

Mr. and Mrs. Norton have called Dahlonge home for years, and their love for the town is evident in the passion with which they run their business. The Picnic Café has employed dozens of college students and Dahlonge residents, providing the Lumpkin County community with jobs and students with work experience.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Nortons' commitment to their small business, and, in the spirit of Small Business Week, thank them for their dedication to serving the people of Dahlonge. I am looking forward to my next visit to the Picnic Café to see what's new on the menu, and wish the Norton family continued success.

RECOGNIZING JAMES HICKS

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has dedicated his life to protecting and educating the public. James Hicks will be retiring this May from the Pana Fire Department after 45 years of service.

During his career with the fire department, James pioneered an Explorer Post, which he led for 34 years. This program allows youth and young adults become involved with and learn more about firefighting and fire responder careers. Under James' leadership, many of the explorers were inspired to protect their communities and become firefighters.

Hicks has also worked to keep the area schools informed on fire prevention techniques and spent many hours volunteering with the Pana Ambulance Service as an Emergency Medical Technician.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Hicks and wish him all the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF SIMON EAGLIN FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE YPSILANTI COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Simon Eaglin, a prominent community leader who served Ypsilanti throughout his life. Mr. Eaglin served as Postmaster General for the Ypsilanti area for over two decades and provided impactful leadership to many local organizations and causes.

Born in 1917, Mr. Eaglin moved to Ypsilanti during the Second World War to work at the Willow Run Bomber Plant and aid the United States' war effort. After the end of the war, Mr. Eaglin became a radiation control technician at the University of Michigan medical center while working to complete his college degree at Eastern Michigan University. He was then named as the Ypsilanti Post Office's Postmaster in 1964, a position he served until his retirement in 1988. Mr. Eaglin was known for his efficient leadership in ensuring prompt delivery of mail and packages in the Ypsilanti

area. He was also heavily involved in the Ypsilanti community, serving as a member of the local Kiwanis Club and spearheading several of the organization's outreach efforts and remaining involved with its committees.

As the first African-American Postmaster in Ypsilanti, Mr. Eaglin dedicated his life and career effectively served the public while helping to break down barriers. In addition to his pioneering career as Ypsilanti's postmaster, Mr. Eaglin was well-known as a kind, caring individual whose service to the Ypsilanti community was instrumental to making the city a great place to live and work. In addition to his career as Ypsilanti's Postmaster, Mr. Eaglin volunteered for years with St. John's Catholic Church, the Housing Bureau of Seniors and several local hospitals. His legacy of public service, as well as his upbeat and friendly attitude, made him a beloved figure in the community, and he will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Simon Eaglin, Ypsilanti's former Postmaster and community leader. Mr. Eaglin went above and beyond to serve the city and its residents during his life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID DiCHIERA

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. David DiChiera, who is retiring from the Michigan Opera Theatre. While he began his distinguished and impassioned career in California, he became known in Michigan and beyond as Mr. Opera. He is retiring from the Michigan Opera Theatre, which he founded in 1971 and which he served as General Director and Artistic Director. After completing his undergraduate studies in musical composition at UCLA, David DiChiera continued his scholarship in Italy on a Fulbright scholarship, and returned to UCLA to join the faculty and to complete his PhD in musicology. In 1962, Dr. DiChiera was recruited to join the faculty at Oakland University as a professor. He later became chairman of music at the university.

While at Oakland University, Dr. DiChiera created "Overture to Opera," a program featuring local opera singers which brought opera to communities throughout Michigan, and which planted the seeds for the creation of Michigan Opera Theatre. As Dr. DiChiera explained in an interview, "I would cast the wonderful local singers who otherwise had limited opportunities . . . we started taking this program to community centers—every year, I took it to The War Memorial and area schools. This was all throughout the 1960s. Then, in 1970, I thought it was time to do a full-length opera, and to create the beginnings of an opera company."

