Agencies, as a trustee to the Enloe Medical Center, and a director at Western Canal Water District. He has also served on the Glenn Country Farm Services Agency County Commission, California Rice Research Board, Levee District Three, Butte City Volunteer Fire Department, and the Glenn County Planning Commission.

Eric is also owner and partner of Larrabee Farms in Butte City, where he works alongside two of his brothers growing rice, pecans, walnuts and various row crops. Farming has been a part of Eric's entire life, being born in Chico and raised on a family farm his great grandfather originally started in 1918 in Clarks Valley in western Glenn County of the California coastal range.

Eric enjoys spending time with his family, skiing in the winter, hunting and fishing throughout the year and enjoying the beautiful landscapes all of Northern California has to offer. As a proud father and husband, family is a strong part of his character. His dedication to community service, family and a life in farming is to be commended.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Eric on this special day, November 14, 2013, and in wishing him a Happy 50th Birthday. May he have many, many more.

HONORING JAMES HAWKINS OF
MOHAWK, N.Y. FOR VOLUN-
TEERING/BEING A LEUKEMIA
SURVIVOR

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Hawkins of Mohawk, New York. James is a leukemia survivor. For years he has selflessly provided support to local blood cancer patients through volunteering with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, an organization dedicated to the mission of curing blood cancer.

James has worked to support blood cancer patients through public education/awareness events, public advocacy, and personally speaking with many newly diagnosed blood cancer patients each year. The positive impact he has had on these patients is immeasurable. James' dedication to this cause can be seen in his work with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, where he volunteers in the patient services department and fundraises for the organization to advance their goal of curing blood cancer.

The work James has done with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is particularly inspirational. The society has invested almost \$1 billion in research, contributing to the development of life-saving drugs, and is making great strides in its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Since 1963, myeloma survival rates have more than tripled. Lymphoma survival rates have more than doubled. Leukemia survival rates have more than quadrupled.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending James Hawkins for his hard work with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and his efforts to make a difference in the lives of blood cancer patients in Upstate New York and Vermont.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. ANNIE JANE
(BLAKELY) JACKSON CENTEN-
NIAL CELEBRATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Annie Jane (Blakely) Jackson who will celebrate her 100th Birthday on Monday, November 18, 2013. The community will join with Annie J. Jackson to celebrate her centennial on Saturday, November 16, 2013.

Mrs. Jackson was born November 18, 1913 in Hopten, Alabama, was raised in Adamsville, Alabama and moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1945. She found work at the Cudahy Meat Packing Company and was also employed at the Veteran Hospital for two years. She later found employment with the American Can Company where she worked for twenty-three years prior to her retirement from the company in September, 1976.

Mrs. Jackson was married to the late Junior Lee Jackson for 32 years. Junior Lee Jackson was the owner of Party House Tavern for