

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.