delegates to the Constitutional Convention completed their arduous work and signed the document designed to restore liberty to the citizens of a new nation.

The American Republic was born out of a struggle against British tyranny and a monarchical system that our forefathers deemed incompatible with the rights of free men and women. Consistent with the principles espoused by the Spirit of '76 and enshrined in the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution was not imposed on the people. It was humbly submitted to the people for their approval.

A great national debate followed. If the people were to judge the Constitution, they were expected to understand the Constitution. The Federalist Papers, a series of 85 essays written by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison, responded to Antifederalist critics by serving as an invaluable guide to the Constitution's provisions. Their arguments proved decisive and, eventually, the requisite number of states ratified the Constitution. Education was integral to the Constitution's ratification.

At a time when the globe was dominated by kingdoms and empires, a skeptical world believed that a republic devoted to the ancient cause of liberty would inevitably fail. But the test of time has proven the wisdom, effectiveness, and durability of our great charter.

It has guaranteed our natural rights and preserved our cherished liberties.

It has inspired foreign peoples shackled by tyranny to seek to replicate what the Americans have accomplished.

It has resisted the waves of totalitarian ideologies that claimed human liberty to be a relic of antiquity.

On Constitution Day, Americans follow in the footsteps of the Founders, not only by recommitting ourselves to the Constitution's enlightened provisions, but also by accepting the duty to provide the education necessary for the survival of a free people.

I commend all those that take the opportunity this day provides to promote the American ideals of human liberty and renew our commitment to the preservation of the Constitution of the United States.

RECOGNIZING MISSOURI PRESS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DOUG CREWS ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Doug Crews for his 36 years of service to the Missouri Press Association.

Since 1990, Doug has led the Missouri Press Association as Executive Director. His service has been dedicated to promoting open government, in particular by advocating for the protection of state and federal Sunshine Laws. In addition, Doug has advocated on behalf of 75 North American press associations as President of the Newspaper Association Managers.

Doug's leadership has extended beyond the press community. A graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Doug served as President of the Mizzou Alumni Association and the State Historical Society of Missouri.

This February, Doug will join his wife Tricia in retirement. He can do so with great pride, knowing that in the span of his career he has accomplished so much and helped so many. While he will be missed in the communications world, I wish him the very best that retirement has to offer.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Doug Crews for his service to the State of Missouri and to journalists everywhere.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF JOSEPH COLLINS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GILMANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AFTER 25 YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Chief Joseph Collins on his retirement after 25 years with various law enforcement agencies throughout New Hampshire, and thank him for the outstanding work he did during his career.

Chief Collins' continuous progression within the law enforcement ranks during his time exemplifies his intelligence, positive attitude, and commitment to protecting and serving his community with the utmost professionalism.

Although Chief Collins will now shift his focus from serving his community to his family and faith, it's clear he leaves behind an example of strong leadership and compassion for others to emulate in his absence.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Chief Collins on his retirement, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

HONORING POLICE SERGEANT RANDALL BOGGS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Sergeant Randall Boggs, a man who has truly devoted himself to public service. Mr. Boggs was hired as a Police Officer by the Fairfield Police Department on September 18, 1989 and over the duration of his career worked in various capacities which included: Narcotic Investigations, Patrol, Special Operations, Major Crimes Investigation, Mobile Field Force, and the Fugitive Apprehension Team. On April 19, 2002 he was promoted to Police Corporal where he served for five years before being promoted to Police Sergeant on February 2, 2007.

As a Police Sergeant, Mr. Boggs consistently assisted City Management during changes in leadership and command staff, ensuring that the Fairfield Police Department upheld the highest operational standards during those times. Additionally, Mr. Boggs assumed the Police Lieutenant's position twice and managed Police Bureau operations.

Sergeant Boggs is a skilled team leader who has led numerous operations with exceptional professionalism and character. He has been a valued public servant in which his hard work and commitment to the public safety have made him a model representative of the law enforcement community.

CONGRATULATING CHAMOIS HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chamois High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

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

I ask you to join me in recognizing Chamois High School for a job well done.

CONGRATULATING AL AND LINDA FOURNIER FOR THEIR DECADES OF SERVICE AT FORT McCOY, WISCONSIN

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Al and Linda Fournier for their combined 80 years of distinguished service at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. The Fourniers, who met at Fort McCoy and were married in 1991, will be retiring from federal service on October 3, 2015. Together, the Fourniers helped Fort McCoy become one of the most capable and desirable training installations in the Army.

Al Fournier began his tenure of dedicated service at Fort McCoy in 1971. Since 2002 he has served as Deputy to the Garrison Commander. Thanks to Al's outstanding leadership and strategic contributions, Fort McCoy has been transformed into one of the nation's premier training centers and a preferred Army force projection site. Some of Al's major accomplishments at Fort McCoy include: the writing and publication of the Fort McCoy Installation Management System Handbook, the Fort McCoy Strategic Planning Handbook, and the Fort McCoy Acquisition Management–Financial Management Planning Handbook. Al's other achievements and awards are too numerous to note here, but suffice it to say that he is a visionary whose legacy will have a lasting impact on Fort McCoy and its mission as a Total Force Training Center of unparalleled excellence.

Linda Fournier began working at Fort McCoy in 1978 and has served as Public Affairs Officer since 2000. She has been instrumental in conducting programs designed to inform both the military community and the general public regarding Army and Fort McCoy activities, events, missions and policies. She has been the force behind numerous Fort