

confined to any one geographic, socio-economic, or other type of demographic. Rather, this epidemic is ravaging communities all around our country.

How did this epidemic start? Let's go back to 2012, when there were more opioid prescriptions in my home state of Ohio than there were people. Prescriptions to opioids were handed out like candy, and there was little-to-no regulation on these highly-addictive drugs. Someone could sustain a simple injury—say, to their knee or their back—perhaps even have surgery, and be prescribed highly-addictive opioids for their pain. With no oversight, Americans everywhere were slowly becoming addicted to these substances, with their tolerance levels increasing, therefore requiring them to take higher doses to experience the same level of pain relief. Of course, these drugs are not cheap. Often times, when the drugs become too costly or a prescription ran out, these now-addicted opioid users would turn to street drugs, such as heroin, to feed their addiction. In Ohio, four out of five heroin addicts began their drug use with prescription painkillers.

Often times, once an addiction starts, it's near impossible to break the cycle. Truly, the best way to treat addiction is to stop it before it even starts. Of course, we know now that opioid addiction is completely preventable, and fighting this growing epidemic will take the work of many committed groups. This multifaceted crisis needs the support of police departments, communities, families and schools, government at all levels, and the medical and science communities. That's where the EFFORT Act comes in.

This critical piece of legislation will direct the National Science Foundation to study the effects of the opioid epidemic and will require this body to consult with the National Institute of Health—and vice versa—in their research of opioid addiction. I'm a firm believer that research is one of the most important tools in fighting illnesses like addiction. Of course, this is just one of many pieces in the vast puzzle of putting an end to the opioid epidemic. This bill is a step in the right direction, and we need to continue our efforts to fight this epidemic. I am proud to cosponsor the EFFORT Act, and I thank my colleague from Virginia, Congresswoman JENNIFER WEXTON for introducing this critical legislation. I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 3153 so our country can better prevent opioid addiction.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF ANDREW LAVOIE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew Lavoie, Chief of the Nashua Police Department, for his service and leadership to the Department for 32 years, the last four and a half years as Chief.

Over the span of Chief Lavoie's career, he has taken on numerous roles within the Nashua Police Department, whether it was attacking the opioid crisis from the law enforcement perspective by making many arrests or standing with his community to protect and serve.

Chief Lavoie has been a leading and respected voice in the Granite State advocating for the Safe Station Program and forming the Nashua Community Conversations on Race and Justice, which have enhanced relationships between police and Nashua's diverse population amongst other accomplishments. I commend Chief Lavoie on his retirement after three decades of work in public service.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, congratulations to Chief Andrew Lavoie for a well-deserved retirement. I thank him for his service and wish him the very best in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THE ROBINSON WESTBROOKS FAMILY 109TH FAMILY REUNION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Robinson Westbrooks family who will be celebrating their 109th family reunion in Los Angeles, California on August 16–18, 2019. Each year, the Robinson Westbrooks family gets together for the oldest ongoing registered family reunion in the United States.

It all started with Mr. John Bolin Robinson, Mrs. Dora Anne Westbrooks Robinson, and their youngest child, Leonard Wilbert Robinson, who all share a birthday of August 16.

Their coinciding birthdays led to the tradition of getting the family together every third Sunday in August to celebrate family unity and the blessings of God. The first official Robinson Westbrooks Family Reunion was held on August 16, 1910 in Eclectic, Alabama, making this year the 109th celebration.

The Robinson Westbrooks family makes the most out of their annual family gatherings throughout the United States. They are registered at the United States Library of Congress.

This year the family celebrates their oldest family members, Mrs. Queenie Elizabeth Thompson-Hunter, age 93, of Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Clara Dora Thompson-Smith, age 92, of Detroit, Michigan, and Mr. Charlie Anderson Brown, age 96, of Eclectic, Alabama.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District of Alabama, I extend best wishes to the Westbrooks family. I hope this tradition continues for many years to come.

HONORING CAPTAIN AARON HATTA BAUGH AND OPERATION SENIOR SURPRISE

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Aaron Hattabaugh, a retired captain and B-52 navigator, for taking part in the longest combat mission in Air Force history.

On January 16, 1991, Captain Hattabaugh and fifty-six other airmen aboard seven B-52G

aircraft of the 596th Bombardment Squadron took off from Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana on Operation Senior Surprise. However, those who took part named their mission Operation Secret Squirrel.

