

Georgia, she has made Woodbridge her home, and both Prince William County and the 11th District of Virginia have benefited greatly from her many contributions.

Although Ms. Hunter has expressed interest in spending more time with her family, I encourage her to remain civically involved in Prince William County as her resolve and dedication are inspirational to all who have had the privilege of knowing her.

While her professional successes cannot be denied, the most important roles in Ms. Hunter's life have been as mother to Jennifer Hunter-Marshall and as Army wife of 42 years to Colonel (Retired) Cardell S. Hunter. I thank them for their support and sacrifices that have allowed Ms. Hunter to serve her country and her community.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Pauline Hunter and in expressing our appreciation for her years of dedication as a federal civil servant and community volunteer. I wish her continued success and a healthy and happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AVIATION MUSEUM OF KENTUCKY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky.

In 1978, a group of dedicated aviation enthusiasts founded the Kentucky Aviation Roundtable in Lexington, Kentucky, with the mission of preserving the legacy of the aviation and aerospace industries in the Commonwealth.

Through dedication, persistence, and the support of several generous benefactors, the Roundtable achieved its goal with the opening of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, on the grounds of Blue Grass Airport in Lexington, on April 15, 1995. Today, the Museum is an educational resource for central Kentucky: hosting exhibits, lectures, and events related to aviation and aerospace history, design, and engineering.

The Museum's grand opening ceremony doubled as a reunion for survivors of the Doolittle Raid, honoring the airmen's sacrifices on April 18, 1942 as the first mission to strike the Japanese homeland following the attacks on Pearl Harbor.

Since that inaugural event, the Museum has continued to recognize men and women in the Commonwealth for their outstanding achievements in the fields of aviation and aerospace, establishing the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame in 1996.

The Museum looks not only to the past, but also to the future, inculcating a love of flying and engineering in Kentucky's youth by hosting Aviation Summer Camps throughout the Bluegrass. These programs have benefited 5,360 young Kentuckians, encouraging them to pursue careers in aerospace industries.

Today, Kentucky's top export category is aerospace and the Commonwealth's universities are becoming leaders in the fields of

manned and unmanned flight systems. The Aviation Museum of Kentucky helped foster this flourishing industry in our state and will continue to inspire future generations of aerospace workers in the Bluegrass.

As the Representative for the Sixth District of the Kentucky, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky. Furthermore, I encourage my fellow Kentuckians to visit and take pride in this institution and its preservation of the aviation and aerospace heritage of the Commonwealth.

HONORING GAIL WRIGHT LOWERY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Gail Wright Lowery, who was born in Hinds County, Jackson, Mississippi at Jackson State College's Clinic. She is the third child, and only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie (Annie) Wright. Mrs. Lowery was reared on Nashville Street.

As valedictorian of her kindergarten class learning seemed always within easy reach. Early piano lessons taught by Mrs. Fannie Smith who lived on Randolph Street, caused Mrs. Lowery to have a love for music. She attended school at Morrison, and G. N. Smith Elementary. At Chastain, and Powell Jr. High she played the clarinet, and participated in the marching band.

High school years at Murrah kept her busy participating in many school activities such as the Blue Jackets, the pep squad at Murrah, where she served as captain. She entered her senior year ranked in the top 1% of her 1975 class and received the distinct honor of Who's Who at Murrah High.

Upon entering Jackson State University she served on the Mayor's Youth Council and was elected Miss Pre Law Club. With a full scholarship, she graduated in three years Magna Cum Laude, and pressed on to her goal of becoming an attorney.

In August of 1978, at the age of 20, Mrs. Lowery entered law school at Northwestern School of Law in Chicago, Illinois. While there she was active in and was elected as Chairman of Recruitment for the Black Law Student's Association. She was awarded the Doctorate of Jurisprudence in May of 1981, and successfully passed the Bar Examination that same year. Her legal career began at Central Mississippi Legal Services. After Legal Services, she worked for the Attorney General's Office, becoming the first black person to become Head of the Civil Litigation Division. In 1993 Mrs. Lowery started her own business as a practicing attorney with Lowery Law Firm.

Mrs. Lowery joined the Cade Chapel M. B. Church when she was eight years old and has maintained her membership there to the present. She has participated on the Usher Board, the Choir, the Trustee Board, Sunday school, and the Missionary Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Gail Wright Lowery for giving back to the community in which she was born and reared.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHYLLIS MUNDY FOR HER OUTSTANDING SERVICE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Pennsylvania State Representative Phyllis Mundy. First elected in 1990, Phyllis served 12 consecutive terms as the representative for Pennsylvania's 120th District. Throughout her 24-year service in the General Assembly, Phyllis built a reputation as a champion of environmental protection and early childhood education.

