

unions across the county. His expertise and years of experience will benefit the NAFCU Board and local credit unions for years to come.

I congratulate Lonnie Nicholson on this achievement and wish him success in his new role on the NAFCU Board of Directors.

RECOGNIZING SMOKEY BEAR'S
75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the 75th birthday of Smokey Bear. Through his dedication to responsible outdoor recreation, public safety, and environmental conservation, Smokey has become an indispensable part of our nation.

The state of Michigan is home to some of the most pristine forests in the country—attracting visitors from around the world and providing Michiganders with a quality of life that is second to none. However, something as simple as a cigarette butt or unattended campfire could spark a disastrous fire in the right conditions, making our precious lands susceptible to unimaginable damage. Since 1942, the U.S. Forest Service has used Smokey Bear, the beloved hat-clad grizzly, to educate Americans on the importance of responsible fire practices.

With our ongoing struggle against devastating wildfires, Smokey's mission is as important today as it has ever been. Between the Hiawatha, Ottawa, and Huron-Manistee National Forests, Michigan's First District is home to nearly three million acres of National Forests. We in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula understand the importance of safe and responsible outdoor recreation. Smokey Bear continues to play a critical role in our efforts to promote access to the outdoors while protecting the health and beauty of these natural treasures. I'm grateful for Smokey Bear's and the U.S. Forest Service's 75 years of advocacy and work to ensure future generations can enjoy the same natural beauty we so deeply treasure. Smokey's birthday will be celebrated on August 9th at Straits State Park in St. Ignace, overlooking the Straits of Mackinac and the Mighty Mac bridge.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to celebrate Smokey Bear's 75 years of education, public safety, and conservation. On behalf of my constituents, I wish him and the U.S. Forest Service all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING J.V. FLUEHR

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize J.V. Fluehr, an outstanding citizen from Doylestown, Pennsylvania, who recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

J.V. is committed to service to our community. For his Eagle Scout project, Jack beau-

tified the property of the nonprofit organization Shamrock Reins. J.V. is dedicated to ensuring our veterans are properly honored upon their return home.

On behalf of all residents of the First Congressional District, I congratulate J.V. on his achievement.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT E. COLTER
AND CATHERINE STROMDAHL
COLTER

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert E. Colter and Catherine Stromdahl Colter of East Alton, Illinois for celebrating their 102nd and 100th birthdays, respectively. Robert, born on August 3, 1917 in Titusville, Pennsylvania and Catherine, born on July 27, 1919, were married in Catherine's hometown of Warren, Pennsylvania on March 21, 1942. This year, Robert and Catherine also celebrated their seventy-seventh wedding anniversary.

Robert and Catherine moved to East Alton, Illinois in 1962, where they continue to reside in the same home today. When they are not spending time with their children and many grandchildren, Robert and Catherine dedicate their time giving back to their community. As members of East Alton First United Methodist Church for over 50 years, the Colters have made a lasting impact on countless people. Their commitment to each other and the betterment of their community is truly inspiring.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Robert E. Colter and Mrs. Catherine Stromdahl Colter for their many years together and their contributions to Southern Illinois.

HONORING SERGEANT FIRST
CLASS ELLIOTT J. ROBBINS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, Sergeant First Class (SFC) Elliott J. Robbins died on June 30, 2019, in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, while conducting operations in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel. SFC Robbins was born in San Diego, California on August 18, 1987, and spent most of his life in North Ogden, Utah. He was 31 years of age.

SFC Robbins joined the Army in June 2006, and after years of training completed the Special Forces Qualification course in 2016 and was assigned to Fort Carson, Colorado. SFC Robbins was part of a unique brand of our nation's elite warrior class called the Green Berets. The Green Beret motto is "De Oppresso Liber"—to free the oppressed. He was assigned as a Medical Sergeant with the 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne). Robbins deployed three times in support of the United States: first to Iraq in 2007, then to Afghanistan in 2017 and again in January 2019. His third and last tour would have been over only three weeks after Robbins passed away.

SFC Robbins' decorations and awards are too numerous to list here, but include: the Army Commendation Medal with Combat Device and one Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Military Freefall Parachutist Badge, and the Parachutist Badge, to name a few.

SFC Robbins' service epitomized the best of the American soul: courageous and selfless. He was buried with full military honors on July 19, 2019. Our hearts go out to his family and friends, especially the bereaved wife and infant son of this great patriot.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WIELAND

HON. ROB WOODALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. WOODALL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a fantastic member of the metro Atlanta community, Mr. John Wieland, who founded John Wieland Homes and Neighborhoods in 1970. In his first year as a home builder, working out of his Volkswagen, he built 20 homes! Fast forward nearly 50 years and more than 30,000 satisfied homeowners later, he has established himself as one of the Southeast's leading builders of semi-custom homes.

Mr. Wieland is a past president of both the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association and the Home Builders Association of Georgia, and he is a Senior Life Director of the National Association of Home Builders. In 1991, Mr. Wieland was awarded the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association's Lewis Cenko Award for lifetime achievement and is a member of the Home Builders Association of Georgia's Hall of Fame.

And the accolades don't stop there. Mr. Wieland has been named National Builder of the Year by Professional Builder Magazine, America's Best Builder in 2005 by Builder Magazine, and his company won J.D. Power and Associates award for Highest Ranked Quality Among New Home Builders in Atlanta for three years running.

In addition to his success in the home building industry, Mr. Wieland has proven time and again his success as a member of our community through his stewardship of others. He served as the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and is a past Chair of the Advisory Council for Emory University's Center for Ethics. He also served as the Director of the High Museum of Art for three years beginning in 1998.

Mr. Wieland is a graduate of both Amherst College and the Harvard Business School, and he received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Amherst College. Additionally, he is an elder in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., where he ministers to our community every day.

On behalf of all those touched by John's dedication and service, I want to say thank you, and I wish him the best of luck in the future.