

Madam Speaker, I send my condolences to the family and friends of John Haggins. I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating his incredible life and legacy.

Rest in peace, John.

CELEBRATION OF THE GI BILL'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY AND ITS AUTHOR SENATOR ERNEST "MAC" MCFARLAND

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration and honor for the 75th anniversary of the GI Bill as well as the bill's co-author, the late Arizona Senator Ernest "Mac" McFarland. Officially titled the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944," the GI Bill provided a slew of benefits for veterans returning from World War II. These new benefits were available to every veteran who had been in active duty for ninety days and they continue to this day. The benefits bestowed onto our veterans include low-cost mortgages, low-interest loans, payments for tuition and living expenses to attend university college of vocational education and up to one year of unemployment compensation. With this bill, we've been able to offer a small token of our gratitude to those who put their lives on the line in order to defend everything we hold dear. The assistance cemented in the GI Bill is thanks, in large part, to the former Majority Leader from Arizona Ernest McFarland. Mac's accomplishments stretch far beyond his work on the GI Bill. As it stands today, he is the only person in Arizona's history to have served as U.S. Senator, Governor of Arizona and Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court. He was a leader for our state and his tireless efforts enabled so many wonderful opportunities for our uniformed men and women. I am proud to honor this man and his diligent work for our veterans.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF READING AND BEYOND

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the local non-profit organization Reading and Beyond of Fresno, California as it celebrates its 20th anniversary. Since its creation in 1999, Reading and Beyond has been a leader in the community, providing educational, health and wellness opportunities to underserved families of Fresno County. The impact Reading and Beyond has had over the past two decades continues to be felt by countless families in the Central Valley.

In the fall of 1998, members of the First Covenant Church called together leaders of the community to explore prospective solutions to help neighborhood students struggling with reading. Reading and Beyond was founded with the belief that a child's path toward a brighter future was paved with books. Initially, Reading and Beyond provided tutoring and

parenting programs for 30 families in need. Eventually, it expanded to include cradle-to-career services for both children and their parents, health services and tailored programs to help families increase their social mobility and strive for success and self-reliance.

Since its founding, Reading and Beyond has earned many honors both locally and nationally. In 2003, Fresno Unified School District praised Reading and Beyond as a "model for other organizations". In the same year, it was chosen as one of only four organizations to receive national funding from the U.S. Department of Education to develop its Early Childhood Education program into a replicable model. In 2008, Kerri Briggs, the U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, recognized Reading and Beyond as a "remarkable example of the impact that faith-based organizations have in a community". In 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded \$12 million dollars in pilot funding to Reading and Beyond's Fresno Bridge Academy program; one of only ten national projects to receive this grant.

What started out as a community-led effort to help neighborhood children in Fresno develop their reading abilities, has evolved into an organization that serves the needs of children and families across seven counties in California. Reading and Beyond has committed to empowering families to achieve productive lives through its holistic, research, and results-based programs with the end goal of helping children succeed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reading and Beyond as it celebrates twenty outstanding years. Our community is forever grateful for the contributions Reading and Beyond has made in the Central Valley. I ask that you join me in wishing Reading and Beyond long-lasting success.

IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 AAAA STATE CHAMPIONS: THE CARVER TIGERS 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 AAAA Boys Basketball Georgia State Champions, the George Washington Carver High School Tigers of Columbus, Georgia. The team commemorated this significant milestone on Sunday, March 17, 2019, with a celebratory parade followed by a celebration of honor at the Columbus Civic Center.

On Friday, March 8, 2019, the Tigers won the state championship game against Americus-Sumter High School by a score of 58-55. This was the fifth game of the season against the Americus-Sumter Panthers and it was an exciting end to their series. The Tigers took the lead for a second and final time in the game with 28 seconds left. This historic victory marked the first championship for the Tigers since 1971.

Their victory in this year's AAAA state championship follows years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into an unbelievable season of teamwork and athletic

excellence. The perseverance of these Tigers, after placing No. 3 in the MaxPreps AAAA Boys Basketball rankings for Region 1, was clearly shown by a spectacular season.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Columbus, 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, Warren Beulah and his staff, as well as their families, classmates, and members of the community who believed in them and their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating and honoring these hardworking young men who have persevered, sacrificed, and achieved the pinnacle of success in basketball—the Georgia AAAA State Championship title.

