

of the Academy's response to the Equity Scorecard findings, and we are investigating numerous disparities and shortcomings in how the Academy handles allegations of harassment and bullying.

However, one thing is already abundantly clear: Business as usual is simply not an option.

For that reason, in June, I was honored to join Chairman THOMPSON in introducing H.R. 3488, the Coast Guard Academy Improvement Act.

I appreciate the thoughtful revisions that have been made to that bill's text through close collaboration with the Transportation Committee and I thank Chairman DEFazio for including those revisions in the Coast Guard Authorization Act before us.

These provisions will require urgently needed assessments of and improvements in the Academy's outreach processes and institutional structures to foster expanded diversity.

I urge all Members to vote in favor of the Coast Guard Authorization Act.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 39 OF NORTH SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of American Legion Post 39 of North Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Shortly after the end of World War I, 15 veterans living around the village of North Saint Paul came together to discuss a new national organization called the American Legion that was dedicated to serving veterans and their families. These veterans decided to seek a charter for a local post, which was issued on August 1, 1919, beginning a century of service and support for Minnesota veterans, their families and the greater good of the surrounding North Saint Paul community.

The newly formed American Legion Post 39 quickly found its focus serving the community by leading a Safety First Committee which worked with businesses to improve safety around crossing guards and signals at rail and street crossings. To honor and support their fellow veterans, another part of their mission was to support the Minneapolis and Hastings Veterans Homes, the Veterans Rest Camp and the Fort Snelling Rifle Squad. The post also made investments in America's future by sponsoring Boy's State, Legionville school patrol camp and providing college scholarships for local students, as well as their American Legion Baseball team the 39ers.

Spouses, daughters and granddaughters of Post 39 have always been integral to the success of its work. Post 39 Auxiliary was formally chartered in May 1926 to work alongside the post and expand its community contributions, including support of Girls' State and Webster Elementary School. The auxiliary has also assisted important entities like the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans and the Veterans Administration Community Resource and Referral Center. The auxiliary has played a vital role in the success of the Post.

As a life member of the Post 39 Auxiliary, I know firsthand the many contributions that the post makes to our veterans, our state and our nation.

The sons and grandsons of veterans who comprise Squadron 39—Sons of the American Legion have supported among many programs the North St Paul Food Shelf, American Legion Baseball, the Silver Lake Splash and the Shop, Ship and Share program.

Just last year, Post 39 was a key supporter of the American Legion National Convention, held in Minneapolis—which marked the start of the 100th anniversary of the national organization. Through its support of the work and advocacy of the American Legion, Department of Minnesota as well as the National Organization, the North Saint Paul Post 39 epitomizes the Four Pillars of the American Legion—Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Madam Speaker, as veterans, families and members of the area communities gather on August 3, 2019 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of American Legion Post 39 of North Saint Paul, Minnesota please join me in honoring this major milestone and the generations of leaders and members of this veterans service organization.

RECOGNIZING MARTIN PURYEAR

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Martin Puryear.

Martin Puryear, the eldest of seven children, was born in Washington, DC. He was raised in Southwest Washington and attended the then-segregated William Syphax Elementary School. His lifelong interest in the natural world and how things are constructed inspired a young Puryear to visit local institutions such as the National Zoo, the Museum of Science and Technology and the Museum of Natural History. The city's art museums left a profound impact on Puryear, and today some of those same museums—the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Hirshhorn Museum—hold some of his most significant works in their permanent collections.

After graduating from the Catholic University of America, Puryear spent two years in Sierra Leone teaching English, French and biology as a member of the Peace Corps. He continued his studies at the Swedish Royal Academy of Art in Stockholm and received his MFA from Yale University.

Puryear's approach to object-making has been influenced by the indigenous techniques and materials of cultures he has encountered on his travels. His sculptures are painstakingly constructed from materials such as wood, metal and stone. Their elegant, abstract forms reflect his deep interest in history.

Puryear received a MacArthur Foundation award in 1989 and the National Medal of Arts from President Obama in 2011. This year, he is representing the United States at the 58th Venice Biennale. The Museum of Modern Art

in New York and the Art Institute of Chicago have organized major retrospectives, and his work has been acquired by museums across the United States, Europe and Asia.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Martin Puryear for his outstanding accomplishments as an artist and honored DC native.

COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LECHASE CONSTRUCTION

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of LeChase Construction.

Established in 1944 by Raymond F. LeChase, LeChase Construction is a full-service construction management and general construction firm. With humble beginnings, LeChase Construction began as a small family operation to fill the local demand for construction work during World War II. Today LeChase employs more than seven hundred and fifty employees and ranks among the nation's top contractors.

LeChase prides itself of offering the capabilities of a large firm while maintaining the personalized service of a small firm. For the last twenty years, LeChase's Southern Tier operations, headquartered in Corning, New York, has provided people from the region with the expertise and high quality of service that LeChase is known for. From Chautauqua to Elmira and down to central Pennsylvania, LeChase has earned the respect of repeat clients, who account for nearly ninety percent of the region's work. Vice President Fred Thompson credits that earned respect to their track record of delivering successful projects and the hardworking, down-to-earth people of the Southern Tier.

Seventy-five years of serving the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate LeChase on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of LeChase Construction.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHARLES SCOTT NEELY

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2019*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the distinguished career of Charles Scott Neely, Principal of Cypress Bay High School in my hometown of Weston, Florida.

Scott Neely is one of Broward County's longest-serving high school principals. He was the founding principal and served at the helm of Cypress Bay, Florida's largest high school, since it opened in 2002 and shepherded thousands of students—including my three children—through some of the most formidable years of their lives.