This was the United States' first move to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein. Using state of the art air launched cruise missiles, these brave airmen had one objective: to destroy Hussein's strategic assets in Iraq and Kuwait. Over the course of this mission, the aircraft destroyed nearly all of the targets and blinded the Iraqi military to our ground forces, in turn saving countless American lives. Incredible, these aircraft completed four in-air refueling maneuvers and covered 14,000 nautical miles in under 36 hours.

This year marks the 28th anniversary of "Operation Secret Squirrel" and each year, those involved in this historic mission gather to remember their piece of history made. In the longest mission since the Doolittle Raids on Japan, these aviators carried out their mission with honor and bravery.

Madam Speaker, those who served on this mission displayed true endurance and dedication to country in their actions. It is my honor to recognize Captain Hattabaugh and the fifty-six others who took part in this critical mission.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RANDY CORBIN, OWNER OF CORBIN COLONIAL CHAPEL FUNERAL HOME, "MAYOR OF MADISON STREET"

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to one of my constituents, and a personal friend, Mr. Randy Corbin who migrated from Arkansas, came to Chicago and established a business and lived a wonderfully productive life. Randy grew up in Gould, Arkansas, came to Chicago, attended Worsham College of Mortuary Science. Married his queen, Karen Kennedy and they raised four children, two sons Amell and Loren, two daughters Clarressa and Syreeta. He served in the U.S. Army, and was honorably discharged in 1964. Randy started his career as a janitor at AA Rayner Funeral Home and worked his way through the ranks with successive promotions.

In 1977, Randy partnered with a friend, Luther Sparks and they started the Luther Sparks Funeral Home. Unfortunately, Mr. Sparks died and Randy became the sole proprietor and the rest became history. Randy built a successful business, was generously supportive of community activities. He started other business ventures, provided leadership to the community and earned the title, "Mayor of Madison Street". Randy was a member of the Illinois Funeral Directors Association, a leadership member of the Boy Scouts of America, he sponsored local basketball teams and students pursuing education. He hosted school supply drives, donated volumes of supplies to youth and families throughout the years. He regularly donated to churches and let ministers use Corbin Chapel for services. He is survived by his wife Karen and their four children, his sister, fourteen grandchildren, five great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Randy Corbin, "the Mayor of Madison Street," may he rest in peace.

BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, last week the Democrats helped secure a strong bipartisan budget agreement that includes suspending the debt limit until July 31, 2021.

The measure ensures that we will avoid a default on the full faith and credit of the United States and can follow through on our financial obligations.

All of us were elected to help America's working-class families. This agreement is another tool to help them. In particular, it sets the stage for responsible budgeting and ends sequestration. It also includes funding for an accurate census, veterans, Child Care Development Block Grants, tools to address the opioid epidemic, and increases in NIH funding.

Extending the debt limit keeps our nation's finances on stable ground—unlike what the Republicans did in 2011, 2013 and 2015. I applaud the Speaker and all our colleagues involved in crafting this measure, and I encourage everyone to support it. A 'yes' vote is responsible, provides certainty to our nation's markets, and delivers stability to Americans' retirement savings as well as our nation's economy.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF KEN BEHRING

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of longtime Danville resident, Mr. Ken Behring.

Mr. Behring was born June 13, 1928 in Freeport, Illinois. He spent his youth on his family's farm during the Great Depression. By twenty-one Ken had opened the doors to his first business, Behring Motors, a used car dealership in Monroe, Illinois. Six years later, Mr. Behring had grown his small dealership to have \$1 million dollars in assets.

After relocating to Florida, Ken began work developing communities. By the early 1970s having cemented himself as one of the nation's most successful developers, he moved to California and purchased a four-thousand-acre tract of land near Danville. After donating almost half of the land to the Mount Diablo State Park, Ken molded the remaining 2,500 acres into the nationally renowned Blackhawk housing development. Ken's design for Blackhawk helped establish the standard for upscale development design nationwide. Eventually, Ken created additional developments resulting in over seven thousand new homes and contributing to the growth of East Contra Costa County.

In addition to Ken's housing development career, he was an active philanthropist. Millions of Mr. Behring's earnings have been do-

nated to universities, museums and charities across the country, including the largest single donation ever to the Smithsonian Museums. In 2000, Mr. Behring founded The Wheelchair Foundation as a branch of the Behring Global Health and Education Foundation. In its first six years, the foundation provided wheelchairs to individuals in 144 countries and reached one million wheelchairs donated in 2015.

