

colleagues to join me in celebrating the many accomplishments of Bishop Harry L. Seawright. We pay tribute to his distinguished career for the betterment of the State of Alabama and extend deep appreciation for his exemplary service as the Presiding Prelate of the 9th Episcopal District.

IN HONOR OF JOHN STUART
BRUCE

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Stuart Bruce of Raleigh, North Carolina.

John Bruce was born in Winston-Salem and grew up in Raleigh. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating in 1975. John then chose to pursue law school, also at UNC, where he graduated in 1978.

Mr. Speaker, after practicing with a Raleigh law firm for about four years, John decided to enter public service with the U.S. Department of Justice. He was appointed as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina on April 18, 1983, and excelled at his job.

John received two Director's Awards from DOJ; one in 2002 for superior performance in a managerial role, and another in 2004 for superior performance as an Assistant United States Attorney for his work on a prosecution that was called at the time the most successful public corruption case in North Carolina history. This case resulted in the conviction of the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture and four of her top aides for multiple felonies associated with their corrupt activities, including extortion under color of official right, mail and wire fraud, and obstruction of justice. The North Carolina Bar Association also recognized John that year with an award as the Outstanding Public Sector Attorney.

Mr. Speaker, when my nomination to serve as U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of North Carolina was confirmed by the Senate in 2006, I selected John to serve as First Assistant U.S. Attorney, working as second-in-command during my five years as U.S. Attorney. His professionalism, integrity, and experience were invaluable as we prosecuted drug trafficking, public corruption, and terrorism cases all across Eastern North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, John Stuart Bruce twice served as U.S. Attorney for the EDNC on an interim basis; first, for a year prior to the confirmation of Frank D. Whitney as U.S. Attorney in 2002, and most recently for 21 months prior to Robert J. Higdon, Jr. taking the oath of office to become the United States Attorney for the Eastern District on October 10, 2017.

Following 34 years of government service, John recently retired on February 9, 2018.

I will always consider John a valued colleague and a friend from our time together in the U.S. Attorney's office. I wish him well in his retirement and any future endeavors.

HONORING ST. CAJETAN PARISH
ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Cajetan Parish, a vibrant Catholic parish on the Southwest Side of Chicago, who will celebrate its 90th Anniversary with a Mass on March 4th.

Father Daniel Murphy was given the task of establishing St. Cajetan Parish in what was then the far reaches of Chicago, and the first Mass was celebrated on July 3, 1927. A tiny prefabricated frame church was soon set up at the corner of 112th and Artesian. From a very humble beginning, parish leaders went to work on an intense fundraising and building campaign. In 1932, Fr. Meade became pastor and succeeded in building a school and rectory, enlarged the Church, and found a place to live for the Sinsinawa Dominicans who faithfully taught in the school.

Fr. Sharp, who became pastor in 1943, enlarged the rectory and the school, constructed a convent, and built the Church that is in use today. Father Schomburg built the new rectory in 1970 and Fathers Boyle, Sivore, Burke, Maloney, and Barkemeyer all kept improving and building the community of faith. In the early 2000s, the buildings of the parish were modernized and improved. In 2005, Fr. Kurucz was appointed the 10th Pastor of St. Cajetan and the church was completely renovated in 2015.

St. Cajetan's continued commitment to the Catholic faith and service continue to make it a tremendous asset to the community. The parish has a Ministry of Care which provides prayer, comfort, and healing to those who are unable to physically attend Mass. There is a Special Religious Development Ministry for those with disabilities that helps to integrate people into the wider community. In addition, St. Cajetan's PB & J Ministry works tirelessly to provide meals for the homeless by putting together sack lunches for those in need. It is with this in mind that we remember all the compassion and care this parish has for everyone in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing St. Cajetan Parish and congratulating them as they celebrate their 90th Anniversary. I am confident that St. Cajetan will continue to be an inspiration to all of us through their faith and dedicated service.

MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE
AND NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, I had the opportunity to attend the Munich Security Conference, highlighted by Defense Secretary James Mattis and National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster, and senior representatives from more than 70 countries. During the conference, we met with General Curtis Scaparrotti, NATO Supreme Al-

lied Commander, and General Christopher Cavoli, Commander U.S. Army Europe, who are successfully implementing President Donald Trump's European Deterrence Initiative to promote peace through strength, preventing further Russian aggression.

