

HONORING CARMEL MANOR

HON. THOMAS MASSIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Mr. MASSIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Carmel Manor in Fort Thomas, KY. Carmel Manor has been providing care for seniors in the northern Kentucky community for 70 years.

Carmel Manor served its first residents in 1949 after the Diocese of Covington asked the Carmelite Sisters to administer the home. The Carmelite Sisters are united in and motivated by the belief that life is valuable from conception to its natural end. They understand it is hard to leave a loved one in the care of another, but the staff of Carmel Manor have proven they know how to care for the whole person—not just physical needs but spiritual, emotional, and social needs as well.

Throughout its history, Carmel Manor has worked to honor its residents' lives with compassion, dignity, and joy. They have achieved this by growing with the needs of their community.

Congratulations to Carmel Manor on their 70th anniversary. May they continue their mission to care in the years to come.

CHUCK BRAWNER RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chuck Brawner for being named a recipient of the Stan C. Stanley "Eagle" Leadership and Economic Development Award.

The Stan Stanley awards recognize a volunteer and elected official who have done their part to inspire leadership and economic growth in the Katy area. Mr. Brawner, mayor of the city of Katy, received the award in the elected official category for his dedication to our Katy community. Prior to being elected mayor in 2017, Mr. Brawner served as chief of police for the Spring Branch Independent School District Police Department. Our community is grateful for the forty years that he has dedicated to public service and law enforcement.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Mr. Brawner for this honor.

RECOGNIZING HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hillsborough Community College (HCC) for its 50th anniversary. Since 1968, Hillsborough Community College

has provided the people of the Tampa Bay community with an affordable and quality education.

Ever since holding its first classes at Hillsborough High School in my hometown of Tampa, Florida, HCC has since grown to become an accredited institution serving over 44,000 students each year across 5 campuses and 3 training centers. HCC has expanded to offer 190 academic programs, ranging from Paralegal Studies to Engineering Technology. More than 84 percent of HCC graduates remain in Hillsborough County after graduation. Their contributions to our community are irreplaceable. HCC's graduates make Hillsborough County a better place.

HCC is a vibrant and diverse community with students of many different backgrounds. HCC also has been recognized as a Hispanic Serving Institution, meaning more than 25 percent of full-time HCC students are Hispanic or Latino. The 50th graduating class included students aged 16 to 72 years old. To celebrate the diversity of their campuses and encourage retention, in 2006 HCC hosted its first Annual Black, Brown & College Bound (BBCB) Summit. The Summit brings accomplished professionals and scholars together with Black and Latino male students to discuss barriers that affect persistence and completion among minority males. In its 13th year, BBCB has grown nationally to include more than 150 different colleges and universities from 40 states.

HCC has is not just be an institution of higher learning, but part of the fabric of our community—hosting events such as a hearing of the United States Senate on small, premium cigar businesses in the college's Cigar City campus, forums to address the persistence of sexual harassment in the workplace and enrollment events for the Affordable Care Act to expand health care coverage to our most vulnerable neighbors.

Hillsborough Community College plays a critical role in preparing young students for promising futures in the workforce. I applaud HCC's success in preparing students for continued education and professional careers. I am eager to see where HCC's next 50 years will lead students in the Tampa Bay community.

IN MEMORY OF THEODORE J. "TED" PLAMONDON, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and service of Theodore J. "Ted" Plamondon, Jr. Teddy was a constituent of mine from Enfield, CT. He passed away last Tuesday at the age of 93.

Ted was born and raised in Enfield. He worked as a police officer and served as Hartford County sheriff, state marshal, and town constable. Additionally, he served for 22 years in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserve throughout World War II, the Korean War, and the war in Vietnam. Consequently, it should come as no surprise that Teddy was the biggest advocate for veterans Enfield has ever seen. He organized both the Memorial Day and Veterans Day parades every year, was chairman of the Enfield Veterans Council, and was in-

involved with AMVETS Post 18, VFW Post 1501, and the John Maciolek American Legion Post 154. He was also instrumental in securing a new World War II monument in town. And, as if all that weren't enough, he was an active member of the Democratic Town Committee.

As a testament to Teddy's popularity and how deeply beloved he was by his community, Enfield residents took turns keeping constant vigil at his bedside as he ailed.

Madam Speaker, I had the privilege of knowing Ted Plamondon for over twenty years from his involvement in the court system, local politics and tireless veteran advocacy. He was outspoken, and you always knew where he stood—even if it meant ruffling feathers. Enfield, the town he loved, lost a devoted citizen whose life embodied public service. It was a privilege to know him and call him a friend. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending sincerest condolences to Ted's surviving family, for their loss.

HONORING WBA SUPER BANTAM-WEIGHT CHAMPION RONNY RIOS

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor lifelong Santa Ana resident and the WBA Super Bantamweight Champion of the World, Ronny Rios.

Ronny was born in Compton, California and his family moved to Santa Ana when he was just a toddler. Ronny grew up in Santa Ana and attended Monroe Elementary School, McFadden Intermediate School and graduated from Saddleback High School, where he was a proud Roadrunner.

Ronny was introduced to boxing at the age of 13, when he joined the local boxing club, TKO Boxing. Ronny immediately demonstrated talent in the sport and became one of the top prospects at TKO Boxing.

Ronny began to make a name for himself as an amateur boxer. He was a finalist in the Olympic Trials, narrowly missing a spot on the 2008 Olympic Team. He was a two-time U.S. Amateur National Champion and national Golden Gloves Champion. Ronny was one of the most decorated amateurs to hit the boxing scene in many years.

In 2009, Ronny made the step to become a professional boxer and signed with Golden Boy Promotions, the boxing promotion company run by legendary boxer Oscar De La Hoya.

As a professional boxer, Ronny racked up an impressive list of wins, going 23–0 in his first 5 years as a professional with 12 knockouts. He scored NABF and WBA Silver Championships and sought a world champion title.

After a couple of losses, Ronny went into semi-retirement in early 2018, choosing to enter a career in real estate. A year later, Ronny returned to the sport to take one last shot at a title. The comeback began with a win over Daniel Olea on April 26.

Ronny's next fight was for a title was against the undefeated Diego De La Hoya, cousin of Oscar De La Hoya, and a rising star in the sport of boxing. Ronny was considered the underdog.