

In 1959, a group of students in the music department at Shaw Junior High School formed El Corols, the first rhythm and blues band in the District of Columbia. El Corols was highly sought-after for school and private parties all over the city and beyond. The band performed for many charitable and community organizations throughout the city. During the summer, the group spent the majority of its time performing at Carr's Beach, a public beach for African Americans in Annapolis, Maryland. (African Americans were not welcome at any of the "white" beaches. Although our nation was segregated, many found comfort and joy through the vibrant musical talents of El Corols.)

The band consisted of teenagers, yet the members were honored and privileged to be the "house band" at the beach. The band was presented with opportunities to perform and accompanied many of the famous stars of that era, including Dionne Warwick, Patti LaBelle and the Bluebells, Bobby "Blue" Bland, Billy Stewart, Gene Chandler, and James Brown, to name a few. As teenagers, the band members had no idea that they were making history. They were simply excited about playing music and entertaining.

The apex of El Corols' experience was their performance with Nat King Cole in 1963 at Eastern High School, where United States Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy was an honored guest. Another highlight of El Corols' experience was the invitation to perform at the Debutante Cotillion of New York Socialite Fernanda Wetherhill Wannamaker in South Hampton, Long Island.

As the members of El Corols reflect on their teenage years, they continue to cherish the lifelong memories and experiences they were afforded simply due to their dedication to and love of music.

El Corols is indebted to its manager, Captain William Rumsey, who was Dunbar High School's Military Science Teacher. Captain Rumsey later became the Principal of McKinley Technical High School, and upon his retirement from the public school system, he became Director of the District of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department. Captain Rumsey was a strict disciplinarian and assured the band members' parents that they were in capable hands and would be well cared for under his management. Captain Rumsey never failed in his commitment to the band and stands in a proud space in history alongside the members of El Corols.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the rich history of El Corols on the occasion of its 60th reunion. I ask my colleagues to join me in this recognition.

HONORING DAVID M.C. STERN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished member of the Edgemont community in my district, Mr. David M.C. Stern, who this year is being honored by the Edgemont Community Council with their Silver Bowl Award for Distinguished Community Service.

David served two terms on the school board, from 2010 to 2016, was president in

2015–2016, and made his mark on the curriculum, audit and superintendent search committees, as well as liaison to the Edgemont School Foundation and the Scarsdale Teachers Institute. He has coached over 20 seasons of local youth sports—soccer, lacrosse, basketball and tee-ball—and now serves as president of Edgemont Youth Lacrosse. In the schools, David has taught Great Books and volunteered in the Wiggleworks reading program. He currently sits on the School Board Nominating Committee and is a former director of the ECC. David has been an assistant Cub Scouts den leader, and he has been a long-time member of Greenville Fire District's volunteer fire company, where he has served as a volunteer firefighter.

David also currently serves as chairman of the board of Westchester Institute for Human Development, a Valhalla-based organization that works with developmentally disabled men and women, and member of the board of MusicCorps/Renovation in Music Education in Washington D.C., which uses music to help wounded military veterans recover. David has also been a director of the Scarsdale-Edgemont United Way, and a member of the Woodlands Community Temple School Board.

Professionally, David runs a consulting firm that provides strategic business advisory services to healthcare organizations and investors. After graduating from Edgemont in 1982, David went on to get a BA and an MBA from Yale. David lives on Old Army Road with his wife Mary Elizabeth and their children Kasey, Gavin and Fiona.

As you can see Madam Speaker, David Stern is a very active member of the community who is most deserving of this wonderful recognition from the Edgemont Community Council. I want to congratulate him on this honor.

CELEBRATING THE DEDICATION
OF THE HOBE SOUND NATIONAL
WILDLIFE REFUGE IN HONOR OF
NATHANIEL P. REED

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in honor of the late Nathaniel P. Reed. Nathaniel, who was known as Nat, was an environmentalist and champion of Florida's environment. He served as Assistant Secretary of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks at the United States Department of the Interior from 1971 to 1977, under President Richard Nixon and President Gerald Ford. Furthermore, had it not been for Nathaniel, our nation would be without the Marine Mammals Protection Act, the intact and expanded Redwoods National Park, the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act.

Originally born in New York City, Nathaniel spent much of his time growing up in Hobe Sound, Florida. His concern for the environment developed from his firsthand experience with the threat of overpopulation to Florida's natural landscape and by the example of his mother, who was a lead organizer in opposing the development of a theme park on an island near their home.