I was grateful for the opportunity to meet with British Prime Minister Theresa May, Prime Minister of Iraq Haider al-Abadi, and Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, who are on the front lines of advancing democracy. A highlight was Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu exposing Iranian drone wreckage.

I also had the opportunity to participate with Congressman MIKE TURNER at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Brussels, where we reinforced the bonds with our NATO allies of 29 countries and discussed joint efforts to confront threats of Russian aggression in Moldova, Georgia, and Ukraine.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and may we never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

CONGRATULATING HAILEY HODGE
ON BEING NAMED THE SYRACUSE
DISTRICT YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR
OF THE YEAR

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hailey Hodge for being named the Syracuse District Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration, an annual award presented to outstanding individuals for their dedication to small business.

Ms. Hodge is being recognized for her remarkable achievements as a small business owner. After graduating from Drexel University in November 2014, Ms. Hodge returned to her hometown of Canton, New York, at the age of 22 to open Luna Boutique. Luna Boutique is a successful women's clothing store, the first of its kind in the small town of Canton. Ms. Hodge also served as a role model to other aspiring businesspeople by participating in SUNY Canton's Roopreneur competition, which challenges students to develop innovative ideas for local businesses. In just a few short years, Ms. Hodge not only established a thriving business, but also became a pillar of her community.

Since 1963, the U.S. Small Business Administration has recognized individuals for their commitment to small business during National Small Business Week. The Young Entrepreneur Award recognizes business owners younger than 30 for creating successful small businesses by generating profit, increasing opportunities for employment, developing innovative methods, and demonstrating the potential for long-term business growth.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate Ms. Hodge for her well-deserved award as the Syracuse District Young Entrepreneur of the Year and wish her continued success in the years to come.

KYLIE POWERS EARNS SILVER
MEDAL AT 6A SWIMMING FINALS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kylie Powers, of Ridge Point High School for earning a silver medal in the 6A 100-yard breaststroke.

Powers finished an impressive high school swimming career with a 100-yard breaststroke silver medal with a time of 1:01.15. She is a signee at Texas A&M. Her accomplishments in the pool have made her family and our Missouri City community proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Kylie Powers. We look forward to seeing what she will accomplish in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL MUJAHID
RAMZZIDDIN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday I attended the funeral of a hero. Prince George's County lost a dedicated Corporal last Wednesday, who was shot and killed while off duty but still doing his duty. Corporal Mujahid Ramzziddin, a fourteen-year veteran of the force, stepped in to protect a neighbor from an abusive spouse. As Chief Hank Stawinski said: 'He saved her life by giving his own.' He is the thirtieth Prince George's County police officer to die in the line of duty. Corporal Ramzziddin's courage is an example of the kind of devotion to duty that our law enforcement officers in Prince George's County and across Maryland and the United States demonstrate each day they serve.

At the funeral in Lanham, I joined state and county officials in comforting Corporal Ramzziddin's wife Tammi and his four children as they paid their final tributes to him and laid him to rest according to traditional Muslim rites. I was honored to present Tammi with a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in memory of her husband, and I was deeply moved by the outpouring of support and love from the community to the Ramzziddin family. They are in my thoughts at this difficult time, as is Corporal Ramzziddin's heroic example.

Corporal Ramzziddin was not only a dedicated law enforcement officer; he was also a volunteer in the community. He served in several ways with the Nation's Mosque, including as a leader for its Boy Scout Troop 1517, on its safety and security committee, and with the men's group that engaged in neighborhood litter removal projects. Corporal Ramzziddin was a man of faith and service, a patriot and a hero to his community. It surprised no one who knew him that he gave his life while trying to protect someone else.

I hope all of my colleagues in this House will join me in paying tribute to Corporal Mujahid Ramzziddin for his life of service and his ultimate sacrifice protecting the people of Prince George's County, Maryland.

HONORING HENRY LUCKETT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an intuitive and self-motivated man, Mr. Henry Luckett.

