IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER PAT SLACK

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the distinguished career of Commander Pat Slack of the Snohomish Regional Drug & Gang Task Force, who will be retiring at the end of this year.

Commander Slack is an army veteran who received the Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam. Following his service, he spent 25 years with the Snohomish County Sheriff's office and five years as a Deputy Chief with the Everett Police Department.

In 2000, he became the Commander of the Snohomish Regional Drug & Gang Task Force, which has become the largest of its kind in the state under his leadership. The task force targets drug trafficking organizations and street gangs involved in drug activity to reduce availability and trafficking of drugs in the state and county. This is with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of life in our communities.

Commander Slack was instrumental in starting the drug take back program in Snohomish County and he has been a member of a number of national and local teams and organizations focused on drugs and public health.

I would like to recognize Commander Slack for his excellent leadership and his commitment to fighting the opioid epidemic in my district.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRASHER-WINTHROP VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER DAVID CARR

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David Carr, a firefighter in the Brasher-Winthrop Volunteer Fire Department who died in the line of duty on November 4, 2017.

David dedicated his life to serving others. After joining the Winthrop Volunteer Fire Department in 1979, he became Fire Chief of the department and maintained an active membership after his department merged with the firefighters of Brasher. David was also a member of the Tri-Town Volunteer Rescue Squad for 17 years, and served as chief for four years. In 2016, he was recognized for responding to the most calls of any EMT in his department. David was known by his colleagues as a trusted mentor and dedicated volunteer to the Tri-Town Community.

I would like to offer my deepest condolences to David's family and friends, particularly his wife, Lisa. David was an exemplary member of the community and his countless sacrifices made on behalf of the 21st District will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF JOSEPHINE R. (ARENA) DRISCOLL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Josephine R. (Arena) Driscoll, a resident of Rockland, Massachusetts, who is celebrating her 100th birthday.

Josephine was born on November 27, 1917 to Harry L. and Rose (Galbo) Arena, who emigrated from Italy through Ellis Island. Growing up she was very active in her community as the captain of her drill and bowling teams and in the Holy Family Church in Rockland. In 1939 she won an award for her poem at the World's Fair Anthology of Verse. Josephine also spent time traveling across the country and to Mexico with her parents.

As a young woman Josephine worked in the Commonwealth Shoe Factory in Whitman. After the factory closed, Josephine, who did not have the opportunity to finish high school, went back and earned her degree. She then worked in the Electro Signal Lab in Rockland, the town where she lives to this day.

In 1957 she married Charles A. Driscoll, a U.S. Navy veteran from World War II. Continuing her love for travel, she made many cross-country road trips with her husband until he passed away in 1968. Josephine continued to be involved in her community and is a lifelong member of the Republican Town Committee. Today Josephine lives with her niece Rosemarie and her husband Edward, a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Josephine R. Driscoll on this joyous occasion of her 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN H. LIEKHUS

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take some time today to honor the memory of First Lieutenant John H. Liekhus of Anaheim, for his immense dedication to serving our country.

A member of Anaheim High's 1934 graduating class, First Lt. Liekhus was a flyer with the 323rd Bombardment Squadron, the 91st Bombardment Group and Eighth Air Force. On November 2, 1944, First Lt. Liekhus and his crew were on a bombing mission to Merseburg, Germany when their plane was hit by a flak. When he realized his plane was going down, First Lt. Liekhus ordered his nine-member crew to bail. Three survived and became prisoners of war, the navigator died, and First Lt. Liekhus and the others were declared missing in action. It was his great nephew, Dr. Michael Cushing, who led the search for answers about his great uncle's plane crash. First Lt. Liekhus was 29 years old at the time of his death, but his body was not recovered to be returned home until 73 years after his death. Dr. Cushing, and First Lt. Liekhus' last living sister, Trudy, were finally able to receive answers.

First Lt. John H. Liekhus embodied the selflessness and courage of servicemembers. He paid the ultimate price by putting the lives of his crew before his own, and his efforts towards the mission to bomb Merseburg oil refineries were instrumental in ending Hitler's reign.

Mr. Speaker, First Lt. Liekhus is an example to us all of us of the incredible sacrifice of our servicemembers. I am honored to recognize First Lt. Liekhus for going above and beyond for American freedom and thank him for his service.