

community—now in his fifth elected term as the Clerk of Courts for his home county. His dedication and perseverance can serve as an inspiration to us all.

I'm proud to join in recognizing Coach Walters as he receives this fitting tribute to his legacy of achievement and service. Congratulations to my friend on being inducted into the 2019 class of the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN G.
MOUSHEGIAN

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I offer these remarks in tribute to Stephen G. Moushegian of Salem, Virginia, a hero of the Vietnam War who died on March 22 at the age of 74.

Born on January 22, 1945, Steve was not a stranger to military life in his younger years, as his father had graduated from West Point and served in World War II. Steve began his service in the U.S. Army as a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the University of Georgia. Upon commissioning, he entered flight school and excelled as a pilot.

When Steve was deployed to Vietnam, he opted for a risky assignment: flying helicopters for reconnaissance missions. He quickly proved his courage and skill at the task. Although the North Vietnamese would target his helicopter as it scouted for U.S. forces, he would persist in reconnoitering their positions, even at times after his helicopter was hit by enemy fire. His daring missions gathered valuable intelligence for the U.S. military and earned him several decorations, including a Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Silver Star, and Distinguished Flying Cross.

In September 1969, Steve's helicopter took enemy fire, and he was wounded in the arms, shoulder, and left eye. The eye injury blinded him in that eye, so he was sent home with a Purple Heart. Notwithstanding the serious injuries he sustained, he treasured his service to the country he loved.

Steve worked as a medical salesman after his service in the Army, and occasionally I would have the pleasure of joining him and his lunch buddies. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Ricki, his children Jeff, Christie Shaps, and Suzi, and six grandchildren. His son Jeff served in the Army after graduating from Virginia Military Institute, and his grandson also plans on a military career after completing his course of study at the same institution. We all can take inspiration from the life of Steve Moushegian, a loving father, husband, and patriot who served his country in the skies over Vietnam with valor.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF LEONARD MCNEIL

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of

Leonard McNeil, a long-time resident of West Contra Costa County.

Leonard first discovered his passion for advocacy while attending California State University, Fresno and was a founding member of the campus's Black Student Union. A strong opponent of the Vietnam War, Leonard protested the draft by moving to Canada, where he helped create the Vancouver Black Action Group and demonstrated against the Vietnam War and British and Canadian imperialism.

After returning to the United States in the 1970s, Leonard completed a vocational program at the University of California, Berkeley and was an ironworker for over 15 years. In that capacity, he worked within his union to fight the exploitation of immigrant workers and end discriminatory practices.

Leonard then pursued a career in local politics and served on the San Pablo City Council. During his tenure, McNeil helped create affordable housing programs, pushed for free public internet access, created the San Pablo Economic Development Corporation, and supported programs that aimed to improve relations between the police department and the community.

Leonard was also a professor of Political Science at Contra Costa College, a position he held for nearly 10 years. As a professor, he pushed students to think critically and engage in political discussions.

Leonard will be sorely missed and his lasting impact will long be remembered in the East Bay community.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH GEORGIA RANGER CHALLENGE TEAM

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of North Georgia's (UNG) Ranger Challenge team for placing third overall in the 2019 Sandhurst Military Skills Competition.

The Sandhurst competition is the world's premier international military skills competition with over 50 teams traveling to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point each year to compete against the best military academies in the world. The competition is designed to test each team's mental, physical and leadership readiness that is necessary to foster group cohesiveness and achieve excellence.

Established in 1873, the University of North Georgia is one of the six senior military colleges in the United States. The University established the ROTC program in 1916, and their Corps of Cadets currently encompasses over 700 members. These cadets compete and succeed on a national scale, winning the ROTC cup for the second year in a row and placing third overall out of 49 teams. UNG was the only team not from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point to finish in the top five, and they finished ahead of 14 of West Point's 16 teams, in addition to teams from the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Coast Guard.

As an alumnus of the University of North Georgia, I know the level of commitment and

courage it takes for the Corps of Cadets to compete on a world stage. With the team improving from their Fourth Place position in 2018, it is no surprise that they are already diligently working to achieve first place in the coming years.

On behalf of the people of Northeast Georgia, I want to congratulate the University of North Georgia Ranger Challenge team for their success. They continue to produce hard-working and dedicated cadets that serve our country honorably in the United States and abroad.

JIM GORMAN RETIREMENT

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and achievements of James "Jim" Gorman, in honor of his retirement from the Gorman-Rupp Company in Mansfield, Ohio.

