

The Giffords' entrepreneurial spirit lived on, then leading Vero to experience significant growth and expansion in the following decades. In 1893, Henry Flaglers Florida East Coast Railroad (FEC) began service through Indian River County, serving as a turning point for the growing settlement that led to the Indian River Farms Company's launch of an extensive land reclamation project. This included a vision for a town that would become "one of the finest in Florida." The final plans for the "Town of Vero" were adopted in 1913. In 1925, following Vero's incorporation into the City Beautiful Campaign, the town's most prominent members lobbied the Florida Legislature for the creation of a new county known as "Indian River." Vero was designated the county seat and was re-named Vero Beach.

Just recently, the city officials of Vero Beach gathered in recognition of the Centennial with an official proclamation. The Mayor of Vero Beach, Val Zudans says of the milestone, "There is no better small town in America to live, retire, visit, raise children, or start a business. At 100 we are proud of our heritage, culture, and freedom. We eagerly await the next 100 years of making Vero more Vero."

In 2018, Vero was named one of the "Top Ten Happiest Seaside Towns in America" by Coastal Living Magazine, and it continues to stand as a beautiful and lively back drop for families looking for a place to settle and for veterans seeking retirement. Its residents led by the Vero Beach Centennial Committee, intend to celebrate the 100 years with a month-long celebration of the community that includes a historic slide show and video presentation, live music, and a parade by Vero Beach High School.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Centennial of Vero Beach. Here's to 100 more years of memories and community.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR ARTHUR  
HOLK ON HIS 94TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. BRADLEY BYRNE**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 11, 2019*

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Arthur Holk upon his 94th birthday.

Arthur has a decorated career as a public servant that began in 1952.

Arthur served as the mayor of Foley from 1976 to 1996 after serving on the Foley City Council for 24 years.

While Mayor, Arthur was elected President of the Alabama League of Municipalities, President of the Alabama League of Municipal Insurance Corporation, and Chairman of the State of Alabama Aeronautics Commission. Outside of office, he remained an engaged leader in his community.

During Arthur's long tenure in public office, Alabama incredibly had nine different governors.

Outside of public office, Arthur served his hometown as an insurance agent for over 60 years with State Farm Insurance and Baldwin Mutual Insurance.

Arthur is a 1949 graduate of Auburn University. He and his late wife, Fannie Jo, had two children, Frances and Andy. Their children and grandchildren have continued Arthur's leg-

acy of community service and civic involvement.

I congratulate Mayor Holk, on his 94th birthday, and thank Kim for all he has done for Southwest Alabama.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL  
ANTHONY OVIEDO

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 11, 2019*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the life-giving choice made by Mike Oviedo.

In August, Mike, a lively, jovial 21-year-old from Katy, Texas passed away suddenly from an asthma attack.

A child of a military family, Mike embodied the value of service and worked hard to make others happy. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends and was a hard worker who took immense pride in his job at Gorman Uniform.

Mike continued exemplifying the value of service even in death by making the magnanimous decision to donate his organs.

Organ donors are some of the most selfless and honorable people, giving up their own bodies after dying to ensure that others can live happier, healthier and longer lives. People like Mike demonstrate what it truly means to give.

Mike's memory will forever live on in the hearts and minds of his family, friends and community. And now, his big heart will continue to beat on, imparting onto someone the greatest gift of all: life.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I would like to commemorate Mike's memory, his selfless gift and the wonderful legacy he has left to his family and our community.

FIRE OPERATIONS CHIEF MARK  
BURNS OF MEDFORD FIRE &  
RESCUE

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 11, 2019*

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Fire Operations Chief Mark Burns of Medford Fire & Rescue.

Mark James Burns was born on June 18, 1953 in Medford, Oregon, located in the Rogue Valley where he resided and worked the rest of his life. Mark's desire to help others surfaced at an age when he became a volunteer firefighter as a 16-year-old.

In 1971, just months after graduation from Crater High School in Central Point, Mark accepted a full-time firefighter position with Jackson County Fire District 3 and worked there for the next 10 years. His hard work, determination, wisdom, sense of humor, and his ability to inspire others garnered him the respect of his peers and supervisors—who quickly promoted him to Fire Engineer and then to Fire Captain.

Throughout his fire & rescue career, Mark consistently focused on his professional devel-

opment so he could be the best leader for his fellow firefighters and his community. He worked vigorously to advance his working skills and knowledge: completing the four-year Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy in Maryland, earning his Fire Science Technology degree at Rogue Community College, his Certificate in Fire Services Administration at Western Oregon University, and several certifications from the Department of Public Standards and Training.

In his leadership roles, Mark always led by example and played a significant role in grooming Rogue Valley's next generation of fire & rescue leaders. In fact, he became a mentor to many outside his own department while off-duty, teaching Fire Science in the classroom at Rogue Community College and serving as the campus Fire Science Program Coordinator.

In 1982, Mark left Jackson County Fire District 3 to serve as a Shift Battalion Chief for Medford Fire-Rescue, and in 1990 he became their Training Chief. By 1991, Mark was promoted to Operations Chief and, for the next 20 years, was responsible for all fire and rescue emergency response within Medford city limits. During this time, Mark led the Oregon State Fire Marshal Region 8 Hazardous Materials Response Team and the City of Medford Emergency Management Team, and he served on the Oregon Department of Forestry's statewide Incident Management Team.

Mark lived a life of selfless service as a firefighter and first responder protecting and saving the lives and property of southern Oregonians. Unfortunately, while battling the Oak Knoll Fire in Ashland on August 24, 2010, Mark experienced intense smoke inhalation and was medically retired in 2011 after 40 years of service. This incident caused Mark to develop an aggravating lung condition that he struggled with for the next five years, ultimately leading to his death. Chief Burns succumbed to his fire-related illness on March 6, 2016 at the age of 62.

Over the weekend, on October 6, 2019, Mark was one of the 119 fallen firefighters honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, MD.

Mark is survived by his wife of 45 years, Darcy, his son, Trevis, his daughter, Karlie, and his eight grandchildren, Kristyn, Eryn, Zachary, Kayla, Payshens, Braylon, Brittney and Casey. Mark is also survived by his mother, Sally Burns, his sister, Patty Moser, his brother, John Burns, and his three nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Jack Burns.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Mark's family in honoring the life, service, and sacrifice of Battalion Chief Mark Burns. May his dedication to Oregonians, our community, and his leadership among the fire & rescue community be long remembered and honored.

RECOGNIZING HELEN KEATING  
DILLON FOR HER RETIREMENT  
AS CAPTAIN OF THE IRONTON  
FERRY

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 11, 2019*

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Helen Keating Dillon for