

on that day near Soissons, France “. . . he crawled alone into an enemy trench for the purpose of capturing or killing enemy soldiers . . . He killed 4 of the men and took the remaining 4 men prisoners.” While taking them to the rear, an artillery shell shattered one of Edwards’ legs. For his actions that day, Pfc. Edwards received the Medal of Honor.

David E. Hayden was born in Florence, Texas. He served as a Hospital Apprentice First Class in the U.S. Navy serving with the Marines. On September 15th, 1918, near Thiaucourt, France his brave actions earned him the Medal of Honor. His citation reads, “During the advance, when [his comrade in arms] was mortally wounded while crossing an open field swept by machinegun fire, Hayden unhesitatingly ran to his assistance and, finding him so severely wounded as to require immediate attention, disregarded his own personal safety to dress the wound under intense machinegun fire, and then carried the wounded man back to a place of safety.”

Samuel M. Sampler was born in Decatur, Texas. On October 8, 1918, near St. Etienne, France, the young U.S. Army Corporal became the third Texan in WWI to earn the Medal of Honor. When his company suffered severe casualties during an advance under machinegun fire, “Cpl. Sampler detected the position of the enemy machineguns . . . Armed with German handgrenades, which he had picked up, he left the line and rushed forward in the face of heavy fire until he was near the hostile nest, where he grenaded the position. His third grenade landed among the enemy, killing 2, silencing the machineguns, and causing the surrender of 28 Germans, who he sent to the rear as prisoners. As a result of his act the company was immediately enabled to resume the advance.”

These three Texans who earned the Medal of Honor were among the ones who survived the war.

A fourth Texan also earned the Medal of Honor during WWI, but gave his life during the actions for which he earned the medal posthumously.

David B. Barkley, of Hispanic descent, was born in 1899 in Laredo, Texas. His father was in the U.S. Army and his mother was a Mexican-American native of South Texas.

David enlisted in the Army before his 18th birthday. Not long after, he was sent to the frontlines in France. On November 9, 1918, Private Barkley’s actions went above and beyond the call of duty.

His Medal of Honor citation reads:

“When information was desired as to the enemy’s position on the opposite side of the Meuse River, Pvt. Barkley, with another soldier, volunteered without hesitation and swam the river to reconnoiter the exact location. He succeeded in reaching the opposite bank, despite the evident determination of the enemy to prevent a crossing. Having obtained his information, he again entered the water for his return, but before his goal was reached, he was seized with cramps and drowned.”

David Barkley’s body was not returned home until 1921. His body was laid in state at the Alamo, “The Cradle of Texas Freedom,” making him the second person to ever receive that honor, and then buried in San Antonio National Cemetery.

His brave actions were acknowledged at home and abroad. He received medals from France and Italy; an elementary school in San

Antonio was named in his honor; and, in 1941, Camp Barkley, a WWII Army installation, was named after him.

In 1989, the Army recognized Private Barkley as the first Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient.

Private Barkley, and the other Medal of Honor recipients from Texas, proudly served their state and country during the First World War, and they will forever be remembered for their brave actions.

100 years later we still remember the Texas boys of WWI, those that served and returned, those that served and returned with the wounds of war, and those that served and did not return.

And that’s just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING FRANCIS HOWELL NORTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS PLACEMENT IN THE TOP 25 MISSOURI RANKED HIGH SCHOOLS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Francis Howell North High School for its placement in the top 25 Missouri high schools as ranked by U.S. News and World Report.

This school’s administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Francis Howell North High School for a job well done.

2015 PRINCE WILLIAM CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Education and Innovation Committee of the Prince William Chamber and to recognize the scholastic achievements of the 2015 Prince William Chamber Scholarship Program winners. Focused on educating the workforce of today and tomorrow, the Prince William Chamber seeks to highlight the talents and achievements of high school seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to both academic success and community involvement. This year’s scholarship recipients are nothing short of exceptional and for that I wish to recognize the following individuals:

Matthew Critchley, Forest Park High School
Casey Peschka, Woodbridge Senior High School

Ann Stapor, C.D. Hylton High School

Matthew Critchley is a lifelong resident of Dumfries, Virginia. Given his deep roots in the community, Matthew has expressed a particular interest in the history and legacy of the Town of Dumfries. Currently he serves on the town’s Parks and Recreation Commission and volunteers at the Weems-Botts Museum

where he researches family genealogy, coordinates special events, and participates in Civil War reenactments. Matthew is a diligent student and boasts a superior academic record. Upon graduation from Forest Park High School, Matthew will be the first in his family to go to college. He will attend Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall, majoring in Criminal Justice.

Casey Peschka attends Woodbridge Senior High School and is a member of the Advanced Placement Scholars, National Honor Society, Viking Norsemen Community Service Club, and Student Activities Council. He serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper, The Valkyrie, and as Team Captain of the Varsity Boys’ Lacrosse Team. One of Casey’s most notable achievements is serving as co-founder of “El Fuego” or “The Fire,” a recreational soccer team that raises funds for ACTS to help combat hunger and poverty in the local community. In college, Casey will major in Biology and Organic Chemistry and plans to pursue a career in medicine as an Oncologist.

Anna Stapor will graduate as valedictorian from C.D. Hylton High School in June. Anna’s teachers characterize her as an “exception among the exceptional.” With an extensive list of academic achievements, Anna won First Place in the Prince William Youth Salute and was named an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the French Honor Society, and is also a recipient of the Presidents Volunteer Service Award. Throughout her high school career, Anna has participated in a number of clubs and organizations; among them, Virginia Girls State, National Council on Youth Leadership, Prince William Model United Nations, and AIU High School Diplomats. Anna was the Captain of Hylton’s Varsity Field Hockey and Lacrosse Team, receiving the following honors: Most Valuable Player, The Coaches Award, and Honorable Mention for All Conference Field Hockey Defender. In the fall, Anna will attend Virginia Tech and major in Industrial Design to design products to benefit poverty-stricken communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the 2015 Prince William Chamber Scholarship recipients for their achievements both in and out of the classroom and in thanking the Prince William Chamber of Commerce for their support of educational excellence.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY GRAVLIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Miss Emily Gravlin of Creston, Iowa, for winning a State Championship at the Iowa High School Rodeo State Finals on June 5th, 2015. Emily is the daughter of Michelle and Wayne Hanson and David Gravlin Sr.

Emily placed first in barrel racing after a successful season at various rodeos throughout Iowa. Her victory is the culmination of many years of hard work, training, and competing. She has qualified for the 67th National