

Temple Annex for more than 50 years. But he also served his country, including four years in the United States Air Force, and 26 years with the United States Treasury and Internal Revenue Service.

Madam Speaker, those who knew Bishop Fields will always remember him as a teacher, mentor, preacher, worshipper, kind-hearted, and above all, a good man. He will be deeply missed by the Bronx and Mount Vernon communities in which he lived and served for so many years. My deepest condolences go out to his family.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT MOORE AS CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2020

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize a local veteran from my district, Robert “Bob” Moore, as my February Constituent of the Month. February is Black History Month, and it is only fitting to recognize Moore’s patriotism and perseverance in celebration. Robert Moore is one of the nation’s first black men to serve in the Marine Corps and last surviving Montford Point Marine.

During a time of extreme division, Robert Moore knew he had a calling to serve. As one of the nation’s first black men to join the Marine Corps, he trained in all-white segregated base camps. Not only did he face racism and discrimination during his training, but he and the other black Marines also struggled with a lack of opportunity and ignorance towards their war-heroism. Yet he persisted, and in 2011 at the request of then-Marine Commandant James F. Amos, President Barack Obama authorized the award of the Congressional Gold Medal to all Montford Point Marines, including Robert Moore.

I launched a Constituent of the Month program to recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond to make our region and our country a stronger place for everyone to live and thrive. Moore is an exemplary model of perseverance, courage and honor. I thank him for being an esteemed resident of California’s 49th district, and I am honored to represent him.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AND THE PRESIDENT’S BUDGET

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2020

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 862: 2020 Public Schools Week.

I was disgusted when President Trump referred to “failing government schools,” during his State of the Union Address.

President Trump is wrong.

First of all, we call them public schools.

Today there are more than 50 million kids educated in public schools. Ensuring that our nation’s kids are receiving the education they deserve no matter their ability, race, wealth, language, country or origin or needs.

As a former public school teacher, I know firsthand public schools play for students futures and the future of our country.

Yet, this administration continues to put public schools under threat.

And now the President plans to divert \$5 million away from public schools to private school voucher programs, as well as turn funding for Every Student Succeeds Act into a block grant program.

We must continue to support our public schools and those that attend them this week and every week.

HONORING KATHERINE JOHNSON

HON. KENDRA S. HORN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2020

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the legacy of Mrs. Katherine Johnson, a beloved American hero who passed away on February 24, 2020, at 101 years old. Mrs. Johnson was an African American pioneer in aeronautical mathematics and was one of the original “Hidden Figures” behind NASA’s work. Her mathematical work was critical to our nation’s first moon landing and it is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of this extraordinary woman. We must never forget Mrs. Johnson’s extraordinary accomplishments, and, we must ensure that her legacy will continue to live on and inspire generations of scientists, mathematicians, and engineers.

Born in 1918 in West Virginia during the era of Jim Crow, Katherine Johnson faced many challenges during her lifetime. In the face of adversity, Katherine became one of only three African American students to attend West Virginia’s graduate schools. After graduating from West Virginia State College, she planned to dedicate her career to teaching at a public school in Virginia. As we now know, life took this woman in a very different direction.

In 1953, Mrs. Johnson accepted a job as a “computer” at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), where she checked her superior’s math to ensure accuracy for NACA, which would later become NASA. After only two weeks of work, she became a permanent mathematician for NASA and spent the next four years of her life analyzing flight tests. In 1958, Mrs. Johnson went on to work on trajectory analysis for America’s first human spaceflight, Freedom 7 Mission. Just two years later, she accomplished what no woman had—she coauthored equations depicting orbital spaceflight and the landing positions of spacecraft.

While Mrs. Johnson’s work was not given fair recognition at the time, her calculations were critical to bridging the gap between the United States and the Soviet Union in the Space Race and completing the first successful manned lunar landing.

We must not forget the pioneering work of women like Katherine Johnson. Last year, I was proud to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Katherine Johnson and all of the “Hidden Figures” women who made NASA’s work possible. During her lifetime, Katherine Johnson also received the Presidential Medal of Freedom

from President Obama in 2015 for her groundbreaking work. As Chairwoman of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of Mrs. Katherine Johnson as an American trailblazer in mathematics and engineering who ultimately shaped space history in the United States and globally.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF ROBERT WADE SHIREY

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of Robert Wade Shirey, who passed from this life after a prolonged battle with heart disease.

Bob was born on December 11, 1934 in Pennsylvania to Ophie and Raymond Shirey. Shortly after graduating high school, and wanting to serve his country, Bob joined the Marine Corps. Over the course of his tenure in the United States Marines Bob was stationed in San Diego, San Francisco, Twentynine Palms, and Okinawa, Japan. It was during his time in the Marine Corps that he met his wife Georgia, with whom he has three children, Raymond, Robert, and Renee. Bob was honorably discharged from the Marines on October 15, 1963 and shortly thereafter he went to work for GTE Corp. Over the next several years Bob would graduate from college with a degree in management and spend countless hours volunteering with the Lions Club, the Kiwanis Club, and Little League Baseball.

I would like to extend my personal condolences to Bob’s wife Georgia, his three kids, and his seven grandchildren. It is people like Bob who exemplify what it means to be an American.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be on the House floor on February 26, 2020, because my flight from Oregon was canceled. If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4852, the G.I. and Veterans Education Empowerment Act, and H.R. 2490, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

CONGRATULATING THE EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL RIFLE TEAM

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate the Everett