

John W. Ross Elementary School, located in the heart of Dupont Circle, has shown commitment to hiring excellent teachers who care deeply about their students. With its school motto, "Embraced for who you are and Empowered to be more," John W. Ross Elementary School promotes and values students in a holistic way. I applaud John W. Ross for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

KIPP DC Heights Academy, located in Southeast DC, is known for the importance it places on achievement, community and persistence. Well deserving of this award, KIPP has closed achievement gaps among student subgroups, raising the academic playing field for all. Their strong culture of collaboration and excellence motivates teachers and students alike to work together and become stronger thinkers, readers, writers and mathematicians. I applaud KIPP DC Heights Academy for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

St. Peter School, located in my own Capitol Hill neighborhood, was founded in 1868 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross for the purposes of taking a holistic approach in order to educate the whole child. St. Peter School is committed to cultivating a dedicated team of faculty and staff in one of the oldest continuously operating Catholic elementary schools in Washington, DC. I applaud St. Peter School for its recognition this year as a National Blue Ribbon School.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Alice Deal Middle School, Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, John W. Ross Elementary School, KIPP DC Heights Academy and St. Peter School for their recognition as National Blue Ribbon Schools.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RUBEN GALLEGO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I missed two votes on October 15, 2019.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 556, and YEA on Roll Call No. 557.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF SANTA ANA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

**HON. HARLEY ROUDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the City of Santa Ana, California on October 27, 2019.

The City of Santa Ana was founded on October 27, 1869 by William H. Spurgeon. Santa Ana rapidly became a hub for commercial, financial, and manufacturing businesses. To this day, the city remains a key pillar to Orange County and its culture.

The City of Santa Ana, commonly regarded by locals as "Downtown Orange County" or as the Golden City for its impressive culture and lively history, is the second most-populous city in Orange County with more than 300,000 residents. Located just a few miles away from the Pacific Ocean, Santa Ana is home to an array of attractions, including the Santa Ana Zoo, Grand Central Art Center, Bowers Museum of Cultural Art, and Discovery Museum of Orange County.

Today I ask that all Members join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of the vibrant and wonderful City of Santa Ana, California.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FREELAND AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 473 ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 on the 100th anniversary of its founding. The Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 is a highly respected veterans' organization located in Northeastern Pennsylvania. In its 100 years, the Post has overcome many obstacles, but, through the determination and dedication of its members, it has withstood the test of time and flourished.

In December 1919, Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 received its charter from the national American Legion organization. The first members were men who served the U.S. during World War I as soldiers or in a naval capacity and received an honorable discharge. In fall 1920, the first Commander, John Rugens, presided over the decision to name the Post "Freeland Post" in honor of the 400 Freeland, Pennsylvania men who enlisted to serve during World War I.

The early years of Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 saw low membership, but, under the leadership of Commander R.R. Oberrender and Commander Thomas Welshko, the post persevered and eventually grew into the thriving organization it is today. In 1924, the first Legion Home was purchased, though it would not be the last. Through the late 1920s into the 1930s, Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 moved its Legion Home to several different locations before finally relocating in 2000 to its permanent home at 532 Centre Street in Freeland.

Throughout its 100-year history, the Post has been a pivotal force within the community. Freeland's Semi-Centennial Celebration was sponsored by Freeland American Legion Post No. 473, and its members served on several of the event's planning committees. The Post oversaw the planting of a memorial grove around Freeland High School with name plates on each tree recognizing service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. The Legion Auxiliary was eventually organized, first under temporary Chairlady Mrs. R.L. Seitzinger, and then Mrs. A.A. Redelin was elected to inaugurally lead the Auxiliary. In September 1928, Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 Drum and Bugle

Corps was organized with thirty men participating, and, by 1930, the group would be recognized as one of the leading Bugle Corps in the country.

Today, Freeland American Legion Post 473 is very active and well-respected in the community. The Post now also encompasses the American Legion Riders, who help raise funds for children's hospitals, schools, veterans' homes, severely wounded servicemembers, and scholarships. On September 28, 2019, the Post donated \$1,200 to the District 12 VA Canteen Fund, and, recently, the Legion Riders had their 14th Emilio Ranieri Run, which is an annual event that benefits the daughter of one of their members.

It is an honor to recognize the Freeland American Legion Post No. 473 on its 100th anniversary. This is a remarkable achievement, and I wish the organization much continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEBRA A. HAALAND**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, on October 15th, I missed Roll Call votes 556 and 557. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call 556 on the bill H.R. 2385, legislation to create a grant program to support the Veterans Legacy Program and ensure that our veterans are not forgotten. I also would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call 557 on H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act. As a cosponsor of the bill and the daughter of two military veterans, I strongly believe that we owe it to those who served our country to ensure that they and their families have a safe place to live.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MIKE ROLLINS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the retirement of Mike Rollins after 40 years of service with Coosa Valley Youth Services.

Coosa Valley Youth Services works with the juvenile court systems of Calhoun County. Rollins has been involved at the facility in some form or another since it opened its doors in 1974. Rollins even spent time as a detainee when he was in his teens and several years after that, he applied to work at the center part-time in maintenance.

Over the years, he worked his way up to guard, manager and all the way to the top as Executive Director. The center has grown and now has 70 employees and 90 plus program participants and detainees. Rollins has a heart for the children and has helped so many of them get back on the right path.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mike and congratulating him on his retirement after a wonderful career.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF A FIERCE ADVOCATE AND VITAL MEMBER OF THE TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY, ROGER A. VAUGHAN, JR.

### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and contributions of a fierce advocate and vital member of the Tampa Bay community, Roger A. Vaughan, Jr. who passed away on July 3, 2019, at the age of 84. Roger positively impacted Tampa Bay in innumerable ways. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Jean, their 4 children, 12 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and 4 siblings.

Roger was born in Washington, D.C. and attended St. Anselm's high school. He graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, and earned his law degree from George Washington University. Roger was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1964, and just three years later co-founded his own law firm, located in beautiful downtown Tampa. Roger became a nationally respected maritime lawyer and represented the claimants in the Sunshine Skyway Bridge case. Roger fought for the victims of one of the worst bridge disasters in history after a freighter ship struck a pier supporting the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. His efforts ensured that the victims and their families were properly compensated and that those at fault were held responsible.

Roger was beloved in the community for his generosity, his selfless disposition to serving those in need and loyal devotion to his family. He also dedicated a large part of his life to helping seamen, other maritime workers and the maritime legal community. He co-authored: "Maritime Law & Practice," The Florida Bar, 1980 Edition, 1987 Edition.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor Roger A. Vaughan, Jr. Roger represents the best Tampa has to offer, his advocacy on behalf of victims and families in the Tampa Bay community is worthy of our respect. Roger A. Vaughan, Jr. leaves behind a legacy of fierce advocacy, service and family. His legacy is cemented into the history of our community and will never be forgotten.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, on October 15, 2019, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present I would have voted: "yes" on Roll Call Vote 557, H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act.

RECOGNIZING PAMELA WILHOITE STROMAN

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life and work of Pamela Wilhoite Stroman on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Stroman was born in Rapidan, Virginia on October 22, 1919. She was the second of three children. In her early teens, she moved to Washington, DC, where she attended Garnett Patterson Jr. High School and Armstrong High School.

After passing the government worker's entrance exam, Stroman worked for 35 years at the Federal Bureau of Engraving and Printing as a final assembler of paper money. She retired in 1974.

As an avid sports lover, she calls herself Tiger Wood's grandmother and coaches him, and the Washington football team, from her living room. She wears T-shirts for good luck and knows all the scores, statistics, players and officials by name.

Stroman is a resident of Ward 5 in the Stronghold community, where she is one of the oldest neighbors. She was one of 15 original residents in the "White Hat Patrol", a group of residents who monitored security in the neighborhood. She is the mother of two daughters, Tayloria and India, and the wife of David Stroman.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life and work of Pamela Wilhoite Stroman on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

#### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF GARRETSON FORGE AND FARM

### HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Garretson Forge and Farm, a national historical landmark in Fair Lawn, New Jersey. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the settlement of Garretson in 1719. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of the volunteers of Garretson Forge and Farm Restoration, Inc., this special property has been preserved and kept open to the community. In recognition of Garretson's anniversary, I would like to include in the RECORD the poem "A Heritage to Keep," by William F. Haywood which captures the long history of Garretson Forge and Farm, a Bergen County treasure.

The traffic moves in swifter pace  
Around the bend that holds this place  
In gentle curves where time has flown  
And countless passers it has known,

The silent step of moccasin,  
The echoing of forge's din;  
A gangling pine saw all of these,  
New homes replacing other trees.

The continental soldier came,  
Lone hunter seeking wary game,  
A farmer tilling fertile soil  
Where the river turns its coil.  
So generations came and went

Through seasons ill and fairly spent.  
The Garretsons had built to last,  
While time has added to the past  
A heritage for here and now—  
To keep it whole should be our vow.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Garretson Forge and Farm's 300th anniversary, I know that we will continue to enjoy Garretson for many generations to come.

#### RECOGNIZING CHARLIE DUNIGAN

### HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charlie Dunigan from Jackson, Michigan as he prepares to retire at the end of the year, completing a 42-year career in the construction industry.

Started by Charlie's father, Joseph, Dunigan Brothers, Inc. is a well-respected underground construction company that has serviced the Jackson area and beyond for more than 70 years. Growing up, Charlie spent many nights and weekends working for the family-owned business prior to joining full-time after completing high school.

Throughout his tenure, Charlie and Dunigan Brothers have largely specialized in various types of sewer and water construction projects, including building critical infrastructure around more than 20 lakes throughout Michigan. They played an important role in safeguarding the beauty and ecosystems of these lakes, something we take with great pride in the Great Lakes State.

Despite the many notable projects he has overseen, Charlie would tell you the most fulfilling part of his career is the wonderful people he has worked with over the years.

Charlie's days at Dunigan Brothers may be coming to an end, but his commitment to giving back and making the community a better place will be remembered for years to come.

I congratulate Charlie on his long and distinguished career, and wish him a happy retirement with his wife, Laurie, and his children and grandchildren.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 16, 2019*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 95, the Homeless Veteran Families Act, which I am proud to co-sponsor. I regret that I was unable to cast my vote in support of this legislation, but I am pleased that it passed with strong bipartisan support.

The issue of homeless veterans in the greater Los Angeles area is a pressing one, and this legislation is an important step to help address the crisis. Specifically, the bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to pay a partial per diem to the VA's Homeless Grant Per Diem service providers supporting our nation's homeless veterans with children, making sure that veterans and their