

Technical School in Industrial Chemistry, as well as Rutgers University where he studied Advanced Wastewater Treatment. He later earned numerous licenses for water and sewer system operations.

Bill's extensive career started in 1964, as the Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Department for the borough of Brooklawn. He moved to several boroughs in the surrounding areas including: City of Gloucester, Borough of Buena, Borough of National Park and the Borough of Wenonah. Bill also was an instructor at Camden County Technical School and taught at Rutgers University.

Bill Packer is also an American hero, having served in the New Jersey National Guard from 1965 through 1967.

Bill would continue to serve his community in various positions—as Mayor of Westville from 1997 to 2006, as councilman from 2011 to 2014, as Assistant Fire Chief, Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the Westville Fire District, President of Region VI of the New Jersey Public Works Association, member of the Board of Trustees for the New Jersey Water Association, president and member of the Westville Lions Club, the Gloucester County Mayor's Association, and the Gloucester County College Board of Trustees.

Mr. Packer alongside his wife of fifty years raised a family of six children. He enjoyed playing the xylophone for the Broomall String Band, serving as umpire and coach for his children's baseball and soccer leagues. His ultimate joy was creating memories with his family.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. William "Bill" C. Packer exemplified exceptional dedication to public service and volunteerism. I ask you to join me in honoring the memory of this great American.

IN HONOR OF MR. PAUL
VOERTMAN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul Voertman, the former owner of the iconic Voertman's Bookstore on Fry Street in Denton, Texas. In addition to his business interests, Mr. Voertman also was a patron of the arts, a humanitarian, and a philanthropist.

Mr. Voertman grew up near the University of North Texas and attended the UNT Demonstration School from kindergarten through twelfth grade. He received his undergraduate degree in economics at the University of Texas at Austin. Upon graduation, he entered the U.S. Air Force. While on active duty in Germany, his father passed away and he returned to Denton to take over his father's general store. Over time, Voertman transformed the store into a well-known cultural landmark renowned for its high-quality wares, reasonable prices, and excellent customer service. Countless students at UNT and Texas Woman's University purchased their textbooks, spiral wear, and more at Voertman's.

Mr. Voertman generously contributed to the arts for more than 60 years and was one of UNT's most generous benefactors. In Denton, he sponsored prizes for Texas art organizations, commissioned locally-produced art

works, and established juried art competitions at UNT and TWU, which still continue today. The Voertman-Ardoin Memorial Scholarship assists first-generation college students at UNT, and the Ardoin-Voertman Endowment Fund supports the College of Visual Arts and Design, the College of Music, and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Mr. Voertman also gave significant financial backing to TWU's Chancellor's Circle, scholarships, and athletics. He was a patron of community organizations, including the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home, the Monsignor King Homeless Outreach Center, and the Denton Community Health Clinic.

I would like to express my sincere condolences to Mr. Voertman's family and friends. He will be remembered for his business acumen, cultural contributions, and selfless generosity to the Denton community.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Friendship Missionary Baptist Church on 100 years of service and dedication to the Indianapolis community. As we celebrate its centennial on July 9, 2017, I extend my gratitude to Pastor Ronald Covington and First Lady Kim Covington for their leadership of this community.

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church first opened its doors on the west side of Indianapolis in 1917, under the leadership of Reverend B.T. Westbrook. Since then, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church has gone above and beyond to enrich our community through its youth programs and extensive charitable work, including the redevelopment of the Friendship Westside Center for Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to congratulate Friendship Missionary Baptist Church on their 100th anniversary. I am proud to know that organizations such as Friendship Missionary are flourishing and strengthening our community.

CONGRATULATING SING TAO
NEWSPAPERS

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to congratulate Sing Tao Newspapers on 52 years of providing extraordinary news coverage from its New York branch office.

As one of the oldest and most widely read news sources in the Chinese community, Sing Tao Daily was first published in 1938. Providing in-depth reporting and updates from all corners of the world, Sing Tao Daily allows Chinese citizens living abroad to remain connected with global, national and local coverage. For a number of Chinese residents of my district in the Lower East Side of New York City, Sing Tao Daily serves as that connection.

