

Mexican physician assigned to the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General at the Pentagon, a position that allowed him to work directly with the White House physician. Following his promotion to the rank of colonel, Medical Corps, Dr. Garcia served as dean of the U.S. Army School of Aviation at Fort Rucker in Alabama. Dr. Garcia has been the first and only Hispanic to occupy this post. Additionally, Dr. Garcia served as chief training supervisor for the VA hospital in Houston, Texas, certified NASA flight surgeon supporting Space Shuttle landings at two primary landing sites, and as a medical consultant to the Texas Department of Corrections for inmates on death row. Dr. Garcia was also integral to the U.S. Army's adoption of research and clinical hyperbaric medicine.

After 20 years of distinguished service, Dr. Garcia transferred to Reserve duty in 1989. In 1990 he married Yolanda Davila and settled in Laredo where he continued to practice medicine and be an active member of the community until his passing. Dr. Garcia served as medical director of Charter Hospital of Laredo, CEO and medical director of St. Joseph's Psychiatric Day Treatment Center and Laredo Drug Detection Services, medical director of Casa Amistad/San Antonio State Hospital, senior psychiatrist of Border Region MHMR, and clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. This beloved family man and talented doctor will be dearly missed and forever remembered for his faith, altruism, optimism, patriotism, and wisdom.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the legacy of Colonel (Retired) Jose Gerardo Garcia, M.D. His exemplary service to this country and the people of Laredo will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOSE WHO MADE THE APPOMATTOX SESQUICENTENNIAL A SUCCESS

**HON. ROBERT HURT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 16, 2015*

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Representative BOB GOODLATTE, I submit these remarks to recognize and thank those who worked tirelessly to make the week-long Appomattox Sesquicentennial commemoration such a major success.

After years of preparation, the National Park Service, with the support of Appomattox County leaders and hundreds of Central Virginia volunteers, did an outstanding job hosting the thousands of Americans who came to commemorate the Civil War Sesquicentennial this past week at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. It was estimated that approximately 3,600 re-enactors took part and 25,000 individuals came to Appomattox Court House National Park throughout the week to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the meeting of Generals Lee and Grant which put an end to the Civil War and the nearly ninety events that preceded it. The hard work, effort, and organization executed by Appomattox County local businesses, vendors, and volunteers was observed by all and made for an especially memorable event of this momentous turning point in our nation's history.

I was pleased to be able to attend the moving and dignified opening ceremony and was impressed at the manner in which the National Park Service went above and beyond to ensure that the American people had the opportunity to pay tribute to those who re-united our country 150 years ago. Please join me in thanking all those who worked tirelessly to make this remembrance possible.

RECOGNIZING AIR ZOO

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 16, 2015*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nationally renowned Air Zoo in Kalamazoo, Michigan, which is hosting the 2015 Science Innovation Hall of Fame Awards on April 18, 2015.

It is only fitting that the Air Zoo is the setting for this gala event to recognize the transformative work of top Southwest Michigan students and teachers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics as well as residents who have advanced the area of aviation. The Air Zoo was founded in 1977 as the Kalamazoo Aviation History Museum by Suzanne and Pete Parish, who wanted to share their enthusiasm for World War II airplanes and artifacts. Scientific affiliations grew to include the Smithsonian Institution and the Michigan Space Science Center, which allows visitors to experience some of the challenges astronauts face during their training. Full-motion flight simulators, 3-D and 4-D theaters, and interactive exhibits—including one about women in aviation and space—provided adventure little seen in regular museums.

Education is tucked inside a fun setting as evidenced by the Air Zoo being named as the "Best Place to Spend a Day with Your Family" and "Best Place to Take out-of-Towners" for the past three years by the more than 130,000 visitors it has touching down at its doors each year.

Mr. Speaker, many have wondered how the facility got its name. As the collection of airplanes grew, so did the number of animal names: Wildcat, Hellcat, Bearcat and Flying Tiger. Obviously, these flying critters can only be contained in an Air Zoo.

Recently the Air Zoo was recognized as one of the jewels in the crown of the state by receiving a grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs to keep this state-of-the-art air and space museum on its mission of preserving the legacy of flight. I am proud to recognize the many accomplishments of the Air Zoo by the people who work there and wish them much success in the future.

HONORING ROBERT HILL YOUTH FOUNDATION, INC.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 16, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Robert Hill Youth Foundation, Inc., Charleston, MS inside of Tallahatchie County, MS.

The Robert Hill Youth Foundation, Inc. began in the early 1980's by Mr. Robert Hill. It was initially conceived with the idea of simply being a sports organization for youth focusing on baseball. The organization eventually ceased being active after the death of Mr. Hill in 1991.

In the year 2000, Mr. Cedric Terry revived the organization because the youth in the community didn't have many options for constructive activities and adult mentoring. He took on the task of recruiting children and parent's involvement. Mr. Terry was successful by getting 9 boys excited about playing baseball for the summer and competing. Their team would travel and they would be role models for other youth. Everyone had to pledge to abide by the rules, get good grades in school, and participate in an award ceremony at the end of the season.

Mr. Terry's vision was just what the youth in the community needed to take the Robert Hill Youth Foundation to the next level. It was just what Mr. Hill always wanted the organization to be. The organization grew and became a huge success serving over 10,000 boys and girls. The effort was so well received that it attracted youth not just inside Charleston, but they came from miles outside the area. It now has extended its activities to include education, recreation and arts for youth in the area.

Through their education program they offer: Abstinence Education, After School Tutoring, and Fatherhood Preparation. Their recreation program offers: basketball, football, baseball and track. The arts program includes: praise dancing, dancing and acting classes. Since 2000 through 2015 the organization has been responsible for helping over 500 boys and girls in the area attend and receive a college education.

Their accolades are just as impressive. In fact, there are too many to name them all. A few of them include constructing the first park in Charleston in order to be home based for the youth. All they had to do was walk to the park and "Play ball!" Thanks to the Robert Hill Youth Foundation their work has reached all comers of youth life. In 2011 the Charleston High School Tigers Football Team won its 1st State Football Championship. Almost ninety percent of the players came from the Robert Hill Youth Foundation. In 2012 the Charleston High School Lady Tigers Basketball Team was the runner up in the Girls Basketball State Tournament. And over ninety-five percent of the girls played for the Robert Hill Youth Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today, in recognizing the Robert Hill Youth Foundation, an asset to Tallahatchie County in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING PETER AND MAUREEN JANELLE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND SERVICES

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 16, 2015*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, for the last 35 years both Peter & Maureen Janelle have