

be President, and he was unanimously elected (ironically, Greene was also the oldest graduate on the Association's membership roll). Then, at the 1900 Annual Reunion, the Executive Committee voted to amend the Bylaws so that initiation fees were reduced from a one-time \$10 payment to an initial \$2 fee with an additional \$1 paid each subsequent year for the next decade. The prorated fee cycle spurred growth in new membership. In 1898, only three graduates elected to pay the prescribed \$10 initiation fee; in 1902, more than 70 paid the new \$2 fee. New membership also fostered more graduate participation. In 1899, only seven members attended the 30th annual reunion, but in 1902 reportedly some 350 graduates returned to West Point for the annual alumni reunion.

During the dedication of Cullum Hall, Alexander S. Webb, Class of 1855, who was present in Webster's office at the original May 22, 1869 meeting, looked back on that historic day and gave a brief account of the organization of the Association. No records exist of his remarks, but it is easy to imagine he would have said that the 15 graduates who gathered to form an "Association of the Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy" would be proud that, 31 years later, their idea had figuratively and literally found a home, that more and more graduates were coming back to that home each year, and that the Association was continuing to promote the social intercourse and fraternal fellowship of USMA graduates."

**HONORING MR. BILL SMITH ON BEING NAMED OCEAN COUNTY'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**HON. ANDY KIM**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bill Smith, a dedicated and enthusiastic educator who has worked as a public school teacher for the past 11 years and was recently named Ocean County's Teacher of the Year by the New Jersey Department of Education for his work as a Social Studies teacher at Southern Regional Middle School.

Mr. Smith is a leader and a mentor in a classroom that values teacher-student collaboration, critical thinking, and character development. A product of the New Jersey public school system himself, his enthusiasm as an educator stems from a lifelong love of history and teaching. In his own words, Mr. Smith tries to make history come to life in his classroom in order to foster the same passion in his pupils. This, combined with his keen ability to build an exceptionally strong rapport with his students creates a dynamic and engaging classroom environment that has led to a notable score increase in interdisciplinary summative assessments among his classes. Recognizing the importance of a holistic education, Mr. Smith works vigorously to collaborate with the other teachers at Southern Regional to develop interdisciplinary educational opportunities.

A lifelong learner, Mr. Smith continuously explores new educational opportunities for himself as well. Combining his love of learning with a passion for travel, he has journeyed from Dallas where he studied President Kennedy to Scotland to study the Enlightenment.

A testament to his educational efforts, Mr. Smith has been published in academic, peer-reviewed journals as well as awarded various summer learning grants.

Perhaps the most telling testament to Mr. Smith's life and career, is the informal conversations with his students that reveal that deep admiration for their teacher as well as a genuine excitement for his class. Mr. Smith's work as an educator thus far serves as a great example to teachers throughout the country regarding the power of applying dynamic instruction and building strong, positive relationships with students. I thank Mr. Smith for his service to our nation's young people and congratulate him on his well-deserved recognition as Ocean County Teacher of the Year.

**RECOGNIZING SHAUN LIVINGSTON FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEORIA COMMUNITY**

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Shaun Livingston for his willingness to invest in the Peoria community where he grew up. Mr. Livingston is a 31-year-old point guard for the National Basketball Association's Golden State Warriors.

Mr. Livingston recently made a one-million-dollar donation to his elementary school, Concordia Lutheran School, in Peoria, Illinois. The veteran point guard's generosity will be put towards expanding the school. Specifically, the expansion will consist of a performance stage for band and theater, a renovated gym, new offices and locker rooms and a storm shelter. As a former athlete, I understand the amount of hard work and commitment it takes to have a career as successful as Mr. Livingston's. I am grateful for his passion to give back to the community and am confident his selfless actions will help provide young students with the opportunity to succeed. His leadership demonstrates to kids everywhere that they too can follow their ambitions and reach their goals.

Dedicated leaders like Mr. Shaun Livingston make me especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally thank Mr. Shaun Livingston on his investment in the Peoria community, and commend him on his kindness and generosity.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DAVID DACKE**

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2019*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express sincere gratitude to World War II veteran, husband, and father, Mr. David Dacke.

David was born on September 11, 1927 in Houston, Texas. He met the love of his life Letha at the age of six when his parents told him he was to walk the new little girl on the block to school for her first day. David took

her to class and showed her around, leading years later to their marriage. David learned to weld at the Parker Brother shipyard, a talent he would use in the Navy.

At the age of eighteen, David courageously answered the call to serve and defend his country. While in the Navy, he served on the USS *Evans* and swam in the beautiful blue waters of the Bikini Atoll before it later was the site of atomic bomb testing.

In 1947, David returned home from the Navy. When he left home, Miss Letha was a girl, but she had become a young lady by the time he returned. The two sweethearts were married on March 26, 1949. They had two children, Darrell and Diana. This year David and Letha will celebrate their 70th anniversary.

After the war, David worked as a welder building barges in a ship yard. He also was in the chicken business where he supplied eggs to Houston schools and businesses. David retired and moved to Livingston in 1993, where he and Mrs. Letha still reside.

David Dacke has demonstrated his dedication to the United States of America. It is with great admiration that I thank him for his selfless service to our country.

**IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 STATE CLASS A PUBLIC-SCHOOL CHAMPIONS: THE CALHOUN COUNTY COUGARS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM**

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 2019*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018-2019 Class A Public-School Boys Basketball Georgia State Champions, the Calhoun County High School Cougars of Edison, Georgia. The team will commemorate this significant milestone with a celebratory parade on Friday, March 22, 2019 and a celebration of honor on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

On Wednesday, March 6, 2019, the Cougars won the state championship game against the Treutlen Vikings by a score of 69-67. This historic victory marked an undefeated season for the Cougars as well as their second state championship. The team also placed No. 1 in the MaxPreps Class A Basketball rankings for Region 1 and for the state of Georgia with a Region win-loss record of 19-0.

Their victory in this year's state championship follows years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into an incredible season of teamwork and athletic excellence. The perseverance of these Cougars was shown this year in their exciting victory. Moreover, the team completed this spectacular season with an astonishing overall win-loss record of 32-0.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Edison, and indeed the entire Second Congressional District, have in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes their own. They have accomplished an incredible feat, one that could not have been possible without the tireless leadership and encouragement from their head coach, Marcus Shaw, and his staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the