New York State in 1988, the fire tower has been fully restored and continues to offer hikers incredible views of the Adirondack Mountains, Lake Champlain, and Vermont.

In honor of the fire tower’s centennial, the Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine is hosting several celebratory events including hikes up the mountain, a silent art auction, and live performances. The organization, which was largely responsible for the restoration of the fire tower, is dedicated to preserving Poke-O-Moonshine and to educating the public about the mountain and its surrounding areas. Their efforts have earned public access to this special place and increased awareness of our region’s rich environmental history.

On behalf of New York’s 21st District, I want to join in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Poke-O-Moonshine fire tower. It is an important piece of the Adirondack Park and a symbol of the North Country’s long tradition of outdoor engagement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF Irv Holland

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. Irwin Holland. Irv Holland was a brave and courageous man who served our country in a multitude of ways and will forever be remembered as a member of one of the great generations.

Mr. Holland was born in 1917, eldest child to first generation immigrants. He grew up in New York where he graduated high school and attended night school but never graduated with a college degree. In 1943, he joined the United States Army Air Corps, and became an Army Air Corps navigator, eventually reaching the rank of Second Lieutenant. In the midst of World War II, and on his maiden mission, the navigational instruments on his B-17 failed. In the dark and over the ocean Mr. Holland led three B-17 airplanes to the Ashen Islands where they landed safely. After taking off from the Ashen Islands they continued to the European Theater and in June 1943 he and several other crew members were shot down over the English Channel. Mr. Holland was taken as a prisoner of war. He was a prisoner of war from the Ashen Islands to Sagan-Silesia, Silesia, Bavaria, eventually moving to Nuremberg, Germany. Mr. Holland was liberated and returned to his family at home. He forever felt that connection between the place of his birth and his new home.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize a mentor and a friend, Irv Holland. A gentleman, who felt the obligation to serve both his community and country of birth as well as his new found home. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Barbara, who still lives in Israel and their three children: Francine, Amy, and Robbie, their five grandchildren: David, Sarah, Rachel, Hannah, and Naomi, and their four great-grandchildren: Ame, Ophir, Abie, and Ella.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 28, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 27, on Roll Call vote 414, I did not vote. Had I been present, it was my intention to vote NO.

CONGRATULATING THE SERGEANT ANDREW BRUCHER VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 5499

HON. JOHN J. FASO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Sgt. Andrew Brucher Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5499, located in Kauneonga Lake, New York, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary on August 5, 2017.

At its anniversary dinner, the Post will honor two very special people: Mrs. Mabel Brucher, a Gold Star Mother, and Mr. Raymond Jankowski, a veteran of the Second World War and founding Charter Member of Post 5499.


Honor those who serve our nation should be a top priority for all Americans, and the VFW is an essential organization that fosters camaraderie among American veterans and advocates on their behalf. Congratulations to Post 5499 on this milestone anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF NAVY YEO-MAN 3RD CLASS EDMUND RYAN

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, Navy Yeoman 3rd Class Edmund Ryan of Wilbraham, Massachusetts was killed when the Japanese sank the USS Oklahoma during the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. For 75 years, Yeoman Ryan was one of the nearly 400 sailors from that vessel whose identities were deemed “non-recoverable.” But thanks to the advancements in DNA testing and the efforts by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Yeoman Ryan’s remains have been finally identified. This was possible by matching the mitochondrial DNA to family members of the deceased. This achievement gives hope to the family members of the 26,000 servicemembers from World War II that possibly too can be identified.

Next week, Yeoman Ryan will be interred in his final resting place at Arlington National Cemetery. On behalf of the First District of Massachusetts and the United States, we are eternally grateful for his service and sacrifice to our nation. And on this solemn occasion, I want to extend my best wishes to his family.

RECOGNIZING NORTHEAST GEORGIA’S STEM STUDENTS

HON. DOUG COLLINS
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor seventeen of northeast Georgia’s brightest high school students. The National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists and the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists selected these young scholars to represent the state of Georgia at their respective national conventions held in late June.

Despite the fact that these students hailed from different parts of the district, they share a common interest in science and medical-related fields. Representatives from across the state as delegate gave them a chance to discuss their interests and ideas—whether they involved becoming our nation’s next leading scientist or