

bipartisan support in this Chamber as President Trump's guest for the State of the Union.

For years, Venezuela's united Socialist party has pushed a once prosperous country towards desperate poverty and open tyranny.

The wrongful detention of the Citgo Six for more than 2 years demonstrates the corrupt nature in which Maduro will do anything to remain in power.

The United States and the Organization of American States should institute greater pressure and tighten sanctions against the Maduro regime and his cronies in order to support a return to a democratic Venezuela.

I stand with President Guaido and the people of Venezuela and call on Maduro to step down and release the Citgo Six and all political prisoners or face greater sanctions.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILMER
PLATE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of Arkansas's great veterans, Lieutenant Colonel Wilmer Plate, who recently passed away at the age of 99.

Will was born in 1919 and began his long career of service shortly after the start of World War II. Will led numerous missions during the war as a commander of a 10-man crew in a B-24.

Following the end of World War II, Will continued his service for more than three decades until his retirement from the Air Force as a chief warrant officer 4 and shortly after as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve.

Lieutenant Colonel Plate continued to provide crucial insight into World War II by publishing his memoir entitled, "The Storm Clouds of War: Reflections of a World War II Bomber Pilot."

Will earned numerous medals and awards for his service, including, among many others, the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Will was a true American patriot, one of which all Americans and Arkansans can admire, and I extend my deepest respect, affection, and prayers to his friends, family, and loved ones.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORREST
WOOD

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of Arkansas's great outdoorsmen, Mr. Forrest Wood, who recently passed away at the age of 87.

Born in Flippin, Arkansas, Forrest was considered a pioneer in the fishing industry and the father of the modern bass boat.

He founded Ranger Boats, a bass boat company that he designed and built principally for black bass fishing with his wife Nina. In 1968, Forrest was instrumental in the formation of the bass fishing tournament circuit.

As a long-time Arkansas game and fish commissioner, he was a strong conservationist and devoted to Arkansas, the Natural State. Forrest was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Sport Fishing Associa-

tion of America and the BASS Federation. Forrest was also inducted into the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation Outdoor Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame.

Forrest was an inspiration and friend to many across our State, and I extend my respect, affection, and prayers to his friends, family, and loved ones.

RECOGNIZING RON CHASTAIN

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Ron Chastain for recently being appointed as the civilian aide to the secretary of the Army.

General Chastain was born in Paris, Arkansas, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Reserve upon graduation from the ROTC program at Arkansas Tech University.

General Chastain's distinguished military service in the Arkansas National Guard spanned nearly four decades, including service as adjutant general and receiving Federal recognition as a major general of the line in 2005.

General Chastain spent over 30 years working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency where he was responsible for the administration of Federal farm programs at the county, district, and State level.

General Chastain has received numerous awards and decorations throughout his career, including the Army Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star.

I thank General Chastain for his decades of service to our Nation, and I wish him well in his new position with the U.S. Army.

HONORING KRISTEN MUSGROVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Kristen Musgrove from Nassau County, Florida, for having earned the Milken Educator Award.

This distinguished award recognizes teachers, principals, and educational specialists who have made a profound impact on their students and school communities.

Ms. Musgrove teaches math to the sixth grade students at Hilliard Middle-Senior High School and was the only teacher in the State of Florida chosen for this very prestigious award.

Our educators are tasked with teaching and inspiring the next generation of Americans and Ms. Musgrove has gone above and beyond as demonstrated by preparing and guiding her students in the development of valuable problem-solving skills.

In fact, under Ms. Musgrove's instruction, her classes lead the Nassau County School District with a 97 percent math proficiency. Ms. Musgrove's dedication to her students extends beyond the classroom, as she also offers tutoring at a weekly after school math camp.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Florida and the grateful students and parents of Hilliard Middle-Senior High School, I thank Ms. Musgrove for her lifelong dedication to excellence in the classroom and congratulate her on receiving the recognition she so well deserves.

HONORING THE HIDTA PROGRAM

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 30 years of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program known as HIDTA. This program has played a vital role in helping keep our communities safe and drugs off our streets.

For the last several years, law enforcement officers have been on the front line of the opioid crisis that our country is facing, and now for the first time in decades, the CDC has indicated that the overdose death rates are expected to decline. This is thanks to the HIDTA program and our local, State, and Federal partners taking down the drug smugglers and traffickers.

I would like to highlight some of the incredible officers from the north Florida HIDTA who received recognition on February 6 at the 2020 National HIDTA Conference and Awards banquet.

Winning the team award for Outstanding Investigative Support Center were: Kim Jones, Louis Ceragioli, Joe Delaney, Robert Hoisington, Ralph Little, Kevin Miller, Stefanie Miller, Paul Pilliod, Jared Padilla, and John Watson.

Winning an award for Outstanding Task Force Commander was Florida's own Corey M. Taylor of the Ocala Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate each and every one of them. These awards are well deserved, and I thank them for helping to keep our communities safe.

THANKING DR. WILLIAM GRISCOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SMUCKER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, to honor, and to give thanks to Dr. William Griscom, the President of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, who retired recently at the end of January.

Dr. Griscom, across his 23 years at the helm of Thaddeus Stevens, transformed the institution into one of the most successful 2-year-degree granting institutions in the Nation, boasting an over 96 percent placement rate for its graduates. In fact, last year, there were 1,400 employers seeking to fill 4,000 jobs all looking to hire Thaddeus Stevens' 365 graduates.

