

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

John Albanese, Richard A. Anderson, Jerome Bartkiewicz, Richard J. Bauer, William J. Bauer, Donald E. Bennett, Dale Berman, Frank W. Braman Jr., William K. Bruinius, Edvins Budeniks, Dale P. Buhl, James J. Burke, David Byster, Walter R. Cannon, Roy A. Carlson, Michael L. Carreon, Clement J. Cerney, Ernest E. Chapman, Steve Cizmar, Don R. Copeland, John R. Cory, Arnold D. Cowen, Ernest D. Curtis, Einar S. Dahl, Robert J. Dahms, William T. DeCicco, Louis G. Diaz, Thomas J. DiBernardo, Robert H. Dolph Sr., Donald L. Earley, Eugene Ehrhardt, Adolph F. Ermer, Calvin Farmer Jr., Justin R. Farrar, Frank Femali, William E. Fishman, Robert L. Fogt, John V. Frega, Gerald Gardner, Charles Glickman, Earle F. Griebler, Charles A. Griffea, Terry S. Hensley, Richard W. Hess, John F. Homan, Leroy A. Howatt, Clifford W. Jenkins, Edward Kadlec, Kenneth D. Koehler, Kenneth Kuhr, Florian Kurcab, Donald LaMorte, Andrew Langas, Daniel Leary, Jack E. Levitt, Maurice Lord, Edward A. Lustyk, Lewis J. Maine, Jack E. Martin, Robert Mau, Harry M. McCullagh, Lowell G. McDonnell, Joel D. Meisles, Donald E. Mentz, Norbert Milzarek, LeRoy Mistro, Walter C. Moore, Ralph W. Mueller, Jerry Netolicky, Gerald W. Nordengren, Thadeus Obora, Gilbert D. Oden, Neil C. Olson, Jerome J. O'Reilly, Arden Peterson, Leonard Petrusis, Richard Pisarcik, Roland Puccinelli, Joseph A. Putz, John A. Raven, George Revelas, George A. Riebesehl, Wally Rivera, Henry B. Roberson, Donald E. Roberts, Robert J. Saraz, Jimmie Vavern Schoon, Edwin Schwendt, Robert E. Shea, Ralph F. Sherman, John H. Skipworth, John Spoor, Walter Spuck, Stanley J. Stanish, Robert Stavarakas, Richard A. Stuercke, Joseph H. Taylor, Gordon A. Vaundry, Robert M. Ward, Paul J. Weiss, Gordon Westlund, Thomas A. Wisinski, Donald A. Yarashus, Phillip C. Zagon.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREG HARDEN'S
MOTIVATIONAL LEADERSHIP

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize All Things Artistic Ministries for their annual History Alive program. Their efforts enrich the lives of Michigan students through their programming.

Established in 2009, Dr. Debby Mitchell founded All Things Artistic Ministries in the hopes of creating a community of artistic Michigan residents who would like to cultivate a love for the arts and humanities in the next generation. Four years after it was created, Dr. Mitchell designated Ypsilanti, Michigan as its main outreach area for arts education and student programming. This year marks the 5th annual History Alive: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants Program put on by All Things Artistic Ministries in conjunction with the Washtenaw Community schools. The program runs for 14-weeks and allows 5th to 12th

grade students to write, stage, and put on a play based on the lives of two distinguished Washtenaw County residents. This year's honorees are Reverend Garther Roberson and Greg Harden, two Washtenaw County community members who represent the best of southeast Michigan.

Mr. Greg Harden is a world-renowned life coach and motivational speaker who calls southeast Michigan home. He grew up in Detroit, Michigan and took jobs as a steelworker and TV cameraman before returning to school. Mr. Harden received his bachelor's degree at the University of Michigan and was hired as a counselor at a residential drug and alcohol treatment center in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Due to his reputation as a caring and passionate individual, he was then hired on as a student-athlete counselor at U of M in 1986 under football coach Bo Schembechler. It was through his work at the University that he impacted the lives of countless athletes and leaders including Tom Brady and Desmond Howard. His life's work shows us that one person can make a difference in the lives of many.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Greg Harden for his lifetime of motivational counseling. His leadership inspires us all to spread kindness and encourage those around us.

HONORING JACK ROUNTREE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack Rountree, a veteran of the United States Army, a builder, and an all-around great American.

Jack has been a builder from a young age. He was born into a middle-class family who owned a thriving trucking business. The Great Depression was a difficult period for their household as it was for so many across our country. It was at that time that Jack completed his first construction project: an overhang for the shed so he would not have to milk cows in the rain. He was thirteen when he completed that project.

After graduating from High School Jack enlisted in the United States Army where he was assigned to the Army's Special Guard Military Police stationed at the Los Alamos Project in New Mexico. There he guarded the atomic bomb testing site at White Sands. There were a number of hazards associated with this position not least of which was regular exposure to dangerous radiation. Jack rose through the ranks quickly and was honorably discharged in 1948 as a sergeant.

Following his service Jack returned home to Oregon to tend to his sick mother. After training to become a diesel mechanic he quickly realized his true passion was building. He began his construction career in 1952. Over the years he has received numerous awards for his work including the 1988 Craftsmanship Award of the Southwestern Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Though he retired from his business Jack is still a builder at age 90 with the same spirit and drive he had as a teenager. Jack recently built a 28-foot-high prototype border wall on his property in Roseburg. His continued dedi-

cation to his craft and his country are commendable. I wish him all the best and trust the whole House will join me in thanking him for his service to our country.

TREATIES OF VELASCO

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on May 14th, 1836, Texas officially became a free and independent nation.

After the decisive victory at San Jacinto a few weeks earlier, interim Texas president David G. Burnett met with the defeated Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna in the town of Velasco.

Under the heat of the Texas sun, the two leaders signed treaties on behalf of their governments. Little known to the general public, two treaties were signed. The first would be released to the public, with the second secretive treaty only to be released once the first treaty was fulfilled.

The public treaty forced Santa Anna to withdraw his forces from Texas and forbade him from attacking Texas again. Additionally, he promised to restore confiscated property to Texans that had been taken by his forces during the campaign.

The second, secret agreement would literally go on to shape Texas as we know and love her today. The treaty held that the Rio Grande River would officially become the border between Texas and Mexico. Santa Anna also agreed to the arrangement of a treaty of commerce between his country and the new Republic of Texas as well as the establishment of diplomatic missions in both countries.

Mr. Speaker, this treaty represents an important moment in the history of Texas. Following the example of George Washington, who deferred to the judgement of the civilian government rather than dictating terms as commander-in-chief of the army, General Sam Houston refused to engage Santa Anna himself in talks about the treaty. Rather, he fulfilled his legal obligation and insisted that the Mexican leader speak only with the Texas government about the terms of the treaty.

By keeping his nerve, General Houston put the Texas Republic in a position to negotiate a meaningful and lasting peace with their Mexican adversaries. Sure enough, Texas got exactly what it wanted in the Treaty. The grand Republic of Texas sprung to life, as an independent, sovereign nation.

Mr. Speaker, as a resident and representative of some of the residents of the city named after the Founding Father of Texas, it brings me great pride to recognize the Treaties of Velasco not only as an important event for the state of Texas but also for the United States as a whole.

And that is just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call votes 168 and 169, I was not present