

American Legion Post 1836 on receiving their charter from the American Legion Department of Virginia. This new Post, located in the heart of Lovettsville, Virginia, will play a vital role in supporting the Lovettsville community of veterans, active military and their families by offering support and camaraderie as well as honoring the many sacrifices of service members at local community events such as this past Memorial Day and Fourth of July. This kind of community service is extremely inspiring to see in Virginia's 10th District as this American Legion Post will improve the quality of life for Virginians and bring awareness of the incredible sacrifices made every day by our service members.

I would like to give special recognition to Post Commander, Nathaniel Fontaine, as well as American Legion Officers: Lizzy Fontaine, Harold Baker, David Steadman, Scott Barton and Nick Hayward. These officers are an inspiration to men and women everywhere, and their efforts to the American Legion Post are truly honorable.

With the chartering of this Post, our Lovettsville community takes another step forward in the care and service to our Veterans and service members. I look forward to the positive impact this American Legion Post will have upon all individuals in Virginia's 10th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in celebrating with you and our colleagues the establishment of American Legion Post 1836. I ask that you join me in congratulating the entire leadership and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

PROMOTING FLOOD RISK MITIGATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the National Flood Insurance Program shortchanges taxpayers and those who pay flood insurance premiums, while placing communities and families at risk. For more than 20 years, I have worked to reform the program, and I am pleased that a small piece of our broader reform effort—the Promoting Flood Risk Mitigation Act—has passed the House of Representatives.

The flood insurance program is currently more than \$20 billion in debt. This figure keeps rising as we see more devastating hurricanes and extreme weather events across our country. Part of the runaway cost of the program is due to the insuring of properties that have flooded repeatedly. In fact, a quarter of all claims paid by the flood insurance program are for repeatedly flooded properties, even though they make up less than two percent of properties covered by the program. For the safety of our communities and fiscal security of the country, Congress must do more to help those trapped in flood-prone areas move to safer land.

The Promoting Flood Risk Mitigation Act tasks the Government Accountability Office (GAO) with studying the efficacy of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) buyout programs for properties at high risk of flooding and those that are repeatedly flooded.

While this bill is just a small step, if we invest in our communities before disasters occur, we will save money, save property, and most importantly, save lives. My hope is that Congress can actually implement the recommendations of this study in an upcoming reauthorization, saving taxpayer dollars and providing help to those stuck in repeatedly flooded properties.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on Monday, July 16, 2018. I had intended to vote "yes" on Roll Call vote 330, and "yes" on vote 329.

RECOGNIZING NICKI VAUGHAN'S LEADERSHIP IN JUVENILE LAW

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hall County Chief Assistant Public Defender Nicki Vaughan for her work in the field of juvenile law. Recently, the State Bar of Georgia honored the Georgia Bar's Child Protection and Advocacy Section—chaired by Ms. Vaughan—with the 2017–2018 Section Award of Achievement.

Under Ms. Vaughan's leadership, the Child Protection and Advocacy Section stood out among the state bar's 48 other Sections for its dedication and service to local families.

As chair of the Child Protection and Advocacy Section, Nicki volunteers her time to mentoring young people. Moreover, she educates other legal professionals on current legal issues affecting children and government policies designed to assist children and families.

As a fellow attorney, I am proud to honor Nicki Vaughan for her exceptional leadership and congratulate her section on earning this achievement award.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR ROBERT J. "BOB" ZOLDOS II

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and thank an extraordinary leader from the 10th Congressional District, Mayor Robert J. "Bob" Zoldos II of Lovettsville, as he completes 20 years of service to the town, first as a member of the Town Council and then as Mayor for three consecutive terms from 2012 to 2018. Incredibly, during the same time frame, Mayor Zoldos has excelled in his full-time job as Deputy Fire Chief with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department that has included international rescue mission deployments with Virginia Task Force One, Virginia's Urban Search and Rescue Team, to Kenya,

Turkey, Taiwan, Iran, and Haiti. Most recently, he was Task Force Leader of U.S.A. Search and Rescue Team One's response to Japan's catastrophic earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

Inspired for a career in public service by his father, Robert J. Zoldos, who was a volunteer firefighter and town council member in Leesburg, Virginia, Mayor Zoldos has been an outstanding team leader in all that he has undertaken. Upon announcing his run for Mayor on February 6, 2012, he stated, "While I don't covet the title of mayor, I feel the same need that many of you have expressed . . . that we must keep politics out of our Lovettsville and keep the 'love' in it." Indeed, as an inspirational team leader for his colleagues in the government of Lovettsville and for the residents of the town, Mayor Zoldos has kept his promise to keep Lovettsville "a wonderful and neighborly place in which to live and to own a business."

No one has worked harder than Mayor Zoldos in championing town activities and events that have brought Lovettsville's creative initiatives regional recognition and have attracted participants from all over the East coast. In fact, the Mayor has often been seen climbing ladders, moving barrels, acting as master of ceremonies, setting up tents, installing decorations and cleaning up trash at the close of events. To create a stronger community, he also instituted a weekly email known as the "Mayor's Message," writing more than 300 weekly messages in his unique conversational style, in order to keep everyone informed about what was happening in the town and the actions taken by the Town Council.

As Mayor, he has understood that economic development is critically important to the enhancement of the quality of life of Lovettsville's residents, especially for the ability to provide community based services and generate additional revenue to support the town's infrastructure. For this reason, he worked diligently to attract and maintain businesses in the town, and is deservedly proud of the opening of the Lovettsville Town Center during his tenure. Mayor Zoldos also advocated the transition from outsourcing water and wastewater services in the town as well as the development of an in-house capability which included the hiring of skilled utility workers to operate and manage the town's water and wastewater treatment facilities, that has resulted in considerable cost savings and improved customer service for the town's residents. Mayor Zoldos also supported the establishment of Lovettsville's first Fiscal Policy Manual which provides professional guidelines for building financial reserves to meet future requirements and achieve financial stability.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in thanking Mayor Robert "Bob" Zoldos II, a gifted leader and public servant, as he completes 20 years of extraordinary service to the people of the town of Lovettsville and the 10th Congressional District of Virginia.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JOHN RUSSELL DEANE III

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the service of John Russell Deane III,