HONORING AERA ENERGY FOR RECEIVING THE BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE FOUNDATION CORPORATE PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Aera Energy, and President and CEO, Christina Sistrunk, as the recipient of the 2019 Bakersfield College Foundation Corporate Philanthropist of the Year Award.

Industry-leading oil and gas producer Aera Energy has displayed its commitment to California and the communities in which it operates for nearly 100 years. Jointly owned by Shell and ExxonMobil but operated as a stand-alone company with its own board and managers, Aera is proudly based in Bakersfield, California and in Kern County, one of the largest oil-producing regions in the entire country. Innovative approaches to engineering, lean processes, and data quality helped Aera become a titan of industry—Aera produces about 125,000 barrels of oil and 32 million cubic feet of natural gas each day, accounting for nearly one-quarter of California's oil production annually. However, its community involvement and philanthropy are what truly sets them apart.

Aera actively encourages their employees to participate in events and causes that strengthen communities, recognizing individual employees who go above and beyond in this regard. Through various programs like Partnership A.E.R.A. (Achieving Excellence, Rewarding Academics), the Community Reading Project, and multiple high school programs, Aera employees are heavily involved in the communities where they live and work. In addition to these volunteering and mentoring efforts, Aera donates to over 100 community organizations each year.

Bakersfield is fortunate to have a premier oil and gas producer like Aera so dedicated to the betterment of its people and community.

Under Mrs. Sistrunk's leadership, I am sure that this will not be the last time Aera Energy is honored for its corporate philanthropy, generosity, and community involvement. On behalf of California's 23rd Congressional District, I want to thank Aera Energy for its countless contributions to communities throughout the Central Valley.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. WING MAR

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Dr. Wing Mar, esteemed doctor, beloved husband, father, and former member of the Torrance-South Bay YMCA Board of Managers.

Dr. Wing Mar was born on January 15, 1924 in China and immigrated to the United States as a very young child with his family. After serving with the 10th Army Corps as an intelligence member of the 711th Tank Battalion headquarters during World War II, he attended University of California, Berkeley, and later graduated from the University of South Dakota Medical School.

Dr. Mar had a long and impressive career in medicine while also serving for many decades as a leader in his local YMCA. He has always been an important member of his community, working to improve medical care for the elderly, participating as a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility in the 1980s and becoming a charter member of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California in Los Angeles. It was thanks to Dr. Mar's fundraising skills that the Chinese Historical Society was able to financially secure a Los Angeles headquarters in two beautiful historical homes in Chinatown. He will forever be remembered for his work as a doctor and volunteer with a desire to make an impact in his community and beyond.

Dr. Mar is survived by his wife Joyce, their children Jeff, Gayle and Carolyn, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren whom I hope take comfort in the way he lived his life as a healer, a community leader and compassionate citizen. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

RECOGNIZING GENERAL ANDREW J. GOODPASTER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the following letter submitted to the Daily Herald newspaper by my constituent Frank G. Splitt of Mount Prospect, Illinois. Mr. Splitt rightly acknowledges the contributions to our nation made by General Andrew J. Goodpaster, who amongst other things, served as the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and superintendent of West Point. I encourage all my colleagues to learn about the contributions made by this legendary general from Illinois.

[From the Daily Herald, Mar. 9, 2019]

AN ILLINOISAN TOO IMPORTANT TO IGNORE

(Letter to the Editor, Opinion)

In a recent Wall Street Journal column, "Five Best Books on American Generals" Winston Groom recommended works about military leaders. C. Richard Nelson's book, "The Life and Work of General Andrew J. Goodpaster," was conspicuous by virtue of its absence from Groom's list—so too was the absence of General Goodpaster from the Herald's March 3, 2019 supplement, "Illinois' Rich History, People Places & Things that Make Illinois Stand Out."

Readers of Nelson's biography will find that Goodpaster (1915-2005), born in Granite City, Illinois, graduated from West Point in 1939. He was a soldier, engineer, and scholar who led and fought with uncommon valor in World War II, advised several presidents, most notably President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and served as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (1969-1974). He has been called the finest officer of our era.

