

Selfless, legendary, and valiant are all words that come to mind when thinking about all that this man accomplished in his life.

Colonel Gray is survived by his wife Sue of 72 years, five children, 12 grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Colonel John Edward Gray.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF
THE FRIENDSHIP CAFÉ

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Friendship Café, a restaurant created by the nonprofit The Friendship Circle of Fort Lauderdale. This café uplifts adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities by providing them with jobs and employment training in the food service, hospitality and customer service industry.

According to the Department of Labor 80 percent of adults with disabilities do not enter the workforce due to various barriers to employment. The Friendship Café aims to lower that percentage by fulfilling a vital role in Fort Lauderdale as a safe, secure, and educational environment where adults with disabilities can earn a living wage.

The café will serve a Mediterranean inspired menu curated by world renowned Israeli chef Yoram Getter. Bill Fienberg, the President of Allied Kitchen and Bath, donated his firm's labor and materials to build the café, International decorator Perla Lichi of Perla Lichi Designs helped the café complete their image with a French inspired interior design. Due to the leadership at the Las Olas Chabad Jewish Center and their support and partnership with the Friendship Circle adults with disabilities in Fort Lauderdale are now provided with resources to help them succeed in finding employment.

Please join me in congratulating the Friendship Circle and their community partners on the opening of the Friendship Café.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to circumstances beyond my control.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 8; YEA on Roll Call No. 9; YEA on Roll Call No. 10; NAY on Roll Call No. 11; YEA on Roll Call No. 12; and NAY on Roll Call No. 13.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. KATHRYN
LANGE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the exceptional service

of Ms. Kathy Lange, who served as the Congressional Liaison and Patient Advocate at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia.

Kathy began her Federal service career in 1999 with the DEA and has since put in over 21 years of dedicated service. From 2009 to 2015 she served as the Director's secretary at the Richmond VA Medical Center, playing an invaluable role within the support team. She then progressed to become a Congressional Liaison/Patient Advocate in 2015 where she has served until her retirement this year.

Kathy's exceptional service to Virginia veterans is unmatched in her compassion and dedication. In her years as a Congressional Liaison, she assisted the Virginia Congressional Delegation's staff with veteran's casework needs, highlighting her passion to provide excellent service. She often goes above and beyond to ensure the needs of veterans and staff are met. She will certainly be missed in her retirement.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Ms. Lange and congratulating her on a job well done. On behalf of America's First District, we say thank you.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL LEAGUE
OF CITIES' LESBIAN, GAY, BI-
SEXUAL, TRANSGENDER LOCAL
OFFICIALS CONSTITUENCY
GROUP

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the National League of Cities' (NLC's) Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Local Officials (LGBTLO) constituency group for their continuing service furthering the rights of the LGBTQ community. The LGBTLO constituency group advocates for the inclusion and full participation of LGBTQ municipal officials, and supporters, in the National League of Cities.

Established in December 1993 by a group of municipal officials attending the Congress of Cities in Orlando, Florida, LGBTLO became a constituency group of NLC under the leadership of Councilmember Sherry Harris from Seattle, Washington. The members of NLC LGBTLO work to encourage equality, inclusiveness and non-discrimination, and have focused on several issues including: the Census, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, both as a public health and a health care funding issue; domestic partnership policies and legislation; and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the current LGBTLO leadership: Vice Mayor Tom Green (Wilton Manors, FL), Mayor Jeffrey Slavin (Somerset, MD), Councilmember Victor Aguilar, Jr. (San Leandro, CA), Commissioner Andy Amoroso (Lake Worth, FL), Councilmember Chris Clark (Mountain View, CA), Commissioner Tim Lonergan (Oakland Park, FL, Councilmember Ty Stober (Vancouver, WA) and Councilmember Nancy VanReece (Nashville, TN) for their hard work and dedication to promoting equality for all and ensuring the voice of the LGBTQ community is included in municipal discussions.

HONORING THE USS
"PITTSBURGH"

HON. CONOR LAMB

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. LAMB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the USS "Pittsburgh" on its decommissioning on January 17, 2020.

The USS *Pittsburgh*, a *Los Angeles*-class fast-attack submarine, was launched on December 8, 1984 and commissioned on November 23, 1985. This submarine is the fourth ship to receive the name USS *Pittsburgh* and has long had a special relationship with the city through the Navy League Pittsburgh Council, the Submarine Veterans Association of Pittsburgh, and the Pittsburgh Relief Crew.

The USS *Pittsburgh* conducted submarine-launched Tomahawk missile attacks during both Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom and completed many other missions vital to national security. In November 2017, the USS *Pittsburgh* completed its 1,000th dive, an achievement few boats carry.

The USS *Pittsburgh* carries the fitting motto "Heart of Steel", which reminds me of the determination and passion of all Pittsburghers. Please join me in honoring the USS *Pittsburgh* for its nearly 35 years of service protecting U.S. interests around the world and all the remarkable crewmembers who have served aboard it during that time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WEIGH
HABITATS OFFSETTING LOCA-
TIONAL EFFECTS ACT OF 2020

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Weigh Habitats Offsetting Locational Effects Act of 2020, or the WHOLE Act. As Central Washingtonians know all-too-well, Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing and delisting decisions have huge, lasting impacts on local communities and environments. The ESA was signed into law to protect and revitalize species of endangered or threatened animals and wildlife, but as time passes, this law, which has not been updated since 1973, has had increased negative effects on local communities—where the true impacts of species recovery unfold.

