

committee volunteer member she inspired others to find their best selves in order to help those in need. Ms. Laddish has been an indispensable advocate for smoke-free, low-income housing and was successful in getting many low-income properties to go smoke-free. Outside of her public advocacy, Ms. Laddish has been a volunteer at The Palms Playhouse in various capacities since 2001; she also volunteers writing for the Winters Express as an Entertainment Correspondent. Despite facing a range of physical challenges, Ms. Laddish enjoys entertaining at local community events as a member of the Crawdads, a local jazz band ensemble. Playing such an involved role in her community's affairs has established her as a pillar of her community. Kate Laddish is generous, passionate, and dedicated to all the causes she devotes herself to. An inspiration to all who know her, Kate has a heart of service and exemplifies all the qualities of a consummate community activist and devoted public servant.

TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) JOHN CALVIN COLLINS

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor the life and legacy of Private First Class (PFC) John Calvin Collins, USA, who was the only Morehead City, North Carolina resident to be killed in action in the Vietnam War.

John Calvin Collins was born to John and Della Collins in Morehead City, NC on November 14, 1948. He was a product of the public school system and attended W.S. King High School up until his senior year. His final year, however, John was among the first African Americans to integrate West Carteret High School. An exceptional student athlete, he immediately received recognition in baseball and lettered in football. In addition to athletics, he was a member of Boy Scouts, Troop #118, where he acquired countless leadership skills. Following a successful year and transition to a new school, John graduated in May of 1967.

Shortly after graduation, John registered for the draft on September 15, 1967, and was soon drafted. PFC John Calvin Collins enlisted in the United States Army on October 18, 1967, and reported for active duty the very next day. He received his basic military training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and continued Advanced Individual Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

The following spring, on May 24, 1968, PFC John Calvin Collins was killed in action as a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Air Cavalry Division, of the United States Army. Just a few short months after the Tet Offensive, PFC Collins became one of the 16,899 Americans in 1968 who paid the ultimate sacrifice. While he was tragically killed on May 24th, it was not until late August that the Army Casualty Notification Officer was able to notify the Collins family.

The military honors provided by the United States Army during the funeral services of PFC John Calvin Collins brought the Vietnam War up close and personal to the town of

Morehead City, North Carolina. During his short tenure as a Combat Infantryman, PFC Collins earned the following listed badge and medals: Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. A brave young man, words will never be able to express our gratitude.

Upon the 50th year of the anniversary of his passing, I would like to recognize PFC Collins' ultimate sacrifice to our great nation. PFC John Calvin Collins set an extraordinary example for all of us to follow through his service and sacrifice, and I am so very proud of this American. John Calvin Collins shall never be forgotten by those who knew him or the citizens of Morehead City.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 107TH NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

**HON. GEORGE HOLDING**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 107th National Day of Taiwan and its relationship with the United States.

The United States and Taiwan have enjoyed a prosperous relationship, with our two countries working together in support of enhanced security, trade, and economic prosperity. In 2017, Taiwan was ranked as the 11th largest trading partner of the United States and the 7th largest market for US agricultural products. Numerous jobs in the United States are supported by investment from Taiwan affiliates and by exports of U.S. goods and services to Taiwan. It is clear to me that, as we strengthen our relationship with Taiwan, we succeed in advancing United States interests.

People-to-people ties between citizens of the United States and of Taiwan form an important bond between the two nations. There are about 150 sister cities between the United States and Taiwan, connecting our two societies on a global level. In addition, travel for business and pleasure from Taiwan to the United States has increased 50 percent since Taiwan became a member of the U.S. Visa Waiver Program in November 2012. Additionally, Taiwanese students represent a significant demographic of international students studying in the United States.

The formational policies for the United States' relationship with Taiwan, the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, were crafted almost four decades ago, and continue to be the foundation of this bilateral relationship. The people-to-people engagement and mutually beneficial commercial transactions are the mortar that fortifies the relationship. Today I remind my colleagues that we have a valuable ally in Taiwan.

TRIBUTE TO THE MARCO POLO FESTIVAL

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the Marco

Polo Festival, as it celebrates its 10th anniversary on October 20, 2018.

As a celebration of culture and heritage, the Marco Polo festivities around New York City remind us of the contributions of these two historical communities of immigrants and their joint history. Through the story of Marco Polo traversing the Silk Road, we can draw parallels to New York City's own vibrant history, including the shared experiences of Chinese and Italian immigrants coming to the U.S. and the establishment of a historic district celebrating both cultures.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Marco Polo Festival and its leadership, the Marco Polo Festival Committee and Two Bridges Neighborhood Council, on this special 10-year anniversary. These dedicated individuals exemplify outstanding leadership through their public service to the community. I wish the Marco Polo Festival continued success in many more years of service.

HONORING HEIDI SHELTON WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Heidi Shelton as woman of the year. She is a caring community advocate with a passion for providing resources to those in need. As the co-owner of NorCal Assets Solutions, a business founded, owned, and operated by women, Ms. Shelton is integral to providing seniors and families of the Yuba-Sutter area with information about a range of services, from Medicare planning and long-term care alternatives, to PG&E's Medical program, and safe retirement planning. Always willing to lend a helping hand, Ms. Shelton's history of service includes involvement with community groups such as United Way, the Alzheimer's Association, the Alliance for Hispanic Advancement, and the Salvation Army. She has also worked with 14 Forward, an organization that seeks to assist the homeless with temporary housing and can be seen regularly leading a variety of free workshops throughout the community. As a result of her diligent work and demonstrated ability, she has been a frequent recipient of awards for her service and ability to elicit effective outcomes for the seniors who seek out her expertise. Throughout her many years of service, Ms. Shelton has aided the people of Sutter County with fairness and dedication, proving her willingness and ability to provide quality and exceptional service.

HONORING EMMA HARTLEY, GULF COAST HEART WALK WARRIOR

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 19, 2018*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an impressive Gulf Coast philanthropist, Miss Emma Hartley of Gulfport, Mississippi.

My district is nicknamed "Mississippi's Fighting Fourth," earned for Mississippi's spirit and