While in Harrisburg, Phyllis was a legislative leader with signature policies that expanded care for senior citizens, improved the rights of foster children, provided stronger home visitation services for low-income expectant mothers, boosted pre-K education, cut property taxes, and expanded prescription drug coverage for seniors. As a Representative, Phyllis was beloved in northeastern Pennsylvania because of her highly responsive constituent services and her frequent attendance at public events important to local residents.

Before her career in the state house, Phyllis worked as a French teacher and a manager for Injection Molding Corp., a multi-million dollar manufacturing company. She served as president of the Wilkes-Barre chapter of the League of Women Voters, a Luzerne County Property Tax Reform Commissioner, and was active in the Junior League during the late 1980s. A 1970 graduate of Bloomsburg University, Phyllis earned two degrees—in secondary education and French.

Although Phyllis has retired from elected office, she remains active in promoting the welfare of her community. She currently serves on the boards of Maternal and Family Health Services, Luzerne County Head Start, the Area Agency on Aging, and the United Way's Success by Six, and she was also elected to the Vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

It is an honor to recognize Phyllis Mundy and her exceptional work on behalf of Pennsylvania. The inspirational legacy she has left is a model for all who are interested in public service. I thank her for inspiring me, and I wish her the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 VOLUNTEER FAIRFAX HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Volunteer Fairfax and express my sincere appreciation to recipients of the 23rd Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards.

Established more than 40 years ago, Volunteer Fairfax matches the skills and interests of thousands of volunteers with the needs of local non-profit organizations. The success of this model and its impact on delivery of needed services is beyond question; Volunteer Fairfax has been rated as one of the most effective community service organizations in the nation.

In 2013 alone, more than 26,000 individuals volunteered directly through Volunteer Fairfax; an additional 2,700 employees from 12 corporations supported 29 local agencies. More than 1,000 non-profit and charitable organizations were served by Volunteer Fairfax, and the value of volunteer services provided exceeded \$1.3 million.

Each year from this group of extraordinary "Doers Who Do," Volunteer Fairfax selects a few exceptional individuals, groups, or organizations to be honored. It is my great pleasure to submit the following names of the 2015 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards honorees:

- Community Champions:
- Braddock District: Joanne Elder
- Dranesville District: Steven Bloom
- Hunter Mill District: Sahana Arkalgud
- Lee District: Dixie Wright
- Mason District: Winnie Lebo
- Mount Vernon District: Shirley Short
- Providence District: Ken Quincy
- Springfield District: Stephen Beck
- Sully District: Reverend Doctor Eugene Johnson
- At-Large: Philip Church
- Adult Volunteer 250 Hours & Over: Michelle Bond
- Adult Volunteer 250 Hours & Under: Mike Harrison
- Adult Volunteer Group: Library Friends Groups of Fairfax County Public Library
- Corporate Volunteer Program: CACI Cares
- Fairfax County Volunteer: David Kline
- Fairfax County Volunteer Program: Fairfax County Animal Shelter
- Family Volunteer: Colonel Edward and Mrs. Kimberly Bellem
- Lifetime Achievement: Peggy Ferguson
- Rising Star: Roberta Bucher
- Senior Volunteer: Lawrence Kelly
- Volunteer Program: Marketplace Volunteer Program
- Youth Volunteer: Carolina Sosa
- Youth Volunteer Group: Boy Scouts of America Troop 55
- Integrate Individual: Pedro Velasco de Paz
- RSVP Northern Virginia: Elizabeth Pokorny

In addition, Benchmark Honors will be awarded in four different categories to commend those who have contributed 100, 250, 500, or 1,000 hours of volunteer time to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Volunteer Fairfax for its decades of outstanding community service, as well as in congratulating the 2015 Service Award honorees and the thousands of other local volunteers for their incredible contributions to our community. Their selfless dedication is worthy of our highest praise and is one reason that our community is often ranked as one of the best places in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

HONORING THE MARINE RAIDERS OF MARINE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand and recognize the Marine Raiders of Marine

Special Operations Team (MSOT) 8231, 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion, Marine Special Operations Command who lost their lives during a training exercise on March 10, 2015. These young men represent the finest our nation has to offer, and we are forever indebted to them for their service.

On the morning of March 10, an Army National Guard-operated UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter embarked on a training exercise off the coast of the Florida Panhandle carrying seven members of MSOT 8231 and four members of the Louisiana National Guard, who were operating the helicopter. As part of a rigorous pre-deployment exercise, the Raiders were practicing special operations insertion techniques with two UH-60 aircraft. Sadly, it was on their training mission that the Marines and Guardsmen in one helicopter lost their lives.