It is important to keep in mind the backdrop for Dr. DiChiera's efforts to create an opera company in Detroit. By 1971, when Michigan Opera Theatre was established, the city itself was experiencing a major loss of population and many people were skeptical that this endeavor could succeed. But Michigan Opera Theatre not only succeeded, it thrived—first at the Music Hall in downtown Detroit which was

restored with the support of the Kresge Foundation and Detroit Renaissance, and later at the Detroit Opera House, which was formally opened on April 21, 1996 with a performance by the great tenor Luciano Pavarotti.

Dr. DiChiera's impact extends beyond his building of this important institution. He has been a vital center of gravity for arts and culture in and around the City of Detroit. He has been committed to nurturing and showcasing the broad diversity of talent in opera, something which he viewed from the inception of Michigan Opera Theatre as central to its mission. "Building bridges into the community was a primary mission," he said in the Theatre's blog, "making sure that the African American community, the majority of Detroit's population, was represented on the stage." In addition to producing works which reflect the African American experience such as *Porgy and Bess* and *Tremonisha*, the Michigan Opera Theatre commissioned and produced the world premiere of Margaret Garner, based on the novel *Beloved* written by Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison. Ms. Morrison wrote the libretto for Margaret Garner, and the production starred famed mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves. Dr. DiChiera has ensured that Michigan Opera Theatre has performed works reflecting the rich cultural fabric of Metro Detroit, including the Armenian opera *Anoush*, King Roger and *The Haunted Castle*, which celebrate the region's Polish community, an opera based on the life of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, and *The Passenger*, an opera about the Holocaust.

In addition to founding, building, and leading Michigan Opera Theatre, Dr. DiChiera is a noted composer as well. In further tribute to him, the Michigan Opera Theatre is featuring this month Dr. DiChiera's full-length opera, *Cyrano*, based on Edmond Rostand's timeless play, *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

Mr. Speaker, like innumerable opera aficionados, I know that David DiChiera has brought boundless joy to experienced opera lovers while helping to create countless new ones. Along the way, he has nurtured young artists and has ensured that the Michigan Opera Theatre reflects the diversity of the community it serves. Dr. DiChiera built an enduring institution in Michigan Opera Theatre, and in so doing, he has established himself as one of Metro Detroit's true treasures. I encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking much beloved Dr. David DiChiera for the immeasurable contribution he has made to the arts in Metro Detroit and far beyond.

HONORING THE 52ND ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Head Start organization on its 52nd Anniversary.

Since its establishment, Head Start has been working to serve the country's most vulnerable families. In addition to working with organizations that provide learning, nutrition and general health assistance for children, Head Start has also helped to provide training, job

development, and volunteer opportunities for low-income parents. These efforts are critical for establishing an environment in which every American is equipped to reach their full potential.

In my district, the Lewis County Head Start Center has strengthened our community by working with over 180 families to provide learning opportunities for children and parents alike. Focusing on early childhood development programs, these centers partner with families to ensure that every child is prepared to take full advantage of their education.

I would like to thank Head Start for 52 years of commitment to children and families across the country. In New York's 21st District, we are grateful for their work to make sure every child has the opportunity to succeed. I wish Head Start a prosperous future and I am confident that it will continue making a positive impact on the lives of many Americans.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN FRIEDMAN

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Stephen Friedman, who is retiring after a decade as President of Pace University with campuses in New York City and Pleasantville, New York.

Mr. Friedman has dedicated more than 13 years of service to Pace University, where he first served as dean of Pace University School of Law for three years before being named president in 2007. Under his leadership, Pace has significantly increased its enrollment numbers while maintaining its commitment to providing education access and opportunities to students from all backgrounds. During his tenure, President Friedman has revitalized the Pleasantville campus in my district and led efforts to expand the university's academic program offerings, including study abroad and other international opportunities for students. Pace's international enrollment is at its highest level in 15 years, with students coming from more than 100 countries. Another initiative which he spearheaded to advance the university's motto of "Opportunitas," has been the development of iPace, an online degree completion program for adult learners.

Before joining the Pace community, Mr. Friedman served as Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Capital Markets Policy at the United States Treasury Department, and a law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. He has also lent his leadership to organizations such as the American Ballet Theatre, the National Museum of the American Indian in New York, and the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Friedman's numerous accomplishments have left a lasting impact on the communities he has served. I urge my colleagues to join me in applauding his years of leadership and service.

