

Bill Tunnell's impact on Southwest Alabama and our entire state cannot really be put into words. He has succeeded in transforming Battleship Memorial Park into one of Alabama's premier tourist destinations and a top landmark along the entire Gulf Coast. Throughout the process, he has always kept the focus on inspiring patriotism and honoring those who have served our country.

Bill moved to Mobile in 1979, where he worked in the hotel and hospitality industry until 1991. It was that year that he took over as marketing and public relations director for Battleship Memorial Park. In 1997, he was named executive director.

Through busy crowds, hurricanes, and economic downturns, Bill Tunnell's steady leadership helped ensure the USS Alabama and Battleship Memorial Park remains well maintained and open to visitors. Most recently, Bill successfully organized and planned events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Battleship Memorial Park.

Among his many awards and honors, Bill Tunnell was the first ever inductee of the Alabama Tourism Hall of Fame, winner of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce Community Leader of the Year award, and recipient of the Alabama Restaurant Association and Alabama Hospitality Association's Tourism Promoter of the Year award. He was named an "Honorary Veteran" in 2011 by the South Alabama Veterans Council, who partnered with Mr. Tunnell on countless projects and events. These are just a handful of his many honors and achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to call Bill Tunnell a friend. He is a truly outstanding individual who has never hesitated to put others above himself. Bill recently said that it is not actually the ship that makes Battleship Memorial Park. Instead, he said it is "the heart and soul of all the people who've attached themselves" to the ship. No one has put more of their "heart and soul" into the ship and the park than Bill Tunnell.

So, on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to wish Bill and his wife, Cynthia, all the best in retirement, and I hope Bill gets to spend some quality time working on his golf game. Thank you for your service and dedication to our community, our veterans, and the State of Alabama.

HONORING BEVERLY CLEARY ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, today, treasured children's author Beverly Cleary turns a remarkable 100 years old. Born in McMinnville, Oregon, Beverly Cleary later moved to Northeast Portland. Her neighborhood there, especially Klickitat Street, became the setting for her series featuring Henry Huggins, Ramona Quimby, and countless other characters who continue to hold a special place in the bookshelves and hearts of parents, children, and librarians around the world.

Cleary's books spoke to generations of children from Oregon, across the country, and around the globe. Many of her stories were inspired by her own childhood in Northeast Port-

land, and almost everyone can identify with the imaginative Ramona or the studious Beezus—or a little bit of both. Although Cleary's stories evolved as our nation changed, her stories about a family working hard to make ends meet or facing the challenges of adolescence are timeless in their representation of childhood for so many young people.

Cleary's love for her characters and respect for her young audience are evident in the national traditions she created. I am proud to honor her 100th birthday today, and look forward to watching her legacy continue to grow and flourish as she inspires a new generation of readers.

HONORING BETTY HARTY

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staten Island resident Betty Harty's contributions to our community and tireless service to great causes.

A native of Staten Island, Betty has been heavily involved in the Boy Scouts organization, which she joined roughly forty-nine years ago. Betty served as Den Mother and a Den leader Coach for Pack Eight, Messiah Lutheran Church for twelve years, before becoming an Advancement Chairperson, a position she held for thirty-nine years. Additionally, Betty served as Pack Eight and Group Eight Commissioner for twenty years, and is now a member of Troop 26—Castleton Hill Messiah Church.

Betty also has been a member of the District Committee. She served as the Cub Roundtable and Cub Adult Treasury. Betty also chaired the Cub Pow Wow Treasury for Staten Island Council. Currently, Betty is on the Advancement Committee for Staten Island Council for Eagle Scouts. She has been on the Staten Island Council Committee for seventeen years.

Betty has been active with parent-teacher associations at P.S. 36, Bernstein Intermediate and Tottenville High. She was a leading volunteer for five years at P.S. 36, a library volunteer, and taught in the after school center. Betty was team mother for the South Shore Little League and the Babe Ruth League. She has also been engaged in teaching Sunday school.

Twenty years ago, Betty became involved with the Have a Heart Foundation, the Staten Island based organization that helps raise financial aid for people to fund therapy treatments not covered by insurance. This wonderful foundation helps mitigate some of the expensive medical costs in New York, and is a member of the Staten Island Children's Campaign.

Mr. Speaker, Betty Harty's dedication to serving our community and positively influencing our youth is the essence of a model humanitarian. I thank her for all of her great work and I am proud to honor this great woman who has consistently touched the lives of people across Staten Island.

HONORING DON AMADOR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative GARAMENDI and Representative HUFFMAN, rise to recognize and honor Mr. Amador for his great contribution to the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument by President Barack Obama on July 10, 2015.

This outstanding accomplishment was made possible by the tireless work of countless advocates like Mr. Amador. Their commitment to engaging friends, colleagues, local residents, businesses, stakeholders across the country, and policymakers in a coordinated effort to achieve permanent protection was critical to the establishment of the Monument.

Now, the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument may be counted among the hundreds pristine parks across the country that represent America's most treasured public resources. The region's unique geological formations will play host for the world's scientists for years to come. Centuries-old archeological sites will draw curious historians and researchers as they piece together the stories of generations past. And avid bikers, hikers, campers, horsemen, and sportsmen will be able to enjoy this landmark that is now forever open and accessible to outdoor enthusiasts from Northern California and beyond.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument serves as proof of the value of the Antiquities Act and the power of the Executive to protect these lands in the face of inaction by Congress. After extensive input from interested parties and substantial evidence of this region's value, the Obama Administration honored the support of stakeholders, and the gravity of conservation.

The legacy of public lands is one of the most important we can leave for future generations. The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument is a critical piece of a preservation system that stretches from the Hawaiian Islands to the Maine Coast. It has been a privilege working with Mr. Amador to further our mutual goal of preserving our nation's great open spaces, and we look forward to collaborating in the future.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Oregon Air National Guard.

The Oregon Air National Guard was born on April 18, 1941, when Oregon's own Major G. Robert Dodson sent the celebrated message, "We've got people, we've got a place, and we're ready!" to the National Guard Bureau and was allowed to activate the 123rd Observation Squadron. For the next seventy-five years the Citizen Airmen of the Oregon Air National Guard have been serving Oregon and the Nation with distinction.