

On August 15, 1945, Imperial Japan surrendered to Allied forces in the Pacific—effectively bringing an end to the hostilities of World War II. More than 150,000 American Servicemembers died in the Pacific Theater of WWII, including many Michiganders. Victory over Japan Day honors their sacrifice and celebrates the victory they helped ensure. In honor of V–J Day, VFW Post 2356 in Hillman, Michigan, hosts an annual community celebration. This celebration has been held for the past 75 years and includes a breakfast for local Veterans and parade—making Hillman the only town in Michigan that still celebrates the occasion with a parade. By coming together to honor those who stood up to defend and to serve, the people of Michigan's First District can ensure that their sacrifice is never forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the men and women who helped ensure victory in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and in thanking the Hillman VFW Post 2356 for its efforts to ensure their sacrifice and devotion to our nation is never forgotten.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRIVATE
FIRST CLASS EVAN BATH OF
OAK CREEK

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to remember the life, service, and sacrifice of Private First Class Evan Bath of Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

Pfc. Bath grew up wanting to serve our country and become a Marine. Evan's mother, Aleta, said he enjoyed typical hobbies for a teenager: drawing, playing video games, and studying his ancestry. However, unlike most his age, Evan answered a higher call—the call to service. After attending Oak Creek High School and graduating from Connections Academy, Bath joined the U.S. Marine Corps. Pfc. Bath was stationed at Camp Pendleton in San Diego, California when he lost his life during a naval exercise on an amphibious assault vehicle.

At only 19, Private First Class Bath displayed courage, strength, and a sense of duty beyond his years.

Those who knew Evan said he was a loyal, loving, and caring man. Pfc. Bath is a hero.

His bravery, dedication, and love of country will never be forgotten.

Pfc. Bath's mother, Aleta, said her son died doing what he loved—protecting his country.

Evan embodied true selflessness and patriotism.

Our nation will be forever grateful for Pfc. Bath's sacrifice.

On behalf of Wisconsin's First Congressional District, I thank Private First Class Evan Bath for his service and pray for his family and friends. We will never forget.

HONORING TANNERS TEAM
SPORTS AS A FOURTH DISTRICT
HERO

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional work of Tanners Team Sports in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The local company stepped up to the plate during COVID-19, transitioning the production of their famed baseball and pickleball products into developing high-quality face masks.

As an economic shutdown approached, the cancellation of the spring baseball season put Tanners' peak shipping season on hold. While many businesses shut down, Tanners got creative with a way to move forward, keep local jobs available and support the health and well-being of the communities around them.

Owner Vince Signorelli and his staff worked tirelessly with their existing network to create a mask that would not only meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's protection recommendations, but also allow athletes to wear and still perform. Within just three weeks of planning and design, Tanners and their in-house clothing brand, Vulcan Sporting Goods, had these masks in production and distribution.

This team of Fourth District citizens are heroes who have battled the COVID-19 pandemic directly. It is my hope that all Arkansans will see the value of their labor. Mr. Signorelli said it best when he said, "I can't help but marvel at how the American Spirit is alive and well right here in Hot Springs, Arkansas."

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF THE REVEREND DOCTOR NATHANIEL
EDMOND OF THE SECOND
BAPTIST CHURCH OF ELGIN

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the upcoming retirement of the Reverend Doctor Nathaniel Edmond of the Second Baptist Church of Elgin, and to commend his many decades of service to our community. Pastor Nate can begin the next chapter of his life secure in the knowledge that he built a foundation of spiritual leadership that continues to support the youth he mentored, the local entrepreneurs he advised, and the faithful who found comfort in his ministry.

Pastor Nate began his professional life at Alcoa Corporation, rising to a position of high executive leadership. Although committed to excellence in his chosen career, Pastor Nate found time to assist his church, serving as an Associate Minister, Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, spiritual advisor to several church organizations, and coach of many church sports teams. After 31 years in the world of business, Pastor Nate answered a call to the ministry, and on February 20, 2000 was installed as Pastor of Second Baptist Church.

Under his stewardship, Second Baptist Church delivered strong moral leadership and

tended to the needs of communities devastated by poverty, disaster, famine and disease. Under his guidance, the church partnered with local schools to mentor at-risk youth, and led initiatives including the Prison Ministry, "Operation Joshua" street ministry, and SAFE Ministry (to break the often multi-generational cycle of domestic violence). In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Second Baptist Church rallied to aid families rendered homeless by the storm's devastation, and in 2007, as part of its effort to support the ongoing ministry of World Vision, extended its compassion to the people of Africa, helping to build a housing complex for teachers in Tanzania, and pledging continuing monetary support to over 130 Tanzanian children.

This ever-expanding circle of service to others was accompanied by growth in Second Baptist's membership. Pastor Nate can take great satisfaction in the organization that will continue after his retirement, a structure that has evolved in size and sophistication enabling 32 active ministries to flourish and attend to its members' spiritual needs. He can rest easy knowing that under his leadership, Second Baptist Church acquired and constructed a campus sufficient to serve its community for years to come.

Pastor Nate's ministry extended well beyond his church. He served on boards or in other capacities for many important organizations in the Elgin area, including the Alignment Collaborative for Education, Advocate Sherman Hospital, the United Way, Judson University, U-46 School District, the NAACP of Greater Elgin, and the African-American Christian Minister's Alliance. He has been honored for his work by the Rotary Club of Elgin and received the Partner in Peace Award from the Community Crisis Center for Domestic Violence, the City of Elgin's Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award, the Lasting Impact Award from Elgin Community College, and the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin Distinguished Citizen Award.

For 26 years, Pastor Nate has ministered to his community and guided a vibrant congregation whose love and generosity reached far beyond its church walls. While he may be ending his service as Pastor, I know Pastor Nate will continue his life's work of service to others. On behalf of the people of Illinois and all Americans, I wish Pastor Nate and his family great happiness and fulfillment in the journey ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MIAMI
BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 7, 2020

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce for its 100th anniversary.

The Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce has reached a monumental milestone this year, helping local businesses flourish for an entire century. The Chamber is a valued organization in our South Florida community, boasting a membership network upwards of 1,000 businesses. Between providing industry-specific advice, hosting monthly networking events, and offering informational seminars