HONORING GLENN R. LITTLE ON THE AWARD OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL (POST-HUMOUS)

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the late Glenn R. Little, formerly of Hanover and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on the posthumous award of the Congressional Gold Medal for his service to the United States in the Civil Air Patrol during World War II.

Second Lieutenant Little was one of 120,000 men and women who joined the Civil Air Patrol during World War II. They helped to protect our Nation by warding off German U-boat attacks on American oil tankers bound for Allied nations. They also took to the skies to patrol America's borders, conduct search and rescue missions, and provide disaster relief. These brave and heroic citizen volunteers helped to preserve our Nation's freedom.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian honor bestowed by the United States Congress, and legislation was signed into law in May 2014 that honored members of the Civil Air Patrol. Lt. Little's career and accomplishments during the War recently were celebrated at the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg. His granddaughter, Mrs. Barbara Heffner of Gettysburg, accepted the award on his behalf.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and commend Glenn R. Little for his bravery and selfless service to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MS. JAN POHLMAN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend, Jan Pohlman, who is retiring this month after teaching in the Physical Education Department of Calhoun High School for the past 34 years.

Throughout her distinguished career, Jan has served as a strong role model in our community both inside and outside the classroom. During her time at Illinois College, where I had the pleasure of having her as a teammate and a Floor Monitor, Jan's leadership and passion allowed her to build a notable sports career for which she was inducted into the Illinois College Sports Hall of Fame. She was one of the first stars of the Illinois College women's track and field team where she served as senior captain, and set school records for the 400 meter run, the discus and the javelin, which earned her the status of NCAA Division III Illinois State Champion in 1981. Jan's love of sports naturally led to her teaching career at Calhoun High School where she has enriched the lives of her students by instilling values of teamwork and perseverance for more than three decades.

Jan's compassion and service to our community goes beyond the classroom. She al-

ways goes above and beyond to help others—evident in the integral role she plays in the annual James R. Pohlman Memorial Golf Outing, which raises money for Parkinson's disease research.

Jan has been a truly influential individual in the lives of so many people, and I am honored to be able to call her a friend. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again congratulate Jan on her well-deserved retirement and thank her for all of her contributions and service to our community.

GERMANTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 125th Anniversary of the Germantown Fire Department.

The Germantown Fire Department was chartered on May 2, 1892. The first complement of members included 18 volunteer firefighters, and the first apparatus was a hand operated pump—which had to be loaded onto a horse-drawn wagon, so the first roster of members included one horse. The first motorized apparatus was a 1919 Ford Model-T truck, which is now a part of the collection of the Hall of Flame Museum in Phoenix, Arizona.

In its first days the department depended entirely on donations. The first apparatus and equipment were all donated and through the years the members held all sorts of fundraisers. In the 1930s and 1940s weekly "platform dances" were held to raise funds. This allowed the department to purchase a 1941 pumper truck, which was in use until 1988. The antique truck was sold, but later repurchased by department members.

In the early 1950s members raised funds to help build a new fire station, purchase a 1953-model pumper truck, and purchase the first fire department radio system in the county. In those days a normal year would include ten calls, and during one period the department went 18 months without a call. In 1952 the Germantown Rural Fire Protection District, a taxing district, was formed to provide a stable funding source for the department; however, donations remain a significant part of department finances.

In 1986, the Department began providing First Responder emergency medical services to the community. The Department also implemented the first fire department-based Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program in the region. And in 1989 the Department purchased, with donated funds, then only the second rescue tool "Jaws of Life" system in the county.

In 2002, the Department formed an Explorer post to expose youth ages 14 through 21 to the fire and rescue service. Today, 11 former Explorers are members of the department.

Currently, the Germantown Fire Department has 35 members and responds to an average of 110 calls per year. Current vehicles include two pumpers, one pumper-tanker, one brush truck, one rescue vehicle, and one support SUV.

The Germantown Fire Department has planned a grand celebration in recognition of