Goodpaster was brought out of retirement in 1977 to serve as the superintendent of West Point as it was reeling from a cheating scandal. In his four-year tenure at the academy, he sought to substitute "positive leadership" for hazing and personal abuse.

Subsequent to Goodpaster's government service, among other things, he served as the Chairman of the George C. Marshall Foundation and as a senior fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He was the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by President Reagan in 1984, for "lifetime accomplishments that changed the face and soul of our country."

Goodpaster's approach to analysis and decision making provides valuable lessons for current and aspiring leaders. His life story should serve as an inspiration to others who are challenged with the task of resolving complex domestic and foreign policy issues. It has been said that General Goodpaster remains "too important to ignore."

FRANK G. SPLITT,

Mount Prospect.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DOROTHY GERALDINE NOAK ROTHERMEL

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Dorothy Geraldine Noak Rothermel who passed away on March 1, 2019 in Pasadena, Texas.

Dorothy Geraldine Noak Rothermel was born December 20, 1929 in Carmine, Texas to Herbert and Clara Keng Noak. Dorothy graduated from Round Top-Carmine High School in 1947. On December 28th of that year, Dorothy married Thomas Hugh Rothermel of Burton, Texas.

Ms. Rothermel attended Blinn College in Brenham; Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos; and graduated from the University of Houston in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Vocational Home Economics. She also did graduate work at the University of Houston and at the Sacred Heart Dominican College in Houston.

Dorothy worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone in Houston and New Braunfels as a Switchboard Operator. In 1963, Dorothy started teaching at Pasadena High School. Her ca-

reer at Pasadena High School spanned twenty-four years where she served as Department Chairman and a Classroom Teacher in the Vocational Homemaking Department. After retirement, she served as a substitute teacher at Round Top-Carmine High School for several years.

Dorothy held memberships in the Texas State Teachers Association, Vocational Homemaking Teachers of Texas, Texas Retired Teachers Association as a Life Member, Washington County Genealogical Society, the German-Texas Heritage Society, Brenham Area Retired School Personnel Association, and the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.

Ms. Rothermel loved to research and write articles on the family history of the Noak, Keng, Hinze, Rothermel and Vogelsang families. She served on various committees helping to further her interest in genealogy, including the Fayette County History Book and the 100th Anniversary History Book of Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Carmine.

In retirement, Dorothy served as a member of Martin Luther Lutheran Church, President of the Ladies Aid, Secretary for the Church Council, and Secretary of the General Board for the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WCLA).

Dorothy is survived by her Daughters: Connie Sue Rothermel Bird and husband, Marshall, of Splendor, and Pamela Rothermel Guthrie and husband, James, of Pasadena; Granddaughters: Rachel Diana Bird Poffinbarger and husband, James, of Splendor, Johanna Ruth Bird, of Houston, and Moriah Ashlee Guthrie, of Pasadena; and Great-Granddaughters: Camille Poffinbarger, Corinne Poffinbarger, and Cristin Poffinbarger, all of Splendor.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to remember the life of Dorothy Geraldine Noak Rothermel. May God comfort her family at this time.

HONORING JERRY LUDEKE FOR RECEIVING THE BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE FOUNDATION STERLING SILVER MEDAL

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mrs Jerry Ludeke as the recipient of the 2019 Bakersfield College Foundation Service Medal.

Jerry's passion for academia can be traced back over half a century to her days as an undergraduate at Indiana University After graduating, Jerry began teaching at a junior high school before returning to school to complete a Masters in Fine Arts at Tulane University in New Orleans, where she concurrently taught several undergraduate courses. Upon completion of her Masters, Jerry selflessly decided to serve as a missionary for the Presbyterian Church in Beirut, Lebanon, at the then-named Beirut College for Women. Increased hostilities in the Middle East cut the mission short, and Jerry returned to school once again— this time as a graduate student at Stanford University There, she met fellow Stanford graduate and Army veteran, John Ludeke.

Jerry and John married in 1959 and settled in Bakersfield, California, where they quickly