

and developing a relationship with local, regional, state and national governmental entities. Jim has developed an educational campaign about invasive species in Lake Havasu and highlighted unfair practices that quarantined watercraft at the California ports of entry.

Furthermore, Jim opened lines of communication with the United States government when U.S. Fish and Wildlife dropped no wake buoys into some of the best skiing water on Lake Havasu on May 20, 2015. It was because of his tireless dedication to the community at large that myself, Senator John McCain, Senator Jeff Flake and other federal officials heard about the arbitrary action that U.S. Fish and Wildlife had taken. My office became immediately involved and helped facilitate a local public meeting with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, where more than 1,000 concerned residents voiced their vehement disapproval of this action. Thanks to Jim's vigilance, this action was reversed on June 16, 2016.

Jim's leadership truly drives home the point that the beauty of Lake Havasu is not just in the serene landscape, but rather the community that encompasses it. Our 40th President of the United States Ronald Reagan summed it up best when he said that, "The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things." Jim's leadership perfectly embodies these words and is proof to everyone that sometimes all that is necessary is the voice of one principled individual. Thank Jim Salscheider for his leadership and dedication to the people of Lake Havasu. Congratulations.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber on Monday, June 3, 2019, Tuesday, June 4, 2019, and Wednesday, June 5, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on Roll Call No. 232; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 233; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 234; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 235; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 236; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 237; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 238; "Nay" on Roll Call No. 239; "Yea" on Roll Call No. 240; and "Yea" on Roll Call No. 241.

#### HONORING THE AMERICAN LEGION ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the American Legion as they mark their 100th Anniversary. As we mark this extraordinary milestone, I am honored to have this opportunity to extend my deepest thanks to the American Legion Posts across Connecticut's 3rd Congressional District whose members work so diligently to both

support our veterans and ensure that our communities never forget the sacrifices made by those who chose to serve in our nation's military branches.

Chartered by Congress in 1919, the American Legion has evolved into one of the most influential and effective veteran advocacy organizations in the country. Over the course of the last century, the American Legion has left an indelible mark on our nation. In 1921, the Legion's efforts resulted in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, forerunner of the Veterans Administration and in 1923 the first "Flag Code" was drafted during a Legion conference in Washington—a code which Congress adopted in 1942. In 1946, the Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary presented a small, struggling organization called the American Heart Association with a \$50,000 grant. That grant became the catalyst for the success of the now nationally respected organization focused on prevention and treatment of rheumatic heart disease. It was the American Legion that partnered with the Smithsonian Institute's Air and Space Museum to develop an exhibit for the bomber Enola Gay, which dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, and it was the Legion who donated the single largest contribution to the construction of the Vietnam Memorial.

From financing and implementing a study of the effects of Agent Orange on soldiers to the creation of the Family Support Network to assist families of servicemembers deployed for operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm; from the formation of the Persian Gulf Task Force to enhance service for a new generation of wartime veterans, thousands of whom suffer from illnesses linked to their service in the region, to the launch of the national "I Am Not A Number" campaign to identify and document the delays veterans face in obtaining medical care from VA, decade after decade, the American Legion has strived to ensure that veterans are receiving the care and respect they have so rightfully earned.

The American Legion has shaped the way our country treats its veterans. That was perhaps best demonstrated in 1943 when Past National Commander Harry W. Colmery started to write in longhand, on Mayflower Hotel stationery in Washington, the first draft of what will later become the "GI Bill of Rights." Signed in 1944 by then President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the original GI Bill, or Servicemen's Readjustment Act, is appropriately considered the Legion's single greatest legislative achievement.

And it is not just in Washington where the American Legion has made its mark. With over two million members in more than 13,000 posts worldwide, the Legion works to ensure that our servicemembers—their achievements and their sacrifices—are both remembered and celebrated. Whether through sponsorship of local sports organizations, scholarships for young people, organizing and participating in parades and community events, the Legion is making a real difference in community after community across the country. I want to extend a special note of thanks to the more than 200 American Legion Posts in Connecticut, and particularly the 28 located in my District, whose members' invaluable contributions make our communities better places to live, learn, and grow. My heartfelt congratulations on your centennial celebration and, as the Italian saying goes, Cent' Anni—to another one hundred years.