Through engagement in local communities, the paper is always working to give back by supporting local arts and cultural events.

I congratulate Sing Tao Newspapers for a long history of publishing first-class news coverage. I wish all the staff and journalists many more successful years to come.

MAE KRIER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a staunch supporter of U.S. efforts during the Second World War, Ms. Mae Krier of Levittown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, across the river from my Congressional District in Southern New Jersey.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, when American men were forced to leave their jobs for the battlefield, Mae Krier, who was 17 years old at the time, courageously left home herself, and joined other women to work in factories that supported the U.S. military during time of conflict.

Mae, her sister, and a friend worked at a Boeing plant in Seattle, where 17,000 B-17s and B-29s were built between 1942 and 1945.

Mae is quoted as saying about her service to the U.S., "Hitler thought American women were soft and that we could not produce because we were more concerned about shopping and keeping the house. We showed him what American women are really made of."

Since the 1980s, Mae Krier has stood as a symbol of women's strength and resolve, dispelling notions that strength and bravery are traits exclusive to men.

I ask you to join me in saluting and thanking Mae Krier for her contributions to our country during the Second World War and her selflessness to provide for our country in a time of need.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding a missed vote due to a meeting with a constituent. Had I been present for Roll Call vote No. 341, on H. Res. 3003 on Ordering the Previous Question, I would have voted Yea.

RECOGNIZING PAUL LARKIN'S
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Paul Larkin as he celebrates his 90th birthday on July 4, 1927.

A native of Bloomington, Illinois, Paul enlisted in the Illinois National Guard following his graduation from Normal Community High

School. He was then transferred to the U.S. Army, where he served as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army Signal Corp. during the Korean War. Staff Sergeant Larkin, a bronze star recipient, separated from the service after the signing of the armistice in 1953. Upon his return home, Paul raised his four children alongside his wife, Helen, and managed the family's 160 acre farm.

Following his decorated military career, Paul continues to serve others by volunteering in the Normal, Illinois community. As a man of faith, he served on the Epiphany Catholic Church's first school board. He also is an active member of The Knights of Columbus. At age 90, Paul still resides on the family farm and enjoys spending time with his twelve grandchildren and twenty-two grandchildren.

Paul Larkin has dutifully served his nation and continues to proudly serve his family and community. I thank Paul for his service, and I hope he has a happy birthday.

HONORING TERESA REYNOSO DE GONZALEZ

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special person in my district, Teresa Reynoso de Gonzalez.

Mrs. Reynoso de Gonzalez and her family have contributed enormously to our community through their efforts in founding and expanding the Northgate Gonzalez markets in California. This month, Mrs. Reynoso de Gonzalez celebrates her 90th birthday.

Mrs. Reynoso de Gonzalez was born in Jalostotitlan, Jalisco Mexico on July 2, 1927 and emigrated to the United States in 1976, where she has served as a loving figure and role model to our community as the co-owner of Northgate Market.

Her leadership of Northgate Market has allowed her family to serve the larger Latino population of Southern California, providing affordable and quality foods and services at over thirty locations and offering a taste of home for the many families that visit Northgate Market with Latino products, culture, and language.

Mrs. Reynoso de Gonzalez and her family's philanthropic efforts extend even further through the Gonzalez Reynoso Family Foundation, which supports neighborhood schools, sports teams, and other events. They have also been instrumental in uplifting the hard-working immigrant community and fostering invaluable memories, such as organizing Christmas gifts for children and hosting reunion meals for local families.

I want to thank Mrs. Reynoso de Gonzalez for the love she has offered so freely. Today, I join my district in recognizing the impact Mrs. Reynoso de Gonzalez has made on the lives she has touched, and wish her a very happy and blessed 90th birthday.

ALFRED C. ASHLEY III

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fire Captain Alfred C. Ashley III on the occasion of his retirement from the Camden Fire Department in New Jersey's First Congressional District.

