

connecting veterans with meaningful employment by hosting job fairs. On behalf of myself and the veterans in our region, I thank you for your continued support and efforts to ensure our veterans get to experience the American dream they fought to protect.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the centennial of Disabled American Veterans. I thank DAV, for an outstanding first 100 years, and let us look forward to another prosperous 100 years.

HONORING DR. PATRICK WELCH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Patrick Welch, a Vietnam War veteran who made it his mission in life to ensure that veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

Dr. Welch enlisted into the United States Marine Corps at the young age of 17 and served in combat as an Infantry Squad Leader with the 3rd Division during the Vietnam War. He was severely injured on the battlefield and immobilized for two years. For his service, Dr. Welch was awarded the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Service Defense Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medals, and the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross.

Like many veterans, when Dr. Welch returned to Buffalo, New York from the war he was struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). He quickly realized that many of his fellow comrades were facing the same challenges he was. It was at that point that he decided to dedicate his life to raising awareness about veterans' mental health and he worked to provide avenues in which they could seek treatment. In doing so he substantially altered the conversation about the mental health of veterans in Western New York. He promoted the idea that mental health isn't a taboo subject but rather a reality for a number of veterans returning home. He often says "War doesn't break us, war changes us."

Those who know Dr. Welch can attest to the fact that he is a great leader, educator, and a speaker who uses his skills to advocate for veterans. Dr. Welch is an active member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, was the Director of Erie County Veterans Services, and the Director of the Center for Veterans and Veteran Family Services at Daemen College. His most treasured role was helping individual veterans as a Senior Mentor in the Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court. Dr. Welch currently serves as the Chair of the Community Veterans Engagement Board of Western New York. He always works closely with our office to advocate for policies and services that benefit veterans. Dr. Welch recently joined our Service Academy Advisory Committee to assist those following in his footsteps to serve our nation. He has built relationships with many veterans in Western New York behind the scenes. In doing so he has set a solid precedent for how each one of us should treat veterans returning home after defending our freedom.

Dr. Welch's extensive work has laid solid groundwork for the next generation of leaders

and advocates. His openness about his personal struggles has fostered an atmosphere within our community where veterans feel like they have a safe place to be supported and heal. I have closely worked with Dr. Patrick Welch for many years so it is my privilege today to personally thank him for his service and friendship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 196; YEA on Roll Call No. 197; and NAY on Roll Call No. 198.

IN HONOR OF REP. EDWARD BUTLER

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor State Representative Ed Butler, who is retiring after twelve years of service to the citizens of New Hampshire. Rep. Butler served Carroll County District 7 for six terms in the New Hampshire House of Representatives.

Rep. Butler, a fierce leader, has dedicated his career to championing progressive and inclusive legislation including defending LG BTQ+ rights, advocating for accessible health coverage, and supporting local small businesses. After years of faithful service and an unyielding commitment to furthering the cause of equality and justice for all Granite Staters, Rep. Butler made the difficult decision to forego re-election in order to dedicate his time to helping his husband with the operation of their small business, the Notchland Inn, which has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rep. Butler is known amongst colleagues as a hard worker who goes the extra mile to advocate for the betterment of his district. He has served as an example to many of what it means to be an effective and compassionate lawmaker. He approaches his work with goodwill, grace, and fervor. His embodiment of these values serves as a model to other representatives and will continue to be a guiding principle in the General Court for decades to come.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Rep. Butler and his family for their years of dedication to our state. I congratulate him on his accomplished law-making career, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GIANA HUTTON

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my constituent from Silver

Spring, Giana Hutton, who passed away unexpectedly on September 15, 2020. Originally from the south suburbs of Chicago, Giana graduated from Williams College with a Bachelor of Arts in History. She will be sharply missed.