As a unit with great distinction throughout the War in Afghanistan, MSOT 8231 first deployed in 2010 under Special Operations Task Force-West, operating from the City of Herat. While in Herat, MSOT 8231 primarily conducted Counter-Insurgency (COIN), Foreign Internal Defense (FID) and Direct Action (DA) activities within the Murghab District of the Badghis Province. After redeployment and reconstitution, MSOT 8231 deployed again in 2012 to Bala Murghab, in the Murghab District, where it built upon tactical and operational gains it and other MSOT's achieved on previous rotations.

MSOT 8231 continued building their Afghan partner's capacity, promoting good governance, and countering the insurgent initiatives in this highly remote and austere geographic slice of Afghanistan. During the 2012 deployment, MSOT 8231 was tasked with permanently closing their base and retrograding years' worth of hardware for consolidation at a larger base hundreds of miles south in Herat. Without a single paved road in the entire Badghis Province, this proved a difficult task. Nevertheless, MSOT 8231 completed the job and left Bala Murghab in the hands of the Afghan National Army, Police, and government.

After returning home, rebuilding and adding new personnel to MSOT 8231, the team again deployed in 2013 to western Afghanistan. Their most recent return to Afghanistan saw a change in tasks from previous deployments as they partnered with the highly regarded Afghan Commandos to conduct offensive activities against the Taliban. While the mission changed, their resolve did not, as consistent enemy combat persisted until the very end of their deployment. Even still, MSOT 8231 continued efforts to enhance their partners' capacity to operate effectively on their own. MSOT 8231 departed Afghanistan in June 2014; however, their focus never left the region.

Prior to any deployment, teams work together to hone and develop their skills, and when combat operations commence, the months of training leading up to deployment are finally put to test. For MSOT 8231, this meant building on the strong relationship established during previous deployments with the 1-244th Assault Helicopter Battalion, based in Hammond, Louisiana. On March 10, two Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawks participated in a routine training mission; however, the mission turned out to be anything but routine, as only one Black Hawk returned.

On that day, our nation lost seven Marine Raiders. Not only did they accept the challenge of becoming the best that the Marine

Corps has to offer, these Marine Raiders did so during a time of war. Along the way, the Marine Raiders of MSOT 8231 received such awards as the Silver Star Medal for Gallantry and Bronze Star Medals for valor, and all had Valor awards from their time fighting on combat deployments.

To the families, friends, and loved ones of Captain Stanford Shaw III, Master Sergeant Thomas Saunders, Staff Sergeant Marcus Bawol, Staff Sergeant Trevor Blaylock, Staff Sergeant Liam Flynn, Staff Sergeant Kerry Kemp, Staff Sergeant Andrew Seif, Chief Warrant Officer George Wayne Griffin, Chief Warrant Officer George David Strother, Staff Sergeant Lance Bergeron, and Staff Sergeant Thomas Florich, please know that we are a grateful nation. On countless training exercises, your brave warriors risked their lives to ensure the tip of the spear always remained sharp and ready for battle. And while the Marine Raider community lost these warriors, their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten. Never above you, never below you, always beside you. Semper Fi.

HONORING THE YAZOO FAIR & CIVIC LEAGUE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of innovators who have shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve their community, the Yazoo Fair & Civic League. The Yazoo Fair & Civic League has served the Yazoo County community and the State of Mississippi through social and civic engagement.

The Yazoo Fair & Civic League's history date back to 1932; when R.J. Pierce and T.J. Huddleston decided to establish a county fair for black residents to enjoy. D.W. Lindsey assisted in sponsoring the first fair in October 1932. Three years later, Gov. Martin Conner signed the charter for the Yazoo Negro Fair Association. The group purchased land on Calhoun Avenue where an exhibit building was constructed.

During the early 60s, H.A. Scott was elected president, and H.C. Fouche was chosen as vice president. As president Scott faced several challenges. The biggest challenge was finances. The association was \$67,500 in debt. In order to resolve the debt the property facing Calhoun Avenue and a plot west of Lamar Avenue was sold along with the exhibit building.

After these challenges were met the association had the vision for a community center. Also during this time the Yazoo Negro Fair Association became the Yazoo Fair and Civic League. Federal funding was used to construct the L.T. Miller Community Center which was completed in 1971. The large tract of unused space around the center was used to construct 48 apartments for elderly and disabled residents with a grant for over \$1.5 million from HUD. The Lintonia Apartments opened in May of 1986. During the 1990s the association built H.A. Scott Apartments with about 80 units creating a very healthy tax base to the Yazoo area. Currently, the association has a 60 unit apartment complex in