

PFC Kyle M. Proffitt, PFC Scott H. Reeve, PFC Justin P. Robinson (2), PFC Nicholas A. Shivley, PFC Jonathan K. Steier, PFC Matthew E. Weaver, PFC Frederick R. Yap, PFC Sung B. Yoon, Ofc. Kenneth J. McNulty, Ofc. Matthew F. Schafer, Ofc. Stacey L. Wells.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2017 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

HONORING ANTHONY GIBSON II

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a multi-talented gentleman, Mr. Anthony Gibson II. Mr. Gibson has shown what can be done through tenacity, dedication and a desire to achieve.

Mr. Gibson graduated from Vicksburg High School, and now, he is attending Mississippi State University majoring in Civil Engineering.

He has been inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta, Gamma Beta Phi, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, National Society of Black Engineers, and American Society of Civil Engineers among others.

Anthony has a wide variety of engineering experiences including design, hydraulic/river research, geotechnical practices and project management.

Mr. Gibson had internships at J5 Broadus, the City of Vicksburg, and the Corps of Engineers (ERDC). Currently, he is a co-op student for Brasfield & Gorrie, one of the largest engineering/construction firms in the southeast. He is located in Birmingham where the firm is headquartered.

Anthony is the son of Patricia Brown and Anthony Gibson II.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Anthony Gibson II for his hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve.

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Springfield News-Leader and its dedication to 150 years of excellence in journalism.

The Springfield News-Leader was first published on April 4, 1867, and has been a vital part of the Springfield, Missouri, community ever since. After 150 years, the Springfield News-Leader has reached almost 55,000 consecutive days of print, for both morning and evening newspapers.

In January of 1927, after several changes in name and ownership, the newspaper was officially known as the Springfield Daily News. 120 years later, in 1987, after printing both a

morning and evening edition, the afternoon edition of the newspaper was discontinued and consolidated with the morning edition to become the Springfield News-Leader.

Today, the Springfield News-Leader is combined with a number of other print publications, websites and digital marketing services as part of the News-Leader Media Group. This group is the largest multi-media marketing solutions company in southwest Missouri, serving the local and regional business community.

For 150 years, the Springfield News-Leader has caught the moments that have shaped our nation, Missouri and Missouri's 7th Congressional District. I am confident that in the next 150 years the Springfield News-Leader will continue to be the newspaper that keeps the people of the 7th District informed and up-to-date. Congratulations to the Springfield News-Leader.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARK V. DENNIS

**HON. CHARLIE CRIST**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of fallen Navy Hospitalman, 3rd Class, Mr. Mark V. Dennis.

Mr. Dennis was born on September 21, 1946, to Charles and Vera Dennis of Miamisburg, Ohio, where he grew up with his brother and two sisters. He went on to serve in the United States Navy in a Marine unit as a medical corpsman during the Vietnam War. A man of strong faith, Mr. Dennis also served as acting chaplain for his unit, and had dreams of being a missionary after completing his service.

Sadly, those dreams would not be realized. He was killed in action when his helicopter crashed after taking enemy fire in South Vietnam in the summer of 1966. At such a young age, 19 years, Mr. Dennis made the ultimate sacrifice in service to his country.

In 1970, a photograph in Newsweek magazine showed a Prisoner of War with an uncanny resemblance to Mark. Devastated by the loss, and plagued by nagging doubt, his family, led by his brother Jerry, began a quest for answers as to what happened to Mark.

Last August, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency released a report determining through DNA testing that the remains from the deadly helicopter crash are those of Mr. Dennis. Thanks to the Dennis family's determination, and work by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, we now know conclusively that Mr. Dennis died while serving and protecting his country.

Mr. Speaker, the Dennis family has been through a lot over the years. I pray that they will now have the closure they so deserve. Mr. Dennis will soon be laid to rest alongside his parents at the Garden Sanctuary Cemetery in Seminole, Florida, with full military honors.

I am humbled to honor the life of this young man, and all of our servicemen and women who were taken from this Earth too soon. May he, and his family, now finally find peace.

RECOGNIZING EDWARDSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S SENIOR GUARD MARK SMITH

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Edwardsville High School's senior guard Mark Smith, who is now better known as Mr. Basketball of Illinois for the 2016–2017 season.

Mark received the Mr. Basketball honor after a senior season in which he filled up the stats sheet. Over the course of the season, Mark averaged 21.9 points, 8.2 rebounds, 8.4 assists, and 2.1 steals per game. He recorded double figures in 31 of the Tigers' 32 games, and had eight games in which he scored more than 30 points. In the championship game of the Ottawa sectional, Mark scored a career-high 45 points in Edwardsville's win over Danville.

Outside of Mark's individual statistics, the Tigers' boys basketball season was an unforgettable one in the Metro East, as the team finished 30–2 and played in the Class 4A Super-Sectional in Normal.

In addition to the Mr. Basketball honor, Mark was named the "Illinois Gatorade Player of the Year," and has scholarship offers from multiple Division 1 schools.

I had the opportunity to meet Mark at an event for the Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities last month, and was truly impressed by this young man. I am proud to congratulate Mark on his spectacular senior season and receiving this honor, and look forward to continuing to follow his basketball career.

RECOGNIZING THE CLARKSON UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2017*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and skill of the Clarkson University Women's Hockey Team, who just ended their already impressive season by winning the NCAA Division I championship.

Led by Coach Matt Desrosiers, the Golden Knights defeated the number one seeded Wisconsin Badgers for the championship title. This is the team's second Division I title, with the Golden Knights being the only team outside of the Western Conference to ever win the championship.

Under the leadership of seniors Corie Jacobson, Jessica Gillham, Genevieve Bannon, McKenzie Johnson and Carly Mercer, the team was able to regroup from a rough early season and achieve this impressive victory. Junior goaltender Shea Tiley was an instrumental part of this victory, allowing zero points against the strong Wisconsin offense.

In New York's 21st District, we are incredibly proud of all of these women and their incredible achievements. I hope that their hard work and dedication serve as an inspiration for generations to come.