

# RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF MRS. ANN KEYES

## HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2020*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a great North Carolinian, public servant, loving wife and a friend to many; Ann Keyes. Mrs. Ann Keyes resides in Plymouth, North Carolina with her husband George Donnell Keyes.

Mrs. Keyes' passion and conviction have led her to serve in North Carolina's Washington County Government for more than 44 years. She currently serves as the Director of Planning and Safety in the Office of Washington County Emergency Management where she oversees the efforts of many local governments to implement comprehensive community plans that prioritize public safety.

Mrs. Keyes's strong commitment to public safety drove her to earn many professional certifications that include: Executive Level Certification in Emergency Management, State Certification for Floodplain Manager, Certification for Community Rating System Coordinator, and Certification for Chronic Diseases and Chronic Pain Self-Management Training Leader.

With the lifetime record of public service, Mrs. Keyes has been recognized for numerous achievements which include: 2003 Washington County Emergency Management Responder of the Year Award, North Carolina State Coordinator's Award for Floodplain Management, Colonel Phillip Nichols Waters Award, North Carolina Division of Emergency Management Regional Coordination Center's Award of Excellence, 97th North Carolina National Guard Civil Affairs Battalion's Outstanding Support Award, Washington County Employee of the Year, and North Carolina Community Emergency Response Team's Green Star Award.

In her nearly half a century of service to North Carolina, I applaud Mrs. Keyes for her years of dedication and commitment to emergency preparedness of our communities in North Carolina. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the people of the First District of North Carolina, I express appreciation to Mrs. Ann Keyes for 44 years of committed service to Washington County. I thank for her for her perseverance and willingness to go the extra mile to ensure public safety in North Carolina.

Mrs. Keyes has, without exception, earned the right to be honored. It is my hope that God will continue to bless and keep Mrs. Keyes and her family in the years to come.

# HONORING TATE EIVINS

## HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2020*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tate Eivins. Tate is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1099, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tate has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tate has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tate has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Tate built a large metal and wood picnic table for a historical site in Clay County, Missouri, and spent 144 hours planning, gathering materials, building, and teaching other scouts how to weld and build the table.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tate Eivins for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

# HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD ANTHONY VACCARO, SR., PH.D.

## HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2020*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of longtime Concord resident, Edward Anthony Vaccaro, Sr., Ph.D.

Edward Vaccaro was born in Paterson, New Jersey, where he grew up spending time with his family at the Jersey Shore and developing a passion for the arts. Edward attended Fordham University before marrying his wife, Jeanne and starting a family. Ed and Jeanne moved to Concord, California where they raised their children.

Ed became involved in the local business community as the owner of Vaccaro's Florist. Ed went back to school and got his doctorate in 1987. Ed had a passion for the City of Concord and loved being a member of the community. The positivity with which Ed lived his life left an impression on everyone he met.

Edward Vaccaro was a cherished member of Concord and he will be missed.

# HONORING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY RICHARD WHITTEN

## HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2020*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Liberty County Sheriff's Deputy Richard Whitten, who succumbed to complications of a gunshot wound sustained on May 29, 2019, while responding to a crisis call in Cleveland, Texas.

On May 29, Deputy Whitten was off-duty and en route to a law enforcement training class, when "shots fired" was dispatched over the radio. Deputy Whitten did not hesitate to put himself in harm's way, he responded instantly, arriving just as the suspect was fleeing the scene after murdering two people at a Cleveland business. After a brief pursuit, Deputy Whitten was shot in the neck by the murder suspect—paralyzing him instantly. The perpetrator subsequently committed suicide.

Following this tragedy, Deputy Whitten remained hospitalized at TIRR Memorial Her-

man, a world-class rehabilitation hospital in the Houston Medical Center. On February 3, 2020, Deputy Whitten suffered a complication while undergoing physical therapy and tragically passed away.

In July 2019, Deputy Whitten, his wife, Kami, and I had a lengthy conversation about his passion for law enforcement as well as his recovery process. He personally told me that he would do it all over again to protect his community. He served with the Liberty County Sheriff's Office for four years and will be greatly missed.

Deputy Whitten selflessly paid the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of Liberty County. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Deputy Richard Whitten, for his faithful service and devotion to his community. My prayers remain with his family and friends at this time.

# CONGRATULATING MISSOURI'S 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S FOOTBALL TEAMS

## HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 6, 2020*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Webb City football team, who won their 15th State Title in Class 4 last year. "Go Cardinals". I would also like to commend the Carthage football team for winning the Class 5 State Championship and our Joplin High School football team who were runner's up in the Class 6 State Championship. They all performed admirably this season and demonstrated a determination and dedication to their team, school, supporters and communities.

Webb City football has a legacy of excellence and tradition that is evident in their record, which they only improved upon by claiming their fifteenth state title 48-0 against Platte County. The Cardinals, ranked 1st in their Class with a 13-1 record, had a hard road reaching the finals. They faced not only the 2nd best ranked team, but also the 3rd and 4th in the lead up to their championship win. Following their semifinal defeat in 2018 to the eventual champions, Webb City's program worked hard all season and succeeded in accomplishing their goal of "Chasing 15."

Carthage football's Class 5 Championship win was tough fought, including a nail-biting third quarter with an impressive long completion that secured their 27-21 win against second-ranked Jackson Indians. Their Coach, Jon Guidie, said the team "just . . . [wouldn't] die and they just won't quit." This win was the first state title for the 5th ranked Carthage team who finished their season 12-2. The Carthage team has fought back against the difficulties of their season, which is a credit to their determination and grit.

Joplin High School football team, ranked 3rd, lost to the 1st ranked De Smet in the Class 6 Championship game. The game was a hard-fought loss for Joplin High, with the Eagles unfortunately unable to hold a third quarter lead that would have secured a victory. The Eagles ended their season 13-1, having beaten Ft. Zumwalt West and Marquette in the semi-finals and quarterfinals respectively.

All of our great Missouri football teams have persevered through difficult seasons and have