Since its founding in 1933, the Gorman-Rupp Company has been known worldwide for its quality pumps and pump systems. When Jim first joined the board of directors in 1946, he began a journey spanning more than seven decades. For 73 years, Jim has worked tirelessly to uphold the renowned Gorman-Rupp Company reputation and build its global success.

Jim's service didn't begin in the private sector, however. In 1942, amidst the height of World War II, Jim answered his nation's call and joined the United States Army as a C-47 cargo plane pilot, where he risked life and limb to defend the principle of freedom. His lifelong dedication to service for his country and community didn't end there. After World War II, Jim served in the Air Force Reserves until the Guard unit was opened in June 1948, where he served until 1956.

After his time in the military, Jim returned home to Mansfield, Ohio to devote himself to the eponymous company his father co-founded. As a salesman, Jim traveled the country selling the pumps and pump systems the Gorman-Rupp Company designs and manufactures. It didn't take long for Jim's staunch work ethic to earn him the respect and admiration of his colleagues.

As far back as 1948, Jim has repeatedly been quoted as saying he believes in treating his employees as he would like to be treated. This unwavering commitment to his employees remains through this very day and sets an example for job creators everywhere.

Jim's life and career are marked by decades of profound, yet humbly-and dutifully-carried-out service to others. I'm confident that's Jim's impact will be an enduring one, and that his work will be cherished by generations to come.

I thank James "Jim" Gorman for bringing honor to Mansfield, Ohio, and in turn I honor him for his incredible record of achievements.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

HON. TED S. YOHO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the founding of Marion County, Florida.

I have the honor of representing part of this county, alongside Representatives NEAL DUNN and DANIEL WEBSTER.

For the past 175 years, Marion County has been at the heart of Florida's rich history and continues to be an important part of Florida today. The county boasts significant economic development and the title of "Horse Capital of the World."

Marion County is constantly growing and is an industry leader in the agriculture, equine and forestry industries. The success of these industries can be attributed to the hard-working and dedicated individuals in the community.

As we celebrate this significant anniversary, we must reflect on the contributions that Marion County has made to the great state of Florida and the nation. I look forward to the continued success of the Marion County community. Congratulations.

RESPONDING TO THE CHABAD OF POWAY SYNAGOGUE ATTACK

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark a tragic day for San Diegans, Californians, and all Americans.

On the last day of Passover and exactly six months since the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, yet another attack took place, once again by an evil, hate-filled, anti-Semitic individual who was armed with an assault rifle. At the Chabad of Poway Synagogue located just outside of my district in Southern California, Mrs. Lori Kaye was senselessly murdered, and three other people were seriously injured.

There were many heroes on that day, including an off-duty Border Patrol Agent and an Army veteran who helped stop the gunman, and I am so grateful to them for saving lives and helping their community.

Our response to this attack cannot end now that the violence in Poway is over. It is up to each and everyone one of us—elected officials and everyday citizens alike—to confront the hate, bigotry, and anti-Semitism that persists in our society.

We must also take strong and decisive action to end the epidemic of gun violence in this country. Earlier this year, the House passed HR8, which would put common sense gun safety measures in place. We know it will help end the plague of senseless gun violence, and I implore the Senate to take up this bipartisan legislation immediately.

We need to bring together members of all religions, backgrounds, and political parties to address the hate and violence behind this attack, and that's what I intend to do over the coming weeks, months, and years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEWTON APPLE TREE PLANTED AT BILLY EARL DADE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the Chairwoman of the House Committee

on Science, Space, and Technology, I am proud to have the opportunity to donate a direct descendant of the apple tree that inspired Sir Isaac Newton's theory of gravity to Billy Earl Dade Middle School in honor of Arbor Day 2019. In the past several years, Billy Earl Dade Middle School has become a national example of how strong campus leadership and the surrounding community can vastly improve the quality of education and experience offered to students.

I'd like to thank the National Institute of Standards and Technology for making this donation possible by providing a sapling from their Newton apple tree in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

In the mid-17th century, while on leave from Cambridge University, Isaac Newton was sitting beneath a tree when he saw an apple fall to the ground. This moment captured his curiosity, and he began to wonder if the same force that drew the apple towards the center of the earth similarly affected the moon and the planets. It was that day that inspired Newton to begin development of his law of universal gravitation. Nearly three and a half centuries later, scientists are still trying to understand gravity.

Just as the ancestor of this tree inspired Sir Isaac Newton, who went on to formulate his laws of motion and become one of the most esteemed and influential scientists of all time, I hope this apple tree inspires the students, faculty, and mentors that attend and visit Billy Earl Dade Middle School to continue acting as role models in the community and to pursue new ideas in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.