Ken Behring was a cherished member of the Contra Costa Community and he will be missed.

HONORING SANTA ANA ELKS LODGE NO. 794

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 117th anniversary of the Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 and the grand opening of their third Lodge.

The Santa Ana Elks Lodge was formed in 1902 by William L. Tubbs and several businessmen from the city. Mr. Tubbs was previously a member of the Lodge in Council Bluffs, Iowa before moving to Santa Ana.

On June 2, 1902, the Santa Ana chapter was granted dispensation by the Grand Lodge to form the Lodge. When he was installed as the first Exalted Ruler on July 14, 1902, Mr. Tubbs became the "Father" of the Santa Ana Elks Lodge. The Lodge was issued its Charter on August 14, 1902. The Lodge was first located in McFadden Hall until October 20, 1902, when they moved to the Odd Fellows Hall. The Lodge relocated to the Hervey Building at Fourth and Spurgeon Street on May 18, 1903. This is also where the first Flag Day observance was held on June 14, 1907. In September 1907, in need of room to expand, the Lodge bought a fifty-foot lot. On March 14, 1911 they moved to this location at Sycamore and Sixth Street. The Lodge remained there until April 2, 1961, when they opened a brand-new Lodge at 212 Elk Lane. The Lodge celebrated their 100th anniversary at this location in 2002.

Finally, in April of 2018, the Elks Lodge temporarily moved to downtown Santa Ana until the completion of their current location at 1751 S. Lyon Street. Exalted Ruler Dan Breece, his wife and First Lady, Sharon Breece, and his Officers held their first Elks event on June 15, 2019. The Inaugural Ball was attended by 730 members and guests including the incoming Grand Exalted Ruler.

The Santa Ana Elks Lodge is known as the "Mother Lodge" for all of Orange County and has a rich and unique history. Santa Ana Elks No. 794 are active members of the community. They host a school supply drive for Santa Ana and Tustin schools and fund raising for special needs students with their "Purple Pig" program.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 for their contributions to our community and I congratulate them on the opening of their new Lodge.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT ODON S. CARDENAS

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of WWII Veteran, Retired Army Staff Sergeant Odon S. Cardenas. July 30, 2019 marks SSgt. Cardenas 100th birthday and I am proud to represent an individual who has dedicated his life to family, community, and country.

SSgt. Odon Cardenas was born on July 30, 1919 in Devine, Texas to Donaciano and Cecilia Cardenas. One of six siblings, his early life was spent as a Sugar Beet Farmer in Shakopee, Minnesota. On March 29, 1941 he enlisted in the United States Army in Ft. Snelling, Minnesota as Private First Class. After becoming Squad Leader, SSG Odon Cardenas was assigned to the 172nd Battalion, Company C in California. Shortly after reassignment, the battalion deployed in November 1944 to the Mediterranean Theater of Operations of World War II in Germany.

While on the front lines of defense, Cardenas and his unit were attacked by German opposition. During the ambush, his company received heavy artillery fire. Approximately 24 hours into battle, he and a few others attempted to escape by crawling through the snow at night. However, he and several company members were captured by opposition forces and held in captivity at a Prisoner-of-War camp near Dusseldorf, Germany. After being detained for two weeks, SSgt. Cardenas and his fellow service members were liberated by the Americans and allied forces. Odon departed soon after in April 1945, receiving an honorable discharge in October 1945.

After the war, SSgt. Cardenas became a barber and auto mechanic. With his wife of 60 years, Maria Inez Valadez Cardenas, they raised 10 children along with 18 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren. Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent SSgt. Odon Cardenas and look forward to his 100th birthday. His lifelong dedication to our country can only be met with celebration.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BRIDGES HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Bridges Home Rule Act. This bill would repeal a redundant 1997 federal law that makes it a crime for a person in the District of Columbia to obstruct any bridge connecting D.C. and Virginia. The District already had, and continues to have, its own local law prohibiting obstructing a bridge in the District. There is no federal law that prohibits a person in Virginia from obstructing such a bridge or a person in any state from obstructing a bridge connecting two states, and, fortunately, D.C. does not need a federal law to keep our bridges clear either.