

When the National WWI Museum and Memorial opened to the public in 1926, President Calvin Coolidge explained that the memorial had “not been raised to commemorate war and victory, but rather the results of war and victory, which are embodied in peace and liberty.” The Tree of Peace project, initiated by Slovak landscape architect Dr. Marek Sabala, serves a similar purpose.

The Tree of Peace project is an international initiative that began in the Slovak Republic last year to mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War’s conclusion. Within four years, Dr. Sabala hopes to plant a Tree of Peace on every continent, a mission designed to champion a message of peace and the need to avoid armed conflicts. Each Tree of Peace also stands as a living tribute to all those who fought and perished in World War I, including those who lost their lives on unknown battlefields and who remain known only God. So far, eight Trees of Peace have been planted in four participating countries: Austria, Slovakia, Russia, and Poland. With the planting of a Tree of Peace at the National WWI Museum and Memorial on June 21st, the United States will join this international community in hopes of achieving a world free from global conflict. At a National Historic Landmark that has attracted over two million visitors since 2006, the Tree of Peace will establish its roots at one of the most treasured sites in Missouri’s Fifth Congressional District and the nation.

The motto of the Tree of Peace project, to “make love the lifeblood of this world,” articulates an ideal that is antithetical to the depravity of warfare. Visitors to the National WWI Museum and Memorial walk across a glass bridge above a field of 9,000 red poppies—each of which represents 1,000 combat deaths suffered during the War. Conversely, the Tree of Peace symbolizes belief in a future where war no longer inflicts senseless death on so many. World War I was described by many contemporaries as “the war to end all wars.” While the international community has repeatedly proven this description false—with graves all across the world bearing testament to the devastating consequences of armed conflict—the Tree of Peace expresses faith that we may, once and for all, see war come to an end.

The Liberty Memorial Tower is flanked by two Assyrian Sphinx sculptures, known as Memory and Future. While Memory shields its eyes from the horrors of war, and Future shields its eyes from the uncertainty of times to come, the Tree of Peace affirms hope in a future that need not cause one to cover one’s eyes in fear.

The Tree of Peace project encourages each of us to recommit ourselves to the noble pursuit of perpetual peace—in which bullets, bombs, and bayonets are all set aside; hostility is replaced with civility; and antagonism gives way to amity. The Tree of Peace calls on nations to silence the beating of their war drums, cast away their rattling sabers, and pay no heed to war hawks. Only then will the “just and lasting peace” that is described on the north wall of the memorial become a reality.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating the planting of the Tree of Peace at the National WWI Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri. Let us recognize this occasion by reflecting on the values of friendship, harmony, and goodwill.

CONGRATULATING ST. DOMINIC’S GIRLS SOCCER TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2019 CLASS III STATE SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Dominic Crusaders Girls Soccer team for winning the 2019 Missouri Class III State Soccer Championship.

This team and Coach Greg Koeller, should be commended for their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community. This is the first state championship win for the girls’ soccer team since 2013, with many more to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the St. Dominic Crusaders Girls Soccer team for a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW JERSEY BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION’S EMPLOYER LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES AND FRANK ROBINSON

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with the New Jersey Business & Industry Association as they celebrate 60 years of Employer Legislative Committees and pay tribute to Frank Robinson for his 40 years of service to New Jersey. These incredible milestones and the New Jersey Business & Industry Association’s efforts to support New Jersey businesses are truly deserving of this body’s recognition.

With a 40-year career spanning the public, private and political sectors, Frank Robinson is a well-known and well-respected face in Trenton. He has served in leadership roles at the New Jersey Democratic State Committee and the New Jersey General Assembly, as well as the 2001 New Jersey Congressional Redistricting Commission. Currently serving as a Vice President of Government Affairs for the New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBI) since 2002, Frank has been an effective voice for New Jersey’s business community. He is the longstanding Executive Director of the State Employer Legislative Committees (ELCs) as well as Director of the NJBI’s Grassroots Network. He also serves as a member on the Monmouth-Ocean Development Group Board of Directors and as a Trustee of the Jersey Shore Partnership. Throughout his tenure with the NJBI and beyond, Frank has distinguished himself as an advocate for the growth and viability of New Jersey.

Established by the NJBI in 1959, today’s eighteen ELCs provide local representation and accessibility to businesses in each county across the state. Hosting regular meetings, ELCs offer opportunities for business people to meet with local, state and Federal officials, hear directly from NJBI’s knowledgeable gov-

ernment affairs representatives and network with colleagues. ELCs provide an outlet for local businesses to discuss issues and learn about regulations and policies affecting their industry and employees.

For over 100 years, the NJBI has represented the common interests of New Jersey’s manufacturing and business industry. It continues to be a leading voice in New Jersey’s state capital on industry affairs and an effective advocate on behalf of its members. Its information, programs and services are invaluable resources to companies and its understanding of laws and regulations help NJBI members navigate the changing industry landscape. NJBI’s efforts to promote and expand New Jersey’s business community are supported by its proficient and competent staff and the successful information sharing of its ELCs.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in marking 60 years of Employer Legislative Committees and honoring Frank Robinson’s 40 years of dedicated leadership to New Jersey.

IN RECOGNITION OF RANDOLPH GOODMAN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and service of Randolph Goodman. He recently retired after 26 years of work at Gary Job Corps.

Randolph Goodman was born and raised in Austin, Texas. In 1968, while attending The University of Texas at Arlington, he was inspired to join the Navy and serve his country after the assassination of Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King.

After serving in the Navy for 20 years and completing his double major in history and political science, Mr. Goodman began working at Gary Job Corps as the Public Information Officer and Business Community Liaison.

The organization is dedicated to giving young adults access to free academic and technical career training. It puts young people on the path to the American dream through hard work and education. Not only does it set them up for economic success—it gives them the pride and purpose that comes from earning a diploma or technical certification and beginning a meaningful career. The San Marcos location, that Mr. Goodman served at, is the largest Job Corps Center in the State of Texas.

Throughout his 26 years at Gary Job Corps, he has traveled to Washington, D.C. to advocate for funding and ensure students have access to the resources they need to thrive. Mr. Goodman has credited his success and tenacity during his time at Gary Job Corps to the students he has represented.

In his free time, Mr. Goodman has also served in many nonprofit organizations and committees in San Marcos, Texas. However, his believes his greatest success is marrying his childhood sweetheart. Mr. Goodman and his wife, Eva, will be celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary this December.