

Both men work tirelessly for the Benton school district transportation program.

Last month, about 40 students from Shelby County in Memphis piled onto a bus and began their journey toward the popular Magic Springs amusement park in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Unfortunately, as they traveled down I-30, their bus broke down.

Through the Arkansas State Police, word got to Mr. Revis that an entire busload of children was stranded.

After discussion with officials of the Tennessee school district from which the students hailed, Mr. Creel volunteered to use a Benton school bus to quickly transport the Memphis students to Magic Springs, where, after a full day of enjoyment, a Shelby County bus would pick them up.

Along with its well-known Benton Wave, a gesture of genuine friendliness noticeable throughout the city, Mr. Revis and Mr. Creel's commendable actions contribute to Benton's long-standing aura of friendship and compassion.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PONY BIRD

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, children and adults who are mentally and physically disabled have a great friend in an organization called Pony Bird, Incorporated located in Jefferson County, Missouri.

Named after a children's book about a young boy and his magical flying pony, Pony Bird is celebrating its 40th anniversary. It began in 1977 in one home devoted to caring for 10 severely disabled children. Today, Pony Bird provides 24-hour care in six residential homes for up to 60 individuals unable to walk or meet their daily living needs.

The facilities in Mapaville and De Soto allow residents to receive a maximum level of personalized care. They lead happy lives through socialization, participation, work and the opportunity to volunteer as members of their community.

Pony Bird has been recognized many times by the State of Missouri Department of Mental Health for its outstanding level of care. It is my great privilege to celebrate their 40 years of caring for our most vulnerable citizens today before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING LET MON LEE ON HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. Let Mon Lee, upon his retirement from his position as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and over three decades of public service.

Mr. Lee assumed his most recent position in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 2009. In

his role as Deputy Assistant Secretary, Mr. Lee has been responsible for the executive direction of Army Civil Works projects involving flood risk management, storm damage prevention, navigation, and environmental restoration. Prior to this, Mr. Lee served at the Army Corps Headquarters for almost 20 years. His work with Army Corps were separated by a five-year stretch on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Lee on our shared efforts to improve the level of flood protection for Sacramento, in my district. Sacramento is defined by its two great rivers, the American and the Sacramento, which makes it the most at-risk major American city for flooding. Mr. Lee has been a great champion for Sacramento's flood control projects, and together we have been able to better protect the lives and livelihoods of my constituents.

Mr. Lee has been wonderful to work with on both a professional and personal level. I wish him many years of happiness in retirement with his wife and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Lee for his service.

12 CARRIER ACT

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that my bill, the 12 Carrier Act, was included in last night's NDAA markup. This legislation will play a critical role in rebuilding our nation's military.

With ongoing perils around the world, including increasing violence by ISIS and persistent threats by North Korea, it is vital to our nation's security that our Navy is fully equipped with the resources and capabilities to respond to these threats. By including my bill in the Committee's mark, we will be increasing the statutory limit for carriers from eleven to twelve. In doing so, this measure will empower the Navy with the tools they desperately need to meet Combatant Commander requirements, deter conflict, prolong the lives of our fleet, and send a message to potential adversaries that we will not allow our decisive advantage in worldwide maritime force projection to erode.

Since the end of the Cold War, aircraft carrier requirements have increased while the aircraft carrier force structure has declined. The Navy has stated that the current forces cannot support global requirements. For years, this strain has caused our fleet to operate at maximum capacity, limiting aircraft carrier at-sea training, increasing deployment lengths and decreased time available for maintenance. To express the shortcomings of our carrier fleet, Navy Rear Admiral Thomas Moore has stated "We're an 11-carrier Navy in a 15-carrier world". President Trump also recently stressed the necessity of adding a twelfth carrier to our fleet.

Maintaining the required operational tempo with 12 carriers relieves significant stress both in terms of manpower, as well as keeping the proper maintenance cycles of the carriers themselves. When the carrier fleet is at full strength of 12, regional combatant com-

manders will be able to rely on the imposing presence of U.S. forces and will be able to respond to threats in a more expedited manner.

I am encouraged that my fellow members of the Armed Services Committee agree with my concerns about the shrinking size and capabilities of the United States Navy, and acted in a bipartisan fashion to include my "12 Carrier Act" into the markup. I thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Subcommittee Chairman WITTMAN for their support on this measure, and I look forward to seeing this measure passed by the House as part of the FY18 National Defense Authorization Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAWN WRIGHT

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dawn Wright on the occasion of her retirement from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) after 36 years of honorable service.

Born to Robert and Nancy Warren, Dawn is the oldest of four children. Robert, a Marine officer for much of his life, served in multiple locations across the U.S. This gave Dawn and her siblings the opportunity to grow up in California, Virginia, North Carolina, and Hawaii.

Growing up in a military family, Dawn joined the United States Navy in July 1974 with the goal of becoming an air traffic controller. She quickly became a ground-controlled approach (GCA) controller at Naval Air Station Kingsville before transferring to Rota, Spain where she gained experience working in a control tower alongside Spanish controllers.

After leaving the Navy in 1979, Dawn was hired to work for the FAA in August 1981. Her first assignment was Bridgeport Tower in Stratford, Connecticut where she became a full-fledged air traffic controller for the FAA. There, she received a number of 'on the spot' awards and recognition for her outstanding work.

In 1986, Dawn moved to Massachusetts and worked at both Cape Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) and Hyannis Air Traffic Control (ATCT), quickly climbing the ranks to a supervisory role by 1991. In 1994 Dawn decided to become an automations specialist where she learned computer programming, software, networking and operating systems. It was during this time that she received recognition for building a computer for Cape TRACON out of scrapped, non-working computers. She has since become a staff specialist and her responsibilities have included air traffic controller testing on Nantucket, teaching the Automated Radar Terminal Systems (ARTS) course to new air traffic controllers, ensuring quality assurance at the facility, and evaluations for multiple facilities including Boston ATCT and Providence ATCT.

Outside of work, Dawn is an accomplished rower, having been part of a crew team from 2001 to 2012 as a Masters rower. In her spare time she is an avid amateur ballroom dancer, rides motorcycles and pursues recording her family's genealogy. While her childhood was not spent in Massachusetts, she has since learned that she has historic ties to the Commonwealth. She is a descendent of Thomas