

the skills and the training necessary to strengthen the future of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the 23rd District of Texas.

Palo Alto College was officially chartered by the State of Texas in 1983. Two years later, in 1985, it began offering its first classes, and since then, Palo Alto has quickly grown with the city of San Antonio.

In 1991, because of its deep roots in the Hispanic community and its dedication to helping Hispanic families overcome common barriers to higher education, Palo Alto College was named a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the Federal Government.

Today, Palo Alto College serves over 8,000 students and offers 95 relevant academic programs that move the country forward. Programs include criminal justice and aviation technology, among many others. It also works very closely with employers like Toyota to be sure that its students are receiving cutting-edge training. In ensuring the college can meet the demands of Texas' energy production, it also offers programs in oil and gas technology.

It is ably led by Dr. Mike Flores who, prior to assuming the presidency, had worked his way up through each of the three vice president positions at Palo Alto, and he has served the Palo Alto community for over 19 years.

Where others have provided lip service, Palo Alto College has found success. With a firm understanding of the promise that our Nation has made to its veterans, Palo Alto College is committed to ensuring higher education remains accessible to veterans and Active Duty servicemen and service-women alike.

Palo Alto College has been listed among the top 20 percent of schools that support veteran education. It has an incredible network of people and resources available to serve veterans. I thank Palo Alto College for the work that they do with our veterans and the Active Duty military. It really is very impressive.

Palo Alto college also plays a fundamental role in the success of many individuals in our community, and its impact will be seen for many generations. Whether it's providing a second chance to nontraditional students through its GED programs or whether it is preparing students for the next level of education, Palo Alto College is there. It is there to meet the needs of the community and to help families achieve prosperity in the American Dream.

I congratulate Palo Alto College on its upcoming birthday—30 years of educational excellence—and I thank them for their continued commitment to ensure education remains accessible. Their mission to provide relevant and needed educational opportunities is admirable.

I look forward to seeing the many successes of those who pass through the doors of Palo Alto College.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT JIMMY MILLS HARGROVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, it is a special and high honor to be in this Chamber of the people's House to honor, to remember, and to pay respectful tribute to a most remarkable American, a true patriot, and one of the finest marines I have ever known, Master Gunnery Sergeant Jimmy Hargrove. He was a dear friend of mine and my family.

Jimmy was enlisted. He was an enlisted marine. This is my father, Ike; he is also an enlisted marine. He is doing great at the age of 91. He is an Iwo Jima veteran. There is something about enlisted marines, when we meet each other, we often ask, "Are you a Parris Island marine?" I was.

If you are a Parris Island marine, you usually give the other alternative, which is this. You say, "Or are you a Hollywood marine?" That is, did you go through boot camp in San Diego?

Well, that question applies to virtually all enlisted marines, but there are some whom that question really doesn't apply to because the answer is neither Parris Island nor San Diego, but it is a different place they went to boot camp, Montford Point, North Carolina.

From 1942 to 1949, 20,000 young African American men, young Black men from across our country like Jimmy, didn't go to Parris Island or San Diego. He went to Montford Point, and that is where he endured the training that defines, shapes, and molds young men and women now into marines—fully segregated units.

These marines have gone on to fight in our Nation's battles. Jimmy, for example, fought in Korea and then Vietnam. Some have been grievously wounded. Many gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation.

It was fitting and proper, Mr. Speaker, when in 2012 this body and the Senate unanimously passed legislation which President Obama then signed into law which gave to all Montford Point marines, all surviving Montford Point marines, the Congressional Gold Medal. It was a privilege to be at that ceremony. Jimmy took great pride in this, and he was there as well with his family and his wife, Cheryl.

There is no question, Mr. Speaker, that we are a better, stronger, and safer America because of our Montford Point marines, and we are a better, safer, and stronger America because of the life of Jimmy Hargrove.

This picture from 2013 at the Marine Corps ball is one of my favorite pictures. It shows the bond between two marines, really one generation to the next. I consider it an honor to pay tribute to him today.

Yesterday, Jimmy was laid to rest in Arlington. It is fitting that he is there in Arlington in eternal rest. What I

really remember about Jimmy and think about is—it is not pictured in this picture, but his smile, Jimmy's smile. He was always so optimistic, and though he knew the bitter fruit of segregation, he, himself, was not bitter.

He was fully optimistic about our Nation, and he fought for our Nation even after his retirement. He engaged in shaping public policy and shaping the way our country is headed. I deeply respect him for this. He did not yield to apathy's seductive call, but he chose to continue to fight for his country.

We marines are a proud lot. It is even embedded in our Marines' Hymn. The last verse is:

If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded
By United States Marines.

I think of Jimmy as still being on duty and in Heaven as well. He was a man of deep faith, and so I would say to my friend, in respect for his life and his service to our country, "Master Gunnery Sergeant Hargrove, mission accomplished. Job well done, marine. Semper Fidelis. Semper Fi."

May God grant eternal rest to this fine American, and may God also provide a special measure of comfort and grace to his wife, Cheryl, and their entire family.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 78. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Alameda Road in Houston, Texas, as the "George Thomas 'Mickey' Leland Post Office Building".

H.R. 1707. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the "James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 2112. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the "National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 2223. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the "Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building".

H.R. 2678. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10360 Southwest 186th Street in Miami, Florida, as the "Larcenia J. Bullard Post Office Building".

H.R. 3534. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the "Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 4939. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2551 Galena Avenue in Simi Valley, California, as the "Neil Havens Post Office".

H.R. 5030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13500 SW 250 Street in Princeton, Florida, as the "Corporal Christian A. Guzman Rivera Post Office Building".