Giana was deeply committed to empowering young people and fighting for the rights of students. While in her junior and senior years at Williams, Giana interned with Senator Ronald Burris as an Education & Judiciary Intern. Following graduation, she was selected as a Junior Associate Fellow in the Urban Education Leadership Program, where she worked with the District of Columbia Public Schools in the Office of Special Education to find potential community stakeholders to support independent work habits for students with emotional and learning disabilities.

Giana later returned to school to receive her Master of Science in Public Policy and Management. During her second year, Giana interned with Reading is Fundamental Pittsburgh, serving as its Outreach and Development Intern. During her time with RIF Pittsburgh, Giana was able to further work on her goal of reducing the achievement gap across socio-economic classes by raising money for literacy programs which provided students with greater access to books, activity-based projects to focus on the joys of reading and materials aimed at developing reading and comprehension skills.

In 2013, Giana was selected as a recipient of the Public Service Career Opportunities Program Award. Through this prestigious award, Giana got a job as a Program Analyst working on federal grants to support low-income students in the local charter and D.C. Public Schools. Through her job, Giana supported schools in providing students with supplemental learning opportunities.

Giana was a beloved sister of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., an organization she joined because of its commitment to education. Through her involvement in Alpha Kappa Alpha, Giana was proud to be a part of a community in which she felt empowered and could inspire others.

Giana will be remembered for her commitment to empowering others and her dedication to providing educational opportunities for young people. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the remarkable life of my constituent, Giana Hutton.

COMMEMORATING THE SMITH CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

HON. BEN CLINE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss a unique public-private partnership that has yielded big conservation dividends for my home state of Virginia.

Ten years ago, a dedicated group of landowners and partners gathered in a small Shenandoah Valley community to launch a unique initiative designed to improve local water quality through the power of Conservation, Collaboration and Community. Smith Creek was one of three "showcase watersheds" established by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service as part of a

new strategy to address bacteria, nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment contamination in Smith Creek.

These “showcases” were established to demonstrate what can be accomplished when communities come together to solve natural resource problems in a targeted area. Smith Creek joined Maryland’s Upper Chester River and Conewago Creek in Pennsylvania to test this focused approach to stewardship on a watershed level.

The Smith Creek Watershed presents some unique conservation challenges. Karst topography dominates the Shenandoah Valley with hundreds of known sinkholes and over 35 caves that complicate the conservation effort. It is also home to 75 percent of Virginia’s poultry operations and approximately 46 percent of its dairies.

Local groups and organizations partnered to conduct extensive outreach over the past 10 years, personally contacting area producers and landowners to increase awareness of assistance available to implement water quality practices on local farms. As dedicated stewards of the land, local farmers and landowners worked diligently to improve water quality while continuing to ensure our agricultural economy in the Shenandoah Valley thrived. Smith Creek agricultural producers have now treated more than 8,115 acres through Farm Bill programs like CSP, EQIP and the associated National Water Quality Initiative—over 640 total acres in the last two years alone.

Today, we recognize and salute the dedicated conservationists and stewards of the land who have so successfully collaborated to preserve the farming heritage, water quality and scenic beauty of Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley and the Chesapeake Bay.

MOUNTAIN NEWS CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Mountain News, a local newspaper in Lake Arrowhead, California.

The Mountain News will celebrate its anniversary in October of 2020, having been founded in October 1920. Over the last century, it has served as a voice for mountain residents in Lake Arrowhead and across the San Bernardino Mountains. From public interest stories, to local crime and public safety news, to emergency preparedness tips during wildfire season, the Mountain News has been committed to providing quality news for its readers. The hard work and unrivaled dedication of its staff are the bedrock for the success the Mountain News has enjoyed. Its mission of providing quality journalism to the local community has been incredibly successful, and I am confident that we will see that success continue for another century.