Nathaniel started his career in the family real estate and hotel business in Florida, where his concern for the environment steered him into public service. He went on to serve six Florida governors.

He was a member of many environmental advocacy groups, most notably the 1000 Friends of Florida, an organization which he founded, and served as president and chairman. He also served on the boards of the Everglades Foundation (which he helped found), the Nature Conservancy, the Atlantic Salmon Federation, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the National Audubon Society, Yellowstone National Park, the National Geographic Society, and the South Florida Water Management District. Throughout his career, he was one of the most eloquent and effective advocates for fish, wildlife and nature of the 20th and 21st centuries.

The Hobe Sound National Wildlife refuge is a part of the United States National Wildlife Refuge system, and is the type of vulnerable land Nathaniel dedicated his life to protecting. The newly named Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge will rightly honor his life's work.

Madam Speaker, Nathaniel was a powerhouse of Florida politics, but more than that, he was a dear friend and a mentor to me, as well as to countless others. During his six decades of activism, he was a tireless crusader for the environment and the Everglades. Nathaniel inspired generations of conservationists, and what he did for America's River of Grass is immeasurable. Hobe Sound represents the starting place of Nathaniel's love for our nation's environment, and this dedication of the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in his honor will allow his life and legacy to always endure.

REGARDING THE DESIGNATION OF
IRAN'S ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY
GUARDS CORPS AS A
FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following release which includes the statement by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, the President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, regarding the designation of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, the President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, described the inclusion of the suppressive Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) in the State Department's list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO) as a long-standing and rightful demand of the Iranian Resistance, an imperative for Middle East security, peace, and stability, and an urgent and necessary step to end war and terrorism throughout the region and the world.

"This action, which was long overdue, should now be completed by designating the Iranian regime's Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS)," Mrs. Rajavi added.

The Revolutionary Guard Corps, which does not even carry Iran in its official name, constitutes the pillar of the velayat-e faqih regime

(absolute clerical rule), is the main apparatus of repression, the primary driver of war and export of terrorism, and responsible for pursuing nuclear weapons and missile projects. The IRGC also controls the lion's share of Iran's economy.

It is no wonder that the religious fascism ruling Iran, its apologists and mercenaries have become terrified of IRGC's designation.

Mrs. Rajavi emphasized that if the disastrous policy of appeasement had not provided so much freedom of action to the mullahs and the Revolutionary Guards over the past decades, the Iranian regime could not have caused so much bloodshed in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Afghanistan.

She emphasized that in the interest of the Iranian people as well as regional peace and security, the European Union must designate the Revolutionary Guards as a terrorist entity, adding that the ultimate solution to rid the world of the ruling theocracy in Iran is for the Iranian people and the Resistance to change the illegitimate caliphate, cloaked under the vaneer of Shia and Islam.

On behalf of the Iranian Resistance which has called for an arms and oil embargo on Iran's religious dictatorship since 1981, Mrs. Rajavi reiterated the need to take the following measures:

1. Recognizing the right of the Iranian people and the Resistance to overthrow the ruling religious fascism and to establish freedom.
2. Placing the Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) and other organs of suppression and export of terrorism and fundamentalism on State Department's FTO list as well as on the EU's terror watch list.
3. Expelling the agents of the MOIS and the terrorist Quds Force from the United States and Europe.
4. Referring the dossier on the Iranian regime's human rights violations and the massacre of political prisoners to the United Nations Security Council and the International Court of Justice.
5. Expelling the illegitimate clerical regime from the UN and recognizing the Iranian Resistance as the true representative of the Iranian people.
6. Evicting the Iranian regime and its forces from Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon and Afghanistan.

HONORING REVEREND DR. C. NATHAN EDWERS 30TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, It is my sincere honor to recognize a dear friend, Reverend Dr. Collie Nathan Edwers, who this year celebrates his 30th Pastoral Anniversary at the Friendship Worship Center in Mount Vernon.

Nathan, as he is best known, was born in Newark, New Jersey to the union of Bishop Collie Edwers and the late Mother Dorothy Edwers. He is the third child born to this family of seven. He was raised in the quiet suburban community of North Edison, New Jersey. He was educated in the Edison High School system until his parents relocated to Metuchen, New Jersey during his junior year of High

School. It was during this time of his adolescent years that Nathan felt and responded to the call of God on his life. At the age of sixteen, Nathan preached his initial sermon at St. Mark U.F.W. Baptist Church, the same church where his father baptized him.

