

RECOGNIZING JANE GRIM

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 3, 2019*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding citizen from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who was recently honored with the 38th Annual Bucks County Women's History Month Award.

Jane Grim, a resident of East Rockhill Township, has distinguished herself as a leader in our community. She was originally nominated for this distinction by the League of Women Voters of Bucks County, an organization she joined in 1970 to promote civic awareness and good citizenship.

Jane's record of service is truly impressive. She has the unique distinction of being named the first female trustee of Grand View Hospital, has served as a member and chair of the Pennridge Youth Aid Panel, and has worked as a docent at the James A. Michener Art Museum.

I cannot think of a worthier choice for the Bucks County Women's History Month Award than Jane Grim. I wish Jane and her family all of the best, and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition.

RECOGNIZING JOHN NAVARRA

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 3, 2019*

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, First Sergeant John Navarra, who is retiring as the leader of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

John N. Navarra is a retired U.S. Army First Sergeant with 22 years of service to our country. During this time, he served in multiple locations including the United States and Germany and primarily worked in the administration and logistics fields.

Coupled with his service, John has demonstrated a life-long commitment to education by earning an Associate's degree in Business and Computer Science, a bachelor degree in Interpersonal and Group Communications, a Master's degree in Education with Concentrations in Teaching and Evaluation and a MBA in Leadership.

However, it is not just his own education that John has been committed to. John has served as the JROTC Army Instructor at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School for 12 years, beginning in 2007. In this role, John educated, provided guidance, and mentored the students in the JROTC program. In doing so, he instilled in them the values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to honor and thank Mr. John Navarra for his service to his country and his community. I congratulate John on his retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LEON  
ARTHUR BELLOT, JR.**HON. NEAL P. DUNN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 3, 2019*

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Leon Arthur Bellot, Jr. who passed away on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the age of 67. Mr. Bellot was born and raised in Dixie County, Florida and has held a multitude of roles in Dixie County throughout his lifetime—each of them with the main purpose of serving others.

His love for education and investing in children was one of the many passions that Mr. Bellot dedicated his life to. A graduate of Dixie County High School, Mr. Bellot would return to this same school to not only teach, but also to hold the title of Assistant Principal and Dean of Students.

He protected the citizens of Dixie County through his service as a volunteer fireman, Assistant Fire Chief for the Cross City Fire Department, and through his role with Dixie County Emergency Services. He would even go on to become the first Emergency Services Director for Dixie County in 1975. Mr. Bellot served in the capacity of Emergency Services Director for 24 years before also becoming the first County Administrator for Dixie County.

Throughout his career and community involvement, there was always one aspect of Mr. Bellot's life that would remain constant—his love and commitment to the Lord God our Savior. Mr. Bellot was a member of the Faith Baptist Church where he dedicated his time to the church as a Deacon.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of a courageous educator, protector, and leader who will be missed by many, Mr. Leon Arthur Bellot.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE  
HONORABLE KENNETH A. GIBSON**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 3, 2019*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life and legacy of a great man, a visionary leader, and a trailblazer—Kenneth A. Gibson.

In 1970, voters in Newark, New Jersey, elected Mr. Gibson as our city's first Black mayor. He went on to serve four terms as mayor. Mayor Gibson passed away on March 19 at the age of 86. Mayor Gibson walked into Newark City Hall during a tumultuous time in the city's history. He was steadfast in fighting to ensure that, in his words, "wherever American cities are going, Newark is going to get there first." Mayor Gibson brought home federal funds to help improve public housing. He made improvements to public health services, which led to reductions in infant mortality and tuberculosis. And Mayor Gibson helped start a revitalization of downtown Newark that continues today.

Mayor Gibson's words, vision, and legacy will live on through the work of those who came after him. The modern development of Newark, New Jersey, cannot be separated

from the legacy of Kenneth A. Gibson. It was his life and legacy that paved the way for transforming Newark.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Newark, New Jersey's first Black Mayor, the Honorable Kenneth A. Gibson.

BE THE LIGHT FOOD PANTRY FOR  
U.S. COAST GUARD MEMBERS  
AND OTHERS**HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 3, 2019*

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the generosity and public service of the organizers of the Be The Light Food Pantry.

More than 500 active duty members of the Coast Guard and their families live and work in NW Oregon, and their mission is critical to our nation's safety. The Coast Guard protects our borders and our national security. They save lives every day, ensuring the safety of our fishing fleet and the many others who rely on the Columbia River and the ocean for their livelihood.

Because of the longest-ever government shutdown this winter, the dedicated members of the U.S. Coast Guard missed two consecutive paychecks. This was the first time in modern history that a branch of the armed forces went without pay. It is unconscionable that people who are protecting our country should be forced to work without getting their paychecks.

Over the course of the 35-day-long shutdown, I heard from many U.S. Coast Guard members and spouses who were furious, demoralized, and very stressed about their personal finances.

Michelle discovered that her 16-year-old was skipping meals because he was worried there wouldn't be enough food for his younger siblings.

Amanda had to explain to her five kids why the family needed food assistance, even though their dad was working hard every day to serve our country.

Robin, a proud Coast Guard mom with three sons and one daughter-in-law in the Coast Guard, told me that one of her sons lost an apartment because he couldn't afford to put down a deposit.

Our national security depends on having service members who are focused on the job at hand, and the mission could be compromised if Coast Guard members are worried about how they're going to keep a roof over their heads or put food on the table. The effects on future recruitment and our standing in the world are also deeply concerning.

In the midst of this calamity, an inspiring effort came together—the Be The Light Food Pantry for Coast Guard members and all federal employees affected by the shutdown. U.S. Coast Guard spouses Stacey Benson, Michelle Somers, and Amanda Gibbs generously led the effort, giving countless hours of their time. Community members, local Boy Scout Troop 211, the Masonic Temple of Astoria, the Moms Club of Astoria, the U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Association, and many private businesses contributed thousands of pounds of food and hundreds of