Unfortunately, the law has been used as a political spearhead for frivolous litigation that can negatively affect private property rights, public land use decisions, and American jobs. And like many other regulations coming out of the nation's capital, relying on top-down decisions from bureaucrats only limits economic prosperity, local conservation efforts, and the celebration of recovered species.

Under current law, only conservation efforts taking place within the critical habitats of endangered or threatened species are considered during environmental reviews or impact studies of federal actions. But we know that habitats and ecosystems expand beyond arbitrary government-drawn lines.

My legislation would ensure that all conservation measures are considered when federal decisions that impact ESA-listed species

are being made. By establishing a process that considers the totality of conservation efforts, we incentivize private investment in species recovery, streamline federal decision-making, and promote the comprehensive efforts of states, local communities, and tribes.

Efforts to strengthen the ESA are—and have been—ongoing. This legislation is part of a larger legislative package of 18 bills introduced by Members of the Congressional Western Caucus, a group of 75 representatives who focus on addressing issues impacting local communities in the rural West and beyond, including strengthening and modernizing the ESA. As a Western Caucus Member, I am proud to work with my colleagues to advance priorities like this for Central Washington. The package also includes efforts I have supported in the past, such as ensuring the best available science is used to make ESA listing decisions and providing more transparency by making this data publicly available.

By bringing the ESA into the 21st Century, the Western Caucus aims to create a more comprehensive, streamlined approach to species recovery, while ensuring our communities are not burdened by overregulation and misleading data. We should not tie our hands when it comes to species recovery. Using the best available science, considering all ongoing conservation measures, streamlining the process for listing decisions, and empowering state and local efforts will create a comprehensive approach to advance species recovery and fulfill the true intent of the ESA.

The ESA was created to protect and recover endangered and threatened species. We must remain committed to this shared goal by strengthening and modernizing the Endangered Species Act for future generations. The WHOLE Act and these legislative efforts put forward by the Western Caucus are a strong step forward, so I humbly ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the WHOLE Act of 2020.

CELEBRATING MARGARET PHILLIPS MOORE McCLANAHAN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 100th birthday of Margaret Phillips Moore McClanahan of King, North Carolina. Margaret was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on January 16, 1920.

Margaret is a graduate of King High School and the Women's College of the University of North Carolina—now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. After graduation, she went on to complete a dietetic internship at the Duke University Medical Center and then served as an industrial dietitian at Western Electric for 33 years. From age 65 until her 80's, she was heavily involved in public health in Stokes County.

A woman who is invested in her community, family, and faith, Margaret has made a profound impact on western North Carolina. She was a founding member of the King Outreach Mission in the mid 1970's and was a founder

of the Stokes County Habitat for Humanity in 1999. Since the founding of the King Outreach Mission, she's served as a weekly volunteer, board member, newsletter writer and editor, and organizer of a fundraising rummage sale which eventually led to establishment of a thrift shop.

As an active member of her church, Margaret plays the piano for the Special Ministries program and previously served as the church historian. For years, she directed the preparation of Wednesday night suppers for church members who attended weekly groups. But her activities don't stop there. She also competed in Seniors Games and has gone in to win medals at the regional, state, and national levels in swimming.

To her family, Margaret is the quiet, wise matriarch, and continuously showers love, pride, and wise counsel to her three children, two grandchildren, and three great-granddaughters. Her compassion, modesty, and faith make her a remarkable role model. I wish Ms. Margaret Phillips Moore McClanahan a very happy—and blessed—100th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 2; NAY on Roll Call No. 3; and YEA on Roll Call No. 4.

HONORING CARY JONES' 44 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the career of Cary Jones of Oregon for his 44 years of public service to our nation and our Veterans as he retires on January 31, 2020 from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Cary began his service to our nation when he enlisted in the United States Coast Guard and served honorably for twenty-six years before retiring as a Senior Chief Yeoman. On July 1, 2001, Cary started working with VA Portland Health Care System as Personal Support Assistant in the Public Affairs, Release of Information and Patient Advocates, Release offices. It was during this time that Cary began working with members of the Oregon delegation and responding to congressional inquiries.

During my time in Congress, Cary has always been the point of contact for my office. He was responsible for helping the countless veterans who reached out to my office for assistance, often out of pure desperation, to get a response to grievances with their care. I will always be grateful for Cary's approach to the job. His professionalism and dedication to our men and women in uniform showed in the way he treated every inquiry with the utmost ur-

gency they deserved to ensure our veterans concerns were addressed.

The VA Portland Health Care System, our Veterans, and the Congressional delegations of Oregon and Washington will be losing an institution on January 31st when Cary officially retires. I would like to once again thank Cary and wish him and his wife Linda a well-deserved retirement after forty-four years of dedicated federal service. I hope he can finally enjoy some much-earned time in his workshop.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 15

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider H.R. 5430, to implement the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada attached as an Annex to the Protocol Replacing the North American Free Trade Agreement; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine industries of the future.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine an update on implementation of the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act.

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing on United States-Iran policy and authorities for the use of force.

SVC-217

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider H.R. 5430, to implement the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada attached as an Annex to the Protocol Replacing the North American Free Trade Agreement.

SD-430