

recognize emergency medical services (EMS) providers across the nation as we celebrate the week of May 17 to 23, in recognition of their significant and heroic work. During EMS week, we show our gratitude to the EMS practitioners who aid our families, friends, and neighbors in their moments of need. For their unyielding dedication to serving their communities, EMS employees are to be commended.

In recognition of this week, numerous agencies throughout the community of Northwest Indiana have come together to establish the inaugural Regional EMS Conference, presented by Prompt Ambulance Service, which will take place on May 18, 2015. The goal of this conference is to encourage collaboration among EMS providers throughout the region in order to further the development of essential skills in the EMS community.

At this time, I would like to acknowledge several individuals who have dedicated their time and efforts to make this conference possible for the advancement of the medical community. I would like to recognize Ron Donahue—Prompt Ambulance Service; Jeff Zielinski—Prompt Ambulance Service; Christina Lopez—Methodist Hospital; Janene Gumz-Pulaski—Franciscan Alliance, Michigan City; Kelley Holdren—University of Chicago Aeromedical Network; Jake Messing—Saint Catherine Behavioral Health Services; Aaron Kochar—Porter Starke Services; Joseph Ferrandino—Indiana University Northwest; Thomas Bettenhausen—Community Hospital, District 1; Craig Felty—Indiana University Health; Tom Fentress—Methodist Hospital; David Cummins—Porter Regional Hospital; and Jana Marie Szostek—Indiana University Northwest, Indiana EMS Educator Workgroup.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring our EMS providers who dedicate their lives each day to ensuring the well-being and safety of our neighborhoods. Each member of the EMS family makes every effort to provide exceptional service by doing what is right for their patients, colleagues, and communities. Through their service to so many in need throughout Northwest Indiana and across the nation, EMS providers serve as an inspiration to us all, and they are worthy of the highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT ANITA MARIE SULLIVAN

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Senior Master Sergeant Anita Marie Sullivan, a native of