Mr. Henry Luckett was born and raised in Canton, MS, to Henry and Lucille Luckett. He is the second of six children born. His parents instilled in him at an early age, that if you want to be a productive citizen you must take education seriously, work hard, and never make excuses.

Mr. Luckett has lived in Holmes County since 1982. His family and faith are very important. He's married to Mrs. Charlie M. Luckett and they are the proud parents of four children.

Mr. Luckett currently serves as Chancery Clerk of Holmes County since January 2012. He is an active member of: Holmes County School and Community, serving as a Charter member of Leadership Holmes since 1993; Board of Directors of Holmes County Chambers of Commerce, (2002–2008), as President (2008–2010); and he was President of the William Sullivan School PTA from 2005 to 2010. He currently serves as a member of board of the State PTA of Mississippi. to

Mr. Luckett received a B.A. in Business Administration from Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., in 1974. He has 26 years of public service with the Department of Human Services (1982–2008), and served as County Director of Holmes County from 1992 to 2008. During this Administration, he was a member of the Six Million Dollar Club, which were counties who were issued six million dollars or more annually in food stamps benefits. Only twenty-five States had that distinction. Being one among the National Six Million Dollar Club members Holmes County received numerous awards from the USDA for exceptional management of the program. As Director he always made sure that everyone was treated with respect and those eligible received their benefits in a timely manner.

Mr. Luckett previously served as Project Director for the Mississippi Parent Information Resource Center Program for the Community Students Learning Center. The Program serves parents of Title 1 students Statewide with information, resources, and training that supports student achievement. Continuing with the support of the community and his involvement with Holmes County Students, the program provides summer employment to the students which teaches them professional work ethics and preparation for future leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Henry Luckett for his desire for continued excellence in his community.

SERBIA AND AMERICA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honor for me to talk about the great relationship we have with Serbia as co-chair of

the Congressional Serbia Caucus along with my friend EMANUEL CLEAVER (D–MO).

Serbia is a great friend of the United States. As a Texan, I have great admiration for the people of Serbia. Our strong opinions and habit to speak our minds make us natural allies.

In fact, one of the first people to settle Texas was a Serbian named Dorde Sagic, or George Fischer as he was known in the U.S.

After settling in Texas, Sagic went on to become a justice of the peace in my hometown of Houston, Texas.

But Serbia has contributed much more to the cause of justice than just Mr. Sagic keeping the early streets of Houston safe.

Today we honor the service of Serbia's armed forces who have fought side-by-side with Americans to preserve justice during history's most horrific conflicts.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson gave a speech marking the fourth anniversary of Austria-Hungary's invasion of Serbia. Speaking of the bravery of the Serbian armed forces, President Wilson said:

"Nobly did they respond. So valiantly and courageous did they oppose the forces of a country ten times greater in population and resources . . . While their territory has been devastated and their homes despoiled, the spirit of the Serbian people has not been broken."

As a Texan, I admire such defiance against overwhelming odds.

Like President Wilson, I am proud to share the stories of Serbia's bravery here in Washington.

I believe the most meaningful for Americans is the story of the Halyard Mission during the dark days of the Second World War.

While under Nazi-occupation, the Serbian people demonstrated their bravery as they played a crucial role in the largest rescue operation of American airmen in history.

In 1944, American bombers were flying frequent missions to strike Germany's vital oil supplies in Romania as part of the allied advance into Europe.

The 15th Air Force led this effort by launching nearly 20,000 sorties into Eastern Europe, with many of the missions flying over Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. As many as 1,500 pilots and airmen were shot down during these courageous air raids.

Serbians, who had been resisting German forces since 1941, risked their own lives to rescue American aircrews and hide them from patrolling Nazis.

For months these brave and noble Serbians cared for and protected American and allied pilots.

By August 1944, the allied forces, including the 15th Air Force and Office of Strategic Services, devised a daring operation to evacuate the hundreds of allied pilots being sheltered by the Serbian resistance.

American aircraft flew into enemy territory and evacuated these airmen from an air field built and protected by local Serbians near the village of Pranjani.

For over 60 years this operation was kept secret. But now we can remember the courage of our Serbian friends and say thank you.

The spirit of the Halyard mission still lives on today as a remarkable story of resistance and heroism.

As was the case in both World Wars, Serbia and the U.S. still face shared threats.