

CONGRATULATING PETER GILEA ON RECEIVING THE BRONZE MEDALLION AND KNIGHTED INTO THE U.S. ARMY CAVALRY AND ARMOR ASSOCIATION'S ORDER OF ST. GEORGE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a World War II veteran from the Sixth Congressional District of Illinois, Peter Gilea. Peter was recently named a knight of the U.S. Army Cavalry and Armor Association's Order of St. George and presented with the Bronze Medallion. The honor is awarded to Armor and Cavalrymen who perform outstanding service to the U.S. Army Armored Force.

Peter Gilea was drafted and went into the army January 25, 1943. He went through his training with the 735th Independent Tank Battalion, which he also helped establish and on February 12, 1944 his unit left the United States and arrived in Scotland on February 24, 1944. While serving as a commander on a Sherman tank with the 735th Tank Battalion in Europe, he received five campaign battle stars, which include fighting in Normandy, the pursuit through France and action in Luxembourg during the important allied victory of the Battle of the Bulge. Peter also received the Bronze Star Medal for bravery, two Purple Hearts, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the French Legion of Honor Medal.

His courage and commitment to defending the freedoms we cherish will forever be a credit to his patriotism and sacrifice. His bravery during campaigns through Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe was pivotal in the destruction of the oppressive and evil Nazi regime. It is because of men like Peter Gilea that we enjoy the rights and liberties we value so deeply.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Peter Gilea for receiving the Bronze Medallion and receiving a knighthood into the Order of St. George. Once again, congratulations, and I wish Peter all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING DAVID WILDY, WINNER OF THE 2016 SWISHER SWEETS/SUNBELT EXPO SOUTHEASTERN FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Representative CRAWFORD and I would like to recognize Mr. David Wildy of Manilla, Arkansas for being selected as the 2016 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year. Receiving the award over nine other state finalists, Mr. Wildy was honored at the

Willie B. Withers Luncheon on October 18, 2016, the opening day of the Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, Georgia.

Upon graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1975, Mr. Wildy became the fifth-generation Wildy to take over the family's century old farm, where he oversees the farm's cotton, corn, soybean, wheat, peanut and potato production. Throughout his career, Mr. Wildy has found success not only in developing his family farm but also in strengthening agriculture in his home state of Arkansas. In farming communities across the Southeast, Mr. Wildy is known as a generous man who shares his farm's resources with agricultural scientists and researchers from private industries, public universities, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Wildy has also achieved distinction as a hard-working public servant and philanthropist in his community. He has served as President of the Mississippi County Farm Bureau, member of the USDA-Farm Service Agency in Mississippi County, member of the University of Arkansas Agriculture Development Council, member of the Arkansas Northeastern College Foundation Board of Governors, board member of the St. Francis Levee District of Arkansas, and board member of the Arkansas Certified Crop Advisor. Mr. Wildy has also championed education in his community, providing scholarships to local high school graduates and giving books to elementary school students.

Through his actions, service, and devotion to his farm and his community, Mr. Wildy has demonstrated profound leadership and dedication to the agriculture industry. On behalf of the House Agriculture Committee, we would like to thank David Wildy for his service and congratulate him on the honor of being the 2016 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS'S AEROJET ROCKETDYNE EMPLOYEES

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 675 employees at Aerojet Rocketdyne's Camden, Arkansas, production facility and their upcoming achievement of the milestone shipment of the 2,700th PAC-3 Cost Reduction Initiative Rocket Motor, 500,000th PAC-3 Attitude Control Motor, and completion of the first full rate production contract of the PAC-3 Missile Segment Enhancement Rocket Motor, to Lockheed Martin and the United States Army.

Aerojet Rocketdyne is a world-recognized aerospace and defense leader principally serving the missile, space propulsion, and armaments markets. This most significant milestone will be commemorated with a celebration ceremony held in Camden, Arkansas, on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

The PAC-3 missile, powered by Aerojet Rocketdyne propulsion, is a high velocity interceptor that defeats incoming targets by direct,

body-to-body impact. The "hit-to-kill" PAC-3 missile is the world's most advanced, capable, and powerful terminal air defense missile, and when deployed in a Patriot battery, significantly increases the Patriot system's firepower. It is capable of defeating the entire threat of tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and aircraft. One hundred percent effective in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the PAC-3 missile is a quantum leap ahead of any other air defense missile when it comes to the ability to protect the Warfighter.

Aerojet Rocketdyne has manufactured the PAC-3 Solid Rocket Motors and Attitude Control Motors since 1998 at its Camden facility. Production of the Missile Segment Enhancement Rocket Motor began in 2014. The PAC-3 rocket motors are a noteworthy element of Aerojet Rocketdyne's industry-leading tactical propulsion portfolio produced in Camden, generating significant employment opportunities for the area.

On the occasion of this milestone, I am proud to recognize the dedicated, hardworking employees of Aerojet Rocketdyne in Camden and their achievements so far. These Arkansans are working hard to ensure our men and women in uniform have the resources they need to carry out their missions effectively and quickly, and they deserve our sincere appreciation.

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAIL AND PUBLIC ACCESS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tenth anniversary of the Mammoth Lakes Trail and Public Access (MLTPA), a non-profit organization which has devoted their efforts to the planning and creation of a four-season trail system in Mammoth Lakes and the immediate Eastern Sierra. MLTPA is an effective, independent leader in recreational wilderness regions of California, preserving America's natural beauty and encouraging a prosperous local economy. In 2005, the MLTPA began planning and raising over twenty million dollars which it invested to connect people with nature. Public access was improved so more people could come and enjoy the area's great outdoors and through collaborative partnerships and recreation opportunities, community participation increased. MLTPA has made a significant difference in connecting the community to the local government and businesses in order to bring people to the region by providing a safe and sustainable trail network. Mammoth Lakes Trail and Public Access has increased awareness about the future of the community and its relationship to the surrounding public lands. MLTPA has led a collaborative effort with the local government, federal agencies, and other non-profits. Its upcoming projects include the acceleration of various transportation projects which aim to link the Town's bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and parking alternatives. I congratulate them on their ten years of success and look forward to all their success in the years to come.