I offer my sincere congratulations to the staff, both past and present, of the Mountain News. This is a momentous occasion, and their hard work has informed and improved the lives of their fellow Lake Arrowhead residents. I hope that the next century is just as successful for the Mountain News as the previous one.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today during National Child Passenger Safety Week (September 20–26, 2020) to recognize the great strides we have made protecting our most vulnerable passengers: our children. We have moved from a high in the 1970’s of over 6,000 deaths annually of children under 14 to fewer than 1,300 such deaths in 2018. While one death is too many, this is a monumental shift. Much of our progress is the result of child passenger safety (CPS) efforts to secure children correctly in car seats that meet federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) and are installed correctly in vehicles during every ride.

Today, motor vehicle crashes remain a leading cause of childhood injuries and fatalities and there is more we can do to protect children. The more than 43,000 nationally certified child passenger safety technicians (CPSTs) are a great resource for new parents and caregivers who need help with the proper installation and use of car seats. Their expertise in choosing and installing car seats has saved lives, and there is a new platform to help them do this important job even better.

Over the past several years, the National Digital Car Seat Check Form (NDCF) was created through a partnership of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), AAA Northern California, Nevada, and Utah, the National Child Passenger Safety Board (NCPBSB), Tennessee Tech University’s iCube, and Westat. The NDCF, managed by the National Safety Council, is the first national electronic car seat check data collection tool that is available to all nationally certified child passenger safety technicians in the United States.

In addition to streamlining the collection of national data, this information can assist state child passenger safety coordinators in considering where services may need to be expanded to meet the needs of all families, including those in rural and underserved communities. In fact, this data can help support the provisions I authored in H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act, to support expansion of CPST training for underserved populations.

Highway Safety Offices can tailor state marketing campaigns that address child passenger safety and include information about the highest forms of car seat misuse in their state. Further, available data will lend insight into trends and patterns regarding misuse of car seats and vehicle compatibility. This information has the potential to influence engineering and design of car seats and vehicles and subsequently increase safety for vehicle occupants.

The NDCF has been in development for almost four years through an iterative process involving diverse representation from the field of child passenger safety. As of September 20, 2020, 2,743 CPSTs have created NDCF user accounts and more than 31,000 car seat check forms have been submitted to the system. Every state in the United States has registered CPSTs and has submitted data to this NDCF. The NDCF is also in use in the terri-

tories and regions covered by the Indian Health Services.

The hope is to have the opportunity for the NDCF to improve the safety of our children. Data that can identify areas of need, recurring fault mechanisms, lack of understanding on installation, and other problems lead to reforms for everyone using car seats. These improvements will save children’s lives.

It is fitting that during Child Passenger Safety week I recognize this major step forward in improving national CPS. I encourage my colleagues to recognize the hard work of CPSTs in their communities who give their time and talent for their labor of love—keeping children safe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 194 and YEA on Roll Call No. 195.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA BAILEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Bailey, Kentucky’s longest-serving television news anchor and a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame, as she retires from WKYT-TV after more than four decades of dedication to broadcast journalism.

As a native of Harlan, Kentucky, Barbara has been an inspiration to women and men from the mountains of southern and eastern Kentucky for many years. She has always worn her Appalachian heritage with great pride, first as a reporter for the Harlan Daily Enterprise, and continuing to display her passion for people in the mountains throughout her broadcast career at WKYT. Barbara gave a voice to individuals who may have never been heard otherwise, and shared stories that we, as Kentuckians, needed to be informed about. Thanks to her insight on issues in Kentucky’s Appalachian region, WKYT has been a news source for families and individuals beyond the Lexington metro area, extending into the living rooms of families across southern and eastern Kentucky. It is Barbara’s southeastern Kentucky charm that won over the hearts of countless viewers, and likewise, her mountain moxie that influenced her journalistic integrity and earned the respect and trust of the people of this Commonwealth.

Given a platform that few others are ever granted, Barbara has always been a generous steward of her talents and her personal time, volunteering for charity fundraisers throughout the state and serving on the board of various civic groups and organizations. Most recently, we joined together for the benefit of the Cawood Ledford Boys and Girls Club in Harlan County to expand their reach to more students and expand their facilities.

I was elected to my first term in office the same year that Barbara anchored her first