Dr. Griscom increased enrollment at the school from nearly 500 students when he started in 1996 to over 1,200 students enrolled today, completing capital projects worth tens of millions of dollars to increase the school's capacity, and led the school through accreditation with the Commission of Higher Education Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Mr. Speaker, the lives of thousands of individuals across south central Pennsylvania and across Lancaster County have been put on the path to success because of Dr. Griscom's leadership. It has been an honor to work with him over the past decade during my time in the State senate chairing the education committee, and now as a Member of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. Bill Griscom for his years of committed and thoughtful leadership of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology and wish him continued success and happiness in retirement.

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RECOGNIZING CLERMONT HUGER LEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Clermont Huger Lee for being one of the 2020 honorees at the Savannah College of Art and Design's Women of Vision recognition ceremony.

During the middle 1900s, Mrs. Lee was a true trailblazer in our community for her groundbreaking work as a landscape architect. In Savannah, she became the first female landscape architect with her own practice. Additionally, she was considered the foremost expert in re-creating the historic landscapes that are so critical to Savannah's downtown.

Although she passed away in 2006 at the age of 92, her work is still extensively studied at SCAD and can be seen across Savannah in gardens at the Davenport House, the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, the Owens-Thomas House, and more.

Now, in the 21st century, female landscape architects are leading a number of important projects across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone involved with the Savannah Women of Vision recognition ceremony for honoring such an important woman.

RECOGNIZING FREDDIE SMITH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Freddie Smith, who retired this past year as pastor of the Sweat Memorial Baptist Church in Waycross, Georgia, after leading the church for the last 25 years.

Leading people to the Word of God has been Mr. Smith's passion since he was 13 years old. At the time, he was headed with his family to a revival in Ocala, Florida, when he asked his father to pull over the car so that he could walk to the church with the day's guest preacher. The preacher told him: Don't be afraid to walk toward the Lord. Pastor Smith started preaching only a few years later.

During his time at Sweat Memorial in the First Congressional District of Georgia, the services he led were

known by everyone in the area for being beautifully orchestrated and welcoming, reflecting the personality of Pastor Smith.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Pastor Smith for his work in Waycross over the last 25 years. Even in his retirement, I know he will continue working in the community to make it a better place to live.

Congratulations.

RECOGNIZING SUZANNE SHANK

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Suzanne Shank, who is one of the 2020 honorees at the Savannah College of Art and Design's Women of Vision recognition ceremony.

A native of Savannah, Ms. Shank is the president, CEO, and cofounder of Siebert Williams Shank & Company. Under her watch, the company has grown from a startup investment banking firm to now being involved in over \$2 trillion in municipal and corporate bonds.

In 2010, the company became the first female- and minority-owned firm in Wall Street history to be ranked in the top 10 municipal bond underwriters. Additionally, U.S. Banker Magazine ranked Ms. Shank as one of the most powerful women in finance.

But her work transcends finance through her commitment to mentor inner city youth, her service on industry associations, and her work with the Spelman College Board of Trustees.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Ms. Shank on her honor as a 2020 Savannah Woman of Vision.

Keep up the great work.

Mr. Speaker, I thank SCAD for honoring this Savannahian, who is a true trailblazer.

RECOGNIZING THE SAVANNAH ART ASSOCIATION

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Savannah Art Association, which will be 100 years old this February.

The oldest art association in Georgia, it was founded in February of 1920 in the basement of Mills B. Lane's home. From there, the Savannah Art Association moved to the Telfair Museum and, now, has two galleries at Chippewa Square and the Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport. It has come a long way over the 100 years since those members meeting in the Lanes' home.

Today, the Savannah Art Association has over 150 members from all artistic levels, beginner to professional, who are constantly helping each other and improving their techniques. They work diligently to make our community a better place to live through their exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, education programs, and partnerships with local businesses to showcase their artwork.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone involved with the Savannah Art Association for their work in our area.

Congratulations on your 100-year anniversary.

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TURNS 100 YEARS OLD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, growing up on our family farm in rural Kansas, one thing was for sure: Every day at about 12:20, over the lunch hour, and then again at about 10:20 at night, our family would be gathered around the television set to watch the latest weather forecast for the upcoming day.

From aviation to agriculture, accurate and timely weather forecasts are essential to a number of industries across the United States, and especially to farmers and ranchers back home in Kansas.

150 years ago, on February 9, 1870, President Ulysses S. Grant signed into law a joint resolution creating what was known as the Signal Service, laying the foundation for what would become today's National Weather Service.

While the organization has evolved over the years, the National Weather Service provides important weather data, forecasting, and warnings aimed at protecting life and property across the United States.

There are four National Weather Service offices across Kansas working to analyze data and provide timely weather information. They are located in Topeka, Dodge, Wichita, and Goodland, and I have had the opportunity to visit several of these locations and the fine ladies and gentlemen that run those stations.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say happy 150th birthday to the National Weather Service and to say thank you for the around-the-clock work they do to keep us all safe and informed.

SURPRISE BILLING

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, if you or a loved one has ever experienced a medical emergency, you know how stressful these situations can be; but for far too many, the stress and heartache does not end when help arrives or treatment is delivered.

Nearly one in four Kansans seeking medical treatment either through planned surgery or emergency medical care are hit with a surprise bill because the care they received was from a provider outside of their network. In Kansas, this can happen after a trip to the emergency room for, say, a child's broken arm, a motor vehicle accident, or chest pain.

Surprise billing may occur when a patient receives emergency care from a professional outside of their insurance network. Unfortunately, surprise billing can also occur in nonemergency situations where a surgery is planned out well in advance, but you later find out one of the doctors or services was not in your plan's network.

These unplanned expenses can leave Kansans on the hook for thousands—if not tens of thousands—of dollars in additional medical bills, often depleting