

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 Manila, 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 nonprofits. 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.

## TRIBUTE TO CHARLES JOE HELMS

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 29, 2016*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of my good friend Charles Joe Helms of Butlerville, Indiana.

Charlie was born on May 8, 1948 in Richmond, Indiana, to Myron and Esther Dennis Helms. Charlie lived a long, full life dedicated to his family and his community. Charlie is survived by his loving wife, Vickie; three sons, Jon, Lennie, and Arnie; daughter, Nichelle Burkhardt; stepdaughters, Traci Baldwin, Amy McCanlis, and Bekah Hunsucker; one sister, Lynda Schmidt; and seven grandchildren.

Raised in Indiana, Charlie graduated from Brookville High School before serving his country in the U.S. Navy. Following his service, he worked for Ford Motor Company in Connersville and then General Motors Delphi in Dayton, Ohio for several years. Charlie officially retired in 2010, after working for the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center.

As the Good Book says in Acts 20:35, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Charlie truly lived this scripture throughout his life. Everyone who knew him, knew of his steadfast faith and compassion for serving the Hoosier community. Charlie was a member of the Nebraska Church of God, Masonic Lodge Number 219 in Butlerville and American Legion Post Number 77 in Brookville. In his free time, he enjoyed exploring the outdoors, boating and spending time with his family.

I am lucky to have called Charlie Helms a close friend. I know first-hand his faith, his extraordinary friendship and his consistent encouragement. I will never forget his support and belief in me.

Charlie will be missed dearly by his family and his community, but his memory will live on in those who were blessed to know him.

Today, it is my privilege to honor the life of Charlie Helms. My thoughts and prayers go out to Charlie's family, and may God comfort those he left behind with His peace and strength.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SACRAMENTO JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE 2016 HONOREES

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 29, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sacramento Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League's 2016 honorees. As the members of the Sacramento Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) join together for their annual community recognition and installation banquet, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing these outstanding leaders in our community.

As one of the oldest and largest Japanese American Citizens League chapters in our nation, the Sacramento chapter remains a leader in the fight for civil rights of all Americans, while supporting programs that enhance our culture and community. Each year, the Sac-

ramento JACL honors inspiring individuals and companies that are committed to public service and upholding the values of the JACL. This year, I join the members of the Sacramento JACL in honoring the following individuals: Dr. Donna Yee and Priscilla Ouachita, as well as members from the Dharma School Courtyard Kitchen of the Sacramento Buddhist Church—Sam and Gladys Adachi, Billy and Grace Hatano, Reiko Kurahara, Mike and Rachel Nagai, Sachiko Sawada and Akaiye Shimada.

Dr. Donna Yee, Chief Executive Officer of Asian Community Center Senior Services, has worked tirelessly for over forty years to ensure that seniors and their families have much needed access to resources and programs vital to their well-being. The ACC provides assisted and independent living as well as supporting programs including transportation, home respite services, and caregiver support.

Priscilla Ouchida, a longtime community advocate, has much experience and numerous accomplishments in the quest for civil rights and promoting the cultural heritage of Japanese-Americans. Serving as the Executive Director of the JACL, the Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for Senator Joe Simitian, and the Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for Senator Patrick Johnston, Ms. Ouchida is a valued leader in our community.

Sam and Gladys Adachi, Billy and Grace Hatano, Reiko Kurahara, Mike and Rachel Nagai, Sachiko Sawada and Akaiye Shimada from the Dharma School Courtyard Kitchen of the Sacramento Buddhist Church have been preparing meals for over 35 years. They manage to do all this from donations from local businesses and church membership.

Mr. Speaker, as these individuals are being recognized by the Japanese American Citizens League, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking them for their outstanding service to our Sacramento community.

HONORING MS. DEBORAH WILLIAMS

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 29, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and invaluable career of Ms. Deborah Hudson-Williams, who passed away on November 18, 2016.

Deborah was born on September 15, 1952 in Oakland California, to Girver and Gertrude Hudson, and grew up in a large working-class family which her father supported through his career as an electrician at General Electric. Her father was also active with the United Auto Workers (UAW), and his work would inspire her own career, when she followed him into working for the UAW.

Ms. Williams was incredibly passionate about the rights of workers, and she was very active in the UAW, including many years when she worked at the New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc., (NUMMI) plant in Fremont, California. She also served as the chairperson for the UAW's Political Action Committee in the Bay Area, which enabled her to support candidates and policies that worked to improve the quality of life for middle-class families like her own.

In addition to working to support the men and women of her union, Ms. Williams was politically active in many areas, including working with the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs (NANBPWC), the A. Philip Randolph Organization, the NAACP, and the Oakland East Bay Democratic Club.

She is survived by many siblings, including four brothers: Anthony Hudson (Linda) Las Vegas, NV, Girver Hudson Jr. (Linda) California, Michael Hudson (Delores) Oakland, Mark Hudson, Oakland; and seven sisters, Brenda Brooks, Oakland, Francine Wesley (Noel) San Pablo, Cheryl Moore, Oakland, Patricia Henry (Clarence) Oakland, Mada Hudson, Oakland, Beverly Hudson, Pittsburgh, Karen Cox (Mobil), Oakland.

On a personal note, Debbie was a loyal supporter whose wise counsel I always appreciated and who always came through for me right on time, every time. Most importantly, she was a dear friend who I will deeply miss.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I would like to offer my sincerest condolences to her family, friends, and the community she cared so much about. Ms. Williams' legacy as a strong advocate for working men and women will be remembered and honored throughout the Bay Area.

CELEBRATING THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN'S 25 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 29, 2016*

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic of Kazakhstan, which on December 16, 2016 will celebrate its independence day. For twenty five years, Kazakhstan and its people have stood out as a steadfast and true friend to the United States on an array of security and economic issues and have made tremendous strides in democratization and economic development.

Since its independence, Kazakhstan has stood out as a reliable strategic partner in Central Asia to the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Kazakhstan contributes to the reconstruction of Afghanistan, finances the education of thousands of Afghan immigrants and refugees, and has provided supply line access and support to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Coalition. For the past thirteen years, Kazakh, American, and NATO security forces have conducted joint military training programs in the Central Asian steppes. According to the National Bank of Kazakhstan, American companies invested \$24 billion in the Kazakh economy from 2005 to 2016.

However, the cornerstone of strong U.S.-Kazakhstan relations is nuclear nonproliferation. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan inherited a nuclear weapons stockpile of 1,400 nuclear warheads, the fourth largest stockpile of nuclear weapons in the world. President Nursultan Nazarbayev expressed his early commitment to nuclear disarmament by decommissioning all 1,400 nuclear weapons.

The government in Astana has remained committed to the global cause of nonproliferation ever since. Recently the country established the first-ever Low Enriched Uranium