Captain Ashley was born and raised in Camden, New Jersey. In 1984, he graduated from Camden Catholic High School. In 1987, he joined the Camden Fire Department.

Following the completion of his training at the fire academy, he had many assignments. Arguably, his favorite assignment was Engine 7 on Kaighn Avenue in the City of Camden. After years of hard work and dedication, he earned the promotion of Fire Captain in April 2001.

Captain Ashley was also a vital part of the Camden Fire Officers Union—IAFF Local 2578. In 2009 he was elected Union President, during which he supported negotiations to fair contracts and maintaining workplace safety for members of the Camden Fire Officers Union.

Captain Ashley's last assignment before his retirement was Ladder Company 2-2 Platoon. After 29 years of service, Captain Ashley retired from the Camden Fire Department on December 31, 2016.

He has one daughter, Zakia, who is his pride and joy. He looks forward to spending more time with her, riding motorcycles and cooking for family and friends.

I ask you to join me in thanking Captain Alfred C. Ashley III for his service to the City of Camden's Fire Department and for his dedication to the people he helped each and every day at work and throughout his career.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL "MATT"
PATRICK RYAN

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the life and faith of my friend and local Houston radio favorite, Michael "Matt" Patrick Ryan.

Convinced at a young age that he was called to a life in the radio industry, Matt Patrick began his career by spinning records at a small New York radio station. After hosting radio programs in New York, Indiana, and Ohio, his career finally brought him to the great state of Texas in 2011.

Matt quickly became a favorite among his listeners with his no-nonsense way of informing and entertaining his audiences. A well-known name in Houston, Matt anchored the morning news on KTRH and hosted the syndicated Matt Patrick Show every afternoon on KPRC. For his talents in the "theatre of the mind," Matt received national recognition as a two-time Radio and Television Broadcasters Hall of Fame inductee.

In addition to his nearly 40-year career in radio, Matt was often a contributor on Fox 26 Houston, where he discussed politics and de-

bated current events with local activists and public officials.

Matt's straight talking attitude and strong conservative values guided him through his broadcasting career and defined him as an individual. Never shying away from fighting for his beliefs, Matt's passion and dedication to defending the constitution inspired countless listeners, known as Patrick's Patriots.

In September of 2015, Matt faced a new challenge: he was diagnosed with stage IV Melanoma. True to his no-nonsense nature, Matt decided to share his struggle with his listeners, and on July 5th, his six year anniversary at KTRH, he announced that he had exhausted all standard of treatment options.

Following his announcement, his co-workers and radio listeners from across Texas joined together in an outpouring of support that Matt called "breathhtaking and humbling."

Constantly supported by his best friend and wife, Paula; his children, Lexa, Alanna, and Jake; his sisters, Maureen Shell and Colleen Ryan Neubauer; his parents, John and Marie Drummond; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, John and Cindy Parker; and his sister-in-law, Dawn Parker; Matt's unwavering moral compass and complete faith in God served as an example to his friends, his community, and his listeners.

It is my honor to join Matt's family, friends, and listeners to recognize his lifetime of service and his steadfast faith. On Sunday, July 9, Matt's battle with cancer ended. Matt's life was an inspiration to all who heard him, and he will be sorely missed.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF
THE STORE AT REBUILDING TO-
GETHER SARATOGA COUNTY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the opening of The Store at Rebuilding Together Saratoga County.

Founded in 2003 by the Larkin Family of Saratoga Springs, Rebuilding Together Saratoga County is an inspiring example of our community coming together to support its members in need. The organization works with low-income homeowners to provide necessary home repairs and safety updates at no cost to the homeowner. Due in large part to their dedicated team of local volunteers, Rebuilding Together Saratoga County continues to strengthen our community by ensuring that our citizens can live safely and independently in their homes.

The opening of The Store is an important development for Rebuilding Together Saratoga County. The revenue from its sales will directly contribute to the organization's projects and operations, allowing them to reach even more people in need.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to thank Rebuilding Together Saratoga County for their incredible service. We are grateful for their commitment to bringing our community together, and wish them all the best on the opening of The Store.