Upon High School graduation, Nathan continued his education through the encouragement of his parents. Nathan was directed to pursue his undergraduate education at Northeastern Bible College in Essex Falls, New Jersey. During his senior year of study, Nathan was approached by the officers of Calvary U.F.W. Baptist Church to serve as their next Pastor. In May of 1983, Nathan was elected as their Pastor and assumed that responsibility on the Fifth Sunday. During this time Nathan decided against the advice of his father, to discontinue his education at Northeastern Bible College in order to move full attention to the Church. During his six years tenure as Pastor, Nathan was very fortunate to meet his darling wife, Aro Denise Harper. Out of this union were born two, children, Eric and Sherri. Both of his children are adults and are successful in their life choice career.

In January 1989, Nathan answered the call as the First Family of Little Friendship Unified Free Will Baptist Church. During his ministry at Friendship Church, the Lord added to his family his son, Eric Nathan Edwers. In October of 1997, Pastor Edwers began the process to acquire Temple Emanuel Jewish Center in Mount Vernon, which was up for sale. In January 1998 the church agreed to modify its name by removing the word "little" from its former name known as "Little Friendship Unified Free Will Baptist Church". Bishop Edwers led the church into a \$1.3 million dollar relocation expansion program, and on August 16, 1998 he marched the "Friendship Unified Free Will Baptist Church" and hundreds of friends into their new home, renamed the Friendship Worship Center in September 1998.

Madam Speaker, Friendship Worship has grown by leaps and bounds thanks to Nathan and Denise Edwers. On this special occasion, I want to congratulate the pastor on 30 wonderful years, and thank him for all he has done in the community.

IN MEMORY OF FR. IGNATIUS MATERNOWSKI, CHAPLAIN, 508TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT OF THE 82ND AIRBORNE

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the sacrifice of Fr. Ignatius Maternowski, a Franciscan Friar Conventual and Chaplain to the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne during the Second World War. Fr. Ignatius is the only chaplain killed in action during the D-Day invasion in Normandy, France.

Fr. Ignatius and his regiment parachuted into Normandy at 1:30 a.m. on D-Day, June 6, 1944. In the ensuing days, he and the regiment moved through Normandy and he ministered to the wounded and dead in heavy hedgerow during the fighting. Fr. Ignatius was compassionate and steadfast in his ministry, successfully negotiating with German soldiers

to establish a joint aid station for both German and American soldiers. On June 13th, one week after landing in France, he was killed by a German sniper while trying to find a doctor to treat a wounded comrade.

Fr. Ignatius' story expresses the courage of the brave individuals who served, and who continue to serve, our country as military chaplains. These individuals share in the sacrifice of our men and women in the Armed Forces and on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the constituents of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I am proud to honor the heroism of one such as Fr. Ignatius Maternowski.

HONORING APRIL BLANKENSHIP

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of April Blankenship, a long-time and outstanding staffer for the Committee on Ways and Means and my personal office, who passed away this morning.

April is a tireless, trusted colleague and a friend to so many. In her many years of service on Capitol Hill, she has been a key part of dozens of personal and committee offices, including both my personal office and the staff of the Committee on Ways and Means. She handled issues that involve sensitive personnel matters with grace, precision, confidentiality, and a deft personal touch. She dealt with numbers, but really what she managed was people—the people and committees that help run this place on behalf of taxpayers. And she did it all with a smile on her face and a joy for service. April is one of the true unsung heroes around these halls, and I am proud to call her a trusted colleague and friend.

Beyond her many professional skills and accomplishments, I know April is even more proud of her role as a mother. Whether helping her sons, Hunter, Dakota, and Tucker, sell Boy Scout candy to friends and colleagues or bragging on the boys' achievements in school or church groups, her smile told you all you needed to know—that she was an intensely proud mother, and rightfully so. She also invested her deep faith in her family, and I know that faith has helped maintain her through the years she has heroically battled her illness.

On behalf of the entire Committee on Ways and Means, I offer our sincerest condolences to Tim, Hunter, Dakota, Tucker and her entire family on April's passing. I thank them for sharing April with us for so many years of outstanding service to the Committee, its Members, and our great country.

HONORING PETER SWIDERSKI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to honor a dedicated public servant and good friend, Peter Swiderski. Peter served as Mayor of the Village of Hastings for many years, and his exceptional work will leave a lasting positive impact on the community.