

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today marks 50 years since President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a bill into law officially establishing the National Park Foundation.

The National Park Foundation works to enrich America's national parks and programs, safeguard our heritage, and engage the next generation of national park enthusiasts.

Celebrating 50 years, the National Park Foundation is the official charity of America's national parks and non-profit partner to the National Park Service.

Chartered by Congress in 1967, the National Park Foundation raises private funds to help protect more than 84 million acres of national parks through critical conservation and preservation efforts. It works to connect all Americans with their incomparable natural landscapes, vibrant culture, and rich history. And, the National Park Foundation helps to engage the next generation of park stewards.

In 2016, we proudly commemorated the National Park Service's 100th anniversary. The National Park Foundation launched the Centennial Campaign for America's national parks, a comprehensive effort to strengthen and enhance the future of our parks.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly thank the National Park Foundation for all that it does to support our national treasures for another 100 years.

Congratulations.

RECOGNIZING JOHN ANDERSON

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of John Anderson of Kia Motors. John is retiring at the end of this year, after 33 years in the auto industry.

From General Motors, to Delphi, to Kia, John has seen the ups and downs of the auto industry and has more than earned his retirement. But, this is a bittersweet moment for many of us in my hometown of West Point, Georgia.

Kia opened a Washington office in conjunction with opening its manufacturing plant in 2010. The plant opened when I was mayor and Sonny Perdue was Governor. John was on the job then and has been there every day as the head of Washington's office since it opened.

From the beginning of his career at Disney's Epcot Center, when he was the General Motors guy explaining the future of the industry, to his current role at Kia, John has made the automotive industry better; and he has done it with a remarkable touch of humanity and friendship along the way.

John has been a great advocate for my hometown, for my district, and for the industry of Kia that now calls it home. As he moves into retirement with his wife, Joanna, as they get to spend a little time together, we wish him well in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING DR. LESTER B. JOHNSON, JR.

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Dr. Lester Johnson, Jr., who passed away on November 29, 2017, at 91 years of age. Dr. Johnson's work to provide a high-quality education to all students in Savannah, Georgia, has truly made our community a better place to live.

His teaching career spanned 43 years, with 20 of those years teaching at Alfred E. Beach High School, a place where he was a student himself. Dr. Johnson passionately taught industrial arts and mathematics classes, and he received the Beach High School Teacher of the Year Award in 1961.

In 1969, Dr. Johnson began to teach students at Savannah State University, where he later received the university's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1991.

Dr. Johnson's accomplishments don't stop with education. A few of his many accomplishments include being a former State representative and the first African-American Eagle Scout in Savannah.

Dr. Lester Johnson's students leave his legacy throughout the First Congressional District and the rest of our Nation. He will truly be missed.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Wreaths Across America Day, a tribute held annually to honor and remember those servicemembers who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our great Nation.

Since Congress designated Wreaths Across America a national day of remembrance in 2007, Americans have joined together at Arlington National Cemetery and in their local communities to honor our veterans who have passed on.

This year, more than 1 million wreaths were laid at over 1,300 cemeteries throughout the country. 245,000 wreaths were placed by thousands of volunteers at Arlington National Cemetery.

On Saturday, in a virtual blizzard, I had the distinct honor of joining the Rome-Utica Chapter of the Military Officers Association; the Navy ROTC students from Proctor High School in Utica, New York; and members of the Marine Corps League at Saint Peter's Church in Rome, New York.

As we laid wreaths on the graves of our fallen servicemen and -women, we took a moment to say each veteran's name, to remember each individual's life of service, sacrifice, and the families they left behind.

Divided by distance but not by spirit, on Saturday, millions of Americans came together in a common mission to honor and remember our fallen heroes.

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CONGRATULATING SHASTA HIGH SCHOOL WOLVES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to offer a hearty congratulations to the Shasta High School Wolves of Redding, California, for their football championship this year. They won the north section. They won the Northern California Championship and made their first ever visit to the California State Championship, where they played down in southern California over the weekend.

Though they came up a little bit short, they did have an early lead in that game after all that travel. So, indeed, congratulations to that program at Shasta High School and to the Wolves of Redding, California.

It is teamwork that really makes this happen, and that is exemplified by the north State's leading rusher, Vince Smith, when he was quoted: "The thing that was different about this season was that we actually really cared about each other and we were family. Every play, we'd use our hearts and fight for each other."

That is teamwork. That is the spirit. Congratulations, Shasta High School Wolves.

TAX BILL IMPACTING VETERANS AND ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, wherever I go throughout my district and speak to an audience, I always acknowledge the veterans and Active-Duty military. I think that is one unifying factor for this Congress and for this Nation.

Today, the President offered a national security strategy. During his first 12 months, that strategy has been haphazard and lacking understanding. All of us, however, want to have a strong military, strong military families, and strong resources for our Active Duty and our veterans.

It is sad, however, that in the next 2 days we will be voting on a tax bill that will take \$2.3 trillion out of our budget and create a debt. It will raid Medicare and Medicaid, impacting some of those very soldiers and veterans' families. As well, in this new bill, the top 1 percent will get 83 percent of this tax bill.

Isn't it interesting, if you are a family of four making \$59,000, there will be \$1,800 not given to you but taken away?

We can't have it all, Mr. Speaker. We can't have a strong strategy, of which