

HONORING MAGGIE MAINE

HON. MARK SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maggie Maine of Bluffton, South Carolina. It is my privilege to recognize her and all that she has overcome and accomplished in just seven short years. On Saturday, February 3rd, 2018, the American Heart Association's Southern Coast Heart Ball will celebrate Maggie's life and the odds she has defied.

Albert Einstein once said that "there are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." Maggie lives every day as if it is a miracle and, in so doing, inspires all who know her to ask the larger question of how they might make the most of the miracle we have all been granted in life.

Before ever taking a breath, Maggie was diagnosed with Dandy-Walker Syndrome when Renae, her mother, was just 26 weeks pregnant. Since then, Maggie has defied the odds and shown true grit. She lives with multiple congenital heart defects, a malformation of the cerebellum, and is completely dependent on a pacemaker that was installed when she was just an infant.

What these things mean is that her ability to see, walk, jump, and dance are things the doctors told her parents she would never be capable of doing. Yet, she does. Maggie is indeed a miracle kid.

Even at such a young age, she is an inspiration to those around her. As said best by her parents, she is always smiling, even on the worst of days. With that, I would again ask that you join me in honoring Maggie Maine on this momentous occasion for the life she is living, her strength and calm, and for the way she stands as an inspiration that should make all of us smile.

REMEMBERING THE VOYAGE OF
THE "ORYOKU MARU"**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pause to remember the American POWs who arrived in Japan 73 years ago today. These heroes were survivors of the infamous "death cruise" of the *Oryoku Maru*. These men were prisoners since the American territory fell to the Japanese in the spring of 1942. Of the over 1,600 soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and civilians who left Manila on December 13, 1944, barely 400 arrived at the port of Moji, Japan on January 30, 1945.

"Hell Ship" is simply the only way to describe the vessels and conditions the POWs endured. These men were packed in dark holds of freighters, usually with coal or animal waste. They were given little water, food, or fresh air. Sanitation was non-existent. Men driven insane were quickly and brutally quieted. I became familiar with this story by assisting my constituent, Ms. Jan Thompson, who is the daughter of a survivor of the *Oryoku Maru* journey and is the President of American De-

fenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society. Her father, Robert E. Thompson, was a Navy Pharmacist's Mate who had been assigned to a submarine tender in Manila Bay, the USS *Canopus*. He was surrendered on Corregidor. It has been my honor to help preserve the memory of the American POWs of Japan and of their experience aboard the Hell Ships to Japan. The 400-plus men who died during the stop at Takao Harbor, Formosa are currently buried in 20 graves marked simply as "Unknowns" at Hawaii's National Cemetery of the Pacific. Soon there will be a memorial plaque on the Memorial Walk at this Cemetery to these men who died aboard the *Enoura Maru* in Formosa on January 9, 1945, which was one of the Hell Ships that took part in the *Oryoku Maru* journey.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN L. SHAFER,
P.E.**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin L. Shafer, P.E. for being named as one of the Top 25 Global Water Leaders.

Kevin has served as the Executive Director at the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) since March 2002. As Executive Director, Kevin manages approximately 230 MMSD employees and oversees a contract for the operation and maintenance of the sewerage system with a private contractor.

As Executive Director, Kevin developed and implemented an Overflow Reduction Plan; completed a watershed based regional water quality management plan update; initiated a Green Infrastructure Program for the Milwaukee region; helped to found a local non-profit organization, the Southeast Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, and focused on water quality improvements.

Prior to joining the District, Mr. Shafer spent 10 years in private industry and six years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Fort Worth, Texas. He is a past president of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. Currently, Kevin is the Chair of the Water Environment Research Foundation and of the U.S. Water Alliance's Urban Water Sustainability Leadership Council. Mr. Shafer received a bachelor's degree in science and civil engineering with a specialty in water resources from the University of Illinois and a master's in civil engineering from the University of Texas.

In December 2017 he was named as one of the Top 25 Global Water Leaders by *Water & Wastewater International Magazine*. This designation is known as a barometer of the industry's thought leaders. The selection was made concentrating on active leaders who are driving companies forward into the digital water age with a focus on innovation.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I rise to pay tribute and congratulate Kevin Shafer on his award; I am proud that he resides and works in the Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY
PATROL OFFICER JOHN
QUINTERO ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to congratulate Officer John Quintero on his well-deserved retirement after 27 years with the California Highway Patrol (CHP). Our entire community is grateful for his dedication to keep our roads and highways safe. Today, I would like to recognize his outstanding career and years of service.

Day in and day out, we use our vehicles to go to various places such as work, school, or visit our loved ones, and we are able to mobilize safely because of the tireless efforts of individuals like Officer Quintero.

He is an esteemed member of our community and a resident of the City of Indio. He is a devoted husband and father of six children. He served as an inspiration for his daughter Jacqueline to follow in his footsteps and become a CHP Officer. His colleagues look up to him as an intelligent, hardworking man.

Officer Quintero began his career in traffic law enforcement in South Los Angeles, where he served for six years. During his early years, he demonstrated a passion to protect our citizens and keep our streets safe, which earned him the Governor's Employee Safety Award for his efforts in vehicle theft. Officer Quintero carries that passion in every task he undertakes, making him an exemplary leader.

Throughout his career, he has held numerous positions including Field Training Officer, Emergency Medical Technician, Shift Supervisor, Drug Recognition Expert, Child Safety Seat Technician, El Protector Hispanic Outreach Office, and Critical Incident Peer Supporter. Officer Quintero was also a member of a Special Response Team, where he served as protection for last year's Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

His commitment to keeping our citizens on the road safe is exemplified by his fast response in saving the lives of two residents who had been shot while driving in the freeway. With the strength they had left, they managed to park their vehicle in front of the Indio CHP Office. Officer Quintero and his daughter rapidly administered medical aid to the male driver and the female passenger, keeping them conscious until the paramedics took them to the hospital. In the process, they collected crucial information about the suspected shooter. After an investigation was conducted, the suspect was arrested. Officer Quintero's outstanding performance and courageous actions are truly commendable.

Officer Quintero has dedicated his life working to ensure our community is safe. Every day, he was willing to sacrifice his life in service of others. His valuable contributions and arduous work will be felt for years to come.

On behalf of the entire 36th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Officer John Quintero's achievements and years of service. His arduous work and contributions to our community will be felt for years to come. I commend his public service and extend my best wishes on his retirement.