#### HONORING LIEUTENANT SHANNON YINGLING'S THREE YEARS OF SERVICE TO HER COUNTRY AT THE U.S. NAVY OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lieutenant Shannon Yingling for her faithful service to our country as an esteemed member of the U.S. Navy's Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In this capacity, Lieutenant Yingling oversaw and led countless congressional and staff delegations to destinations throughout the United States and all four corners of the world. These trips were pivotal in helping Members and their staffs achieve a greater understanding of the issues facing our Navy and its sailors.

Lieutenant Yingling's distinguished career began in Annapolis, Maryland, where she entered the Naval Academy as a Plebe. In May of 2010, Shannon was commissioned as an Ensign and designated a Student Naval Aviator. She completed Primary Flight Training at VT-27, where she flew the venerable T-34C Turbo Mentor, and was sent to HT-28 to learn to fly the TH-57 Sea Ranger. Upon successful completion of the Advanced Helicopter Syllabus, LT Yingling earned her Wings of Gold and was sent to Norfolk for Fleet Replacement Training in the SH-60S. She was assigned to HSC-7 from 2013 to 2016, where she deployed twice with Carrier Air Wing THREE aboard the USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) and the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) in support of Strike Group TEN and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

Lieutenant Yingling's awards and decorations include the Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, as well as other personal, campaign, and service ribbons.

As Lieutenant Yingling embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that she may recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, the outstanding contributions she has made to the United States Navy while attached to the Office of Legislative Affairs. I would like to send her my very best wishes for continued success in her future Naval career.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Lieutenant Shannon Yingling and her service to our country.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 2157, the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019. This \$19.1 billion package is essential to providing critical relief to communities that were devastated by the natural disasters in 2018 and 2019.

Among other reasons, my support for this disaster supplemental package comes, in part,

because of an understanding that the language within Title I of this bill grants the Secretary of Agriculture the discretion to provide assistance to producers who suffered timber loss due to Hurricanes Michael and Florence.

Even after Hurricanes Irma and Maria, there have been over 80 major disaster declarations. This much-needed disaster relief will support our Florida Panhandle communities, help rebuild Tyndall Air Force Base, assist farmers and ranchers, restore coastal infrastructure, and fund the Nutrition Assistance Program and infrastructure repairs for Puerto Rico.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in both chambers of Congress to bring relief to millions of families.

COMMENDING KIM KOWALEWSKI

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to recognize and honor the outstanding service of Kim Kowalewski, who retires this week after nearly 40 years as a public servant, the past 30 of them at the Congressional Budget Office.

Kim Kowalewski joined CBO in 1989. After serving briefly as a principal analyst in what was then known as the Fiscal Analysis Division, he was promoted to be the Chief of the Financial and General Macroeconomics Modeling Unit, which analyzed developments in financial markets and contributed to the forecast of consumer spending. He next headed the Financial Markets Unit, which, in addition to analyzing and forecasting financial market indicators, prepared cost estimates for various federal financial programs and developed policy options for the housing and financial markets.

In 2008, he was promoted to Deputy Assistant Director of the Macroeconomic Analysis Division. In that capacity, he played an essential role in developing CBO's economic projections, which underlie the agency's budget projections, and he directed numerous studies on developments in the economy, including the operation of automatic stabilizers, changes in trade policy, and the effects of federal tax and spending policies. In 2016, he became a senior adviser at CBO. In that role, he led cross-divisional efforts to improve CBO's graphics and written presentations and mentored and trained colleagues. Throughout, he has been a leader in making CBO's analysis accessible.

Kim Kowalewski's public service did not begin with his work at CBO. He came to the agency after eight years at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, where he led the preparation of the bank's forecast of the U.S. economy and provided analysis related to monetary policy, financial markets, personal bankruptcy, and consumer spending.

By all accounts, Kim's colleagues at CBO and on the Hill appreciate his dedication, ability, skillful work, and breadth of experience. They will miss his generosity with his time and knowledge and, especially, his kindness.

I know my colleagues join me in extending our thanks and appreciation to Kim for his service to our country. We wish him well in his future undertakings and hope that the nation

will continue to benefit from his expertise and commitment.

RECOGNIZING ST. PAUL BLUE  
POINT LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR  
ITS 150TH YEAR AS A CON-  
GREGATION

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge St. Paul Blue Point Lutheran Church for its 150th year as a congregation. Built on October 31, 1869 in Altamont, IL, the church became a place of peace and fellowship for all attendees.

To celebrate this historic occasion, the church held honorary services dedicated to the anniversary on Sunday, June 2. Keynote speakers of the event included Rev. Mark Witte and Rev. David Witte, both of whom are direct descendants from the church's founders. At present, eleven families are of direct descent of the original 31 founders and are still active amongst the congregation.

I extend my well wishes to the current officers—Rev. David Speers, Todd Wachtel, Corey Guy, Alex Wendling, Doug Kopplin, Doug Hammer and many others who have played a major role in spearheading this event.

Madam Speaker, the St. Paul Blue Point Lutheran Church and the entire congregation should be very proud of their continuing commitment and service over the past 150 years. I am excited to see how the church will continue to grow and make an impact in the years to come.

ACKNOWLEDGING 40 YEARS OF  
THE BUFFALO VET CENTER

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Buffalo Vet Center, which, for the last forty years, has helped the veterans of Western New York readjust to life as civilians after returning home from a combat zone. The Vet Center provides our brave servicemen and women with much needed services outside of the traditional VA network.

Established by Congress in 1979, Vet Centers aimed to provide counseling and other health services to military veterans who returned home from Vietnam who were reluctant to access VA services. Readjustment counseling, a non-medical, community-based approach, was included in the official services offered to combat veterans. The centers immediately broke down barriers that exist in traditional healthcare by hiring other veterans as counselors to build a bond over shared experiences.

Following the high utilization of Vet Centers around the country, Congress acted to establish permanent centers in 1983 and made readjustment counseling a lifetime entitlement for combat veterans who qualify. Eligibility and

services provided have continually expanded since the 1990s and the constant military involvement in the Middle East created a new generation of veterans who needed and continue to depend on the services provided by the Vet Center.

In 2003, Vet Centers were authorized to provide bereavement counseling services to spouses, children, parents, and siblings of service members who died while on active duty. Today, there are over 300 permanent Vet Centers, 80 mobile Vet Centers, a 24/7 Vet Center call line, and more than 2,000 on staff who help veterans, active duty, and family members of those in the armed forces.

I thank the Buffalo Vet Center for its 40 years of serving the veterans of WNY and I hope they continue to provide exceptional service to the Veterans in WNY far into the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF 2019 WYOMING  
GIRLS STATE

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the gathering of Wyoming Girls State being held in Cheyenne, WY.

First, let me thank these young women for their interest in the workings of government and understanding our collective civic duty. The success of our constitutional republic depends on informed and engaged citizens, especially young people, who actively participate in it. As young women from across Wyoming gather to learn and discuss the basic fabric of our government, I hope you will take the lessons learned to heart as you continue with your future endeavors. I know you will go on to do big and important things for our state of Wyoming, and our country.

Again, Madam Speaker, I want to recognize and thank the participants of Wyoming Girls State 2019 for their participation in the program and enthusiasm for our democratic process.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 2019*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on June 10, 2019 because I had the privilege of attending a tour of the Southwest Iowa Renewable Energy (SIRE) in my Congressional District with the President of United States. This tour and visit prevented me from traveling to Washington, DC in order to vote Monday the 10th. Had I been present to vote, I would have voted yea on H.R. 542—Supporting Research and Development for First Responders Act; yea on H.R. 2539—Strengthening Local Transportation Security Capabilities Act of 2019; and yea on H.R. 2590—DHS Overseas Personnel Enhancement Act of 2019.