

HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE
USS PITTSBURGH (SSN-720)

HON. GUY RESCENTIALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. RESCENTIALER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legacy, veterans, and service members of the USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720), a fast-attack Los Angeles Class Submarine. Next month, the USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720) will be decommissioned in Bremerton, Washington after 35 years of service in the United States Navy.

The USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720) was laid down in April 1983 and commissioned in November 1985. In April 1991, the USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720) and USS *Louisville* (SSN-724) launched Tomahawk missiles against Iraq during Operation Desert Storm.

Years later, in 2002, the ship departed for the Mediterranean Sea and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Retired Captain Mark Breor, then Commander of Submarine Squadron 2, stated of the submarine and crew, "USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720) provided persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to the joint commanders. The products of these very successful and difficult missions were converted into a full array of sea-strike options, which included a 16 Tomahawk strike by USS *Pittsburgh*."

In November 2017, USS *Pittsburgh* completed its 1,000th dive, a milestone few submarines reach in service. Earlier this year, the USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720) returned to its homeport, Naval Submarine Base New London, after its final deployment.

The USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720) is the fourth ship to bear the name of a great city that helped build America. Pittsburgh leads the nation in health care, technology innovation, and energy industries and dominates athletics with numerous professional championships. I am proud to represent southwestern Pennsylvania in Congress, and I am thankful for the service of these great sailors aboard the USS *Pittsburgh* (SSN-720).

IMPEACHING DONALD JOHN
TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES, FOR HIGH
CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of two articles of impeachment—one regarding abuse of power and one regarding obstruction of Congress—against President Trump.

I decided to support the President's impeachment after a judicious consideration of the facts established by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) and the House Committee on the Judiciary, as well as reflecting upon my constitutional responsibilities as a Member of Congress.

I would note that the constitutional remedy for high crimes and misdemeanors—such as

abuse of power—is impeachment. Regrettably, the President's severe misconduct with respect to Ukraine showed a complete disregard for our Constitution, our democratic system of government, and the security of our nation and our allies. The President left the House with little choice but to faithfully discharge its duty.

As the Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, I believe that it is unconscionable that an American leader would use nearly \$400 million in military aid appropriated by Congress—and signed into law by the President himself—as leverage for personal gain.

There are fundamental reasons why U.S. law provided these desperately needed funds to Ukraine. I would emphasize that, in 2014, Russia invaded Ukraine and illegally annexed the Ukrainian territory of Crimea while Russian-backed separatist forces seized control of key cities in eastern Ukraine. The fighting in eastern Ukraine continues to this day and has killed more than 13,000 Ukrainians while forcibly displacing more than two million individuals.

Additionally, the impeachment reports issued by the HPSCI and the House Committee on the Judiciary present an irrefutable case that the President's behavior constituted an ongoing threat to a free and fair Presidential election in 2020.

Further, I believe that the President's refusal to comply with the impeachment inquiry is representative of his broader contempt for Congress and its constitutional role as a separate and coequal branch of government. Congress must continue to work diligently to protect and fully exert its complete range of constitutional prerogatives and maintain the balance of power that has existed for 231 years.

Finally, I would highlight that the administration's complete repudiation of constitutionally-prescribed legislative authorities stands in stark contrast to the courage and patriotism demonstrated by the whistleblower who filed a formal complaint with the Intelligence Community's Inspector General, as well as the public servants who testified before the House. These individuals deserve our utmost respect and gratitude.

As the Senate moves forward with a trial to determine whether to convict the President of impeachable offenses, be assured that I will continue to work hard to address the pressing needs of our nation's citizens, from creating more opportunities for good-paying jobs to decreasing the cost of prescription drugs.

CONGRATULATING THE 2019
BISHOP GUILFOYLE FOOTBALL
TEAM

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate the 2019 Bishop Guilfoyle Football Team on an outstanding season.

After a successful playoff bid, the team traveled to Hershey to compete in 2019 1 A State Championship game. Finishing the year with a 12-3 record, these student athletes should take pride in their hard-fought season.

The 2019 team includes Andrew Yanoshak, Konner Kiesewetter, Keegan Myrick, Dylan Conrad, Noah Ritchey, Dominic Yanoshak, Adam Chadbourne, Casey Smith, Deven Wyandt, Michael Lamb, Branden Wasser, Ryan Donoughe, Cooper Rother, Karson Kiesewetter, Anthony Cioffari, Vincent Cioffari, AJ Kilmartin, Ryan Negola, JT Johnston, Adrian Johnson, Collin Campbell, Sam Homan, Drew Abraham, Lucas Steinbugl, Patrick Reilly, Zach McCloskey, Dylan McNelly, Jorden McClure, Anthony Edwards, Ian Bennett, Connor Ebersole, Connor Stayer, Sante Bambocci, Cameron Maloney, Joe Meintel, Evan Himes, Colin Butler, Brendan Shaffer, Aidan Bender, Tyler Conigy, Jack Donoughe, Caleb Stevens, Brady Bithell, Reed Edwards, and Hayden Fox.

These students were coached by Justin Wheeler, Darren Elvey, Evan Imgrund, Patrick Irwin, Patrick Leamer, Joseph Thomas, and Gabe Walters.

The 2019 team joins a long legacy of Bishop Guilfoyle Football excellence. During the past six seasons, the Marauders have reached the State Championship game four times.

As a former captain of the Bishop Guilfoyle Football Team and a proud alumnus, I congratulate these students and their coaches on a successful season, and I wish them every continued success both on and off the field.

RECOGNIZING CHYANNE THOMAS
AS CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, this Holiday season, I am proud to recognize Chyanne Thomas, a postal worker from Vista, as my Constituent of the Month. Chyanne is a hero for two children, their families, and our entire community. Chyanne's vigilance while on her regular delivery route resulted in the identification of two children who had been reported missing. Her quick and caring response allowed these two local children to be safely reunited with their concerned families.

When Chyanne spotted Abby, a 15-year-old with autism, she sprang into action. She used the skills she had learned in a previous job working with children with disabilities to keep Abby calm and safe until police arrived. Two weeks later, Chyanne saw a missing 4-year-old girl alone during her route, and didn't hesitate to approach her and make sure she was okay until police and her parents arrived. Without Chyanne's awareness, compassion, and quick action, these two kids might still be missing.

While Chyanne's action to save those children is extraordinary, I also want to recognize the incredible pressure all postal workers and delivery drivers are under during the Holiday season. They endure exhausting hours, grueling weather, and much more to ensure that families have their gifts before the Holidays. Much of their work is taken for granted on a daily basis, but the Holidays would not be the same without their dedication, I am extremely grateful for their service.

I launched a Constituent of the Month to recognize individuals in the 49th District who have gone above and beyond to help their neighbors and support our community. I know