

RECOGNITION OF SHEIDA
SAHANDY

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. HECK. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Sheida Sahandy for her extraordinary and unwavering dedication to the people of Washington state and efforts to restore Puget Sound. For over five years, Sheida served as the Executive Director of the Puget Sound Partnership, the state agency leading the coordination of Puget Sound recovery.

Sheida received her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and then went on to study law at Columbia University. After working as an attorney for several years, Sheida returned to the classroom and earned her master's degree in Climate, Energy, and Environmental Policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Back in Washington state, Sheida used her notable background and legal expertise to spearhead programs and initiatives as Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Bellevue, where she created the City's first citywide environmental stewardship initiative.

In January 2014, Governor Jay Inslee appointed Sheida to serve as Executive Director of the Puget Sound Partnership, where for years she demonstrated her commitment to sustainability and conservancy issues in Washington state. The Puget Sound Partnership works with hundreds of partners and stakeholders to coalesce around a common goal: accelerating the collective effort to recover and sustain the Puget Sound. On federal-level issues, Sheida worked with the Congressional Puget Sound Recovery Caucus—which I co-chair along with my friend and colleague, DEREK KILMER—to convene key decision-makers here at the Capitol for the annual Puget Sound Day on the Hill. This event brings people from across the political spectrum to Washington, D.C. to advocate for increased federal attention to Puget Sound. Sheida also worked tirelessly with the Congressional Puget Sound Recovery Caucus to successfully craft and garner support for the PUGET SOS Act, which would increase federal and state coordination on recovery efforts.

Whether it's leading efforts at the state level to revitalize the salmon and orca populations, or working with legislators in Washington, D.C. to enact critical legislation, Sheida has always been an effective leader and the driving force behind the Puget Sound Partnership's success.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Sheida Sahandy, and I wish her and her family happiness as Sheida proceeds to the next chapter in her remarkable career.

COMMEMORATING THE 213TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CANEY FORK
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Caney

Fork Baptist Church in honor of their 213th anniversary.

A longstanding pillar in the Cookeville community, the Caney Fork Baptist Church, originally referred to as "Brown's Mill Church," is Putnam County's oldest Baptist Church. Joshua Bartlett and his wife, Winnie Williams Bartlett, founded the church after relocating to Tennessee from Boonesborough, Kentucky, in 1806. They constructed a fort, and within it was the cabin first used to host worship gatherings for the Caney Fork Baptist Church. The congregation relocated in 1931 to Highway 70 East in Cookeville, which is where they remain today.

In the early days of Tennessee's statehood, churches far outnumbered preachers. As was common then, the Caney Fork Baptist Church hosted traveling "revival preachers" for their services.

Throughout its history, the congregation affiliated with the general tenets of the Baptist denomination. From 1865 to 1897, the congregation embraced the Independent Baptist Christian denominational beliefs; they affiliated with the Free Will Baptist congregation from 1897 to 1918; and in 1918, the congregation joined with the larger Baptist denomination. Today, the Caney Fork Baptist Church is affiliated with the Stone Baptist Association, the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

I hope my House colleagues will join me in recognizing the Caney Fork Baptist Church for their longstanding service to the community, commitment to strengthening family values, and unwavering faith.

RECOGNIZING TOM MORRISON

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life's work of Thomas Roger Morrison, who served as a trusted local reporter and staple on televisions in my district since 1982.

Tom was born in Oakland, California on January 7, 1936 to proud parents, Lozetta and John Morrison. Shortly after his graduation from Oakland High School in 1954, Tom joined the Army and deployed to Korea. He patrolled the newly established Korean Demilitarized Zone in 1956 and 1957.

Tom took on the role of a volunteer reporter for local Channel TV 30 in 1982. After reporting on local stories for a time, Tom joined the TV 30 staff and became the anchor of the 580/680 News. He served in this role for 10 years and received two prestigious Bay Area Television Association awards for his work during that time.

After budgets no longer allowed the 580/680 News program to continue, Tom kept our community informed on local news and developments through his bi-weekly "Mayor's Report." With this platform, he would meet with local mayors and county supervisors to ensure that local residents had access to information about upcoming events and what was happening in their local government.

Tom's connection to the community was deep. His voice became synonymous with the

annual Saint Patrick's Day parade in my hometown of Dublin, as he served as the announcer for so many years. Whether he was reporting from the tarmac at the Livermore Airshow, hosting an election special, or a segment of the Slice of Life show, Tom was a trusted and revered source of news in my district.

Tom's work on behalf of our community continued until just two months ago, very shortly before his passing. His passion and commitment were recently memorialized when the studio at TV 30 adopted the honorary title, "Tom Morrison Studio."

After a long and valiant battle with cancer, Tom Morrison passed away peacefully on April 18, 2019. He is survived by a large and loving family, including Kathy, his wife of 23 years, his two sons, Kevin and Michael, his step-children, Stacey, Kristin, Amy, and Bradley, his sister Jenean, and the eight grandchildren he absolutely adored.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOHN
K. VADAS

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. John K. Vadas, age 69, who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

John's son Matt is one of my longest serving staff members. I very much depend on him to help me fulfill my duties and I am very proud of his service.

John was born on January 19, 1950, in Warren, Ohio to John and Margaret. He was a 1968 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Warren. I too am a graduate of JFK.

He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1969 to 1972, where he was the radar operator on the USS *Wasp*. Upon his honorable discharge, John took a position working for Packard Electric. He retired from Delphi in 2001.

On April 11, 1970, John married the former Sandra Allen.

John loved the outdoors and found peace in the woods by carving out time to go hunting and camping. He was an avid fan of the Cleveland Indians and NASCAR, cheering on driver Kevin Harvick. He stayed in touch with his shipmates as a member of the USS *Wasp* Association. Most importantly, John was a patriot who loved his family and was a devoted husband and father.

After 49 years of marriage, John is survived by his wife Sandra, and also survived by his sons, (Jon) Kristopher, Jason and Matthew Vadas; his brother, Michael (Judy) Vadas; as well as many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his son, Kevin Vadas; his parents; and his brother, William Poppal.

I extend my deepest sympathies to Matt and all the family and friends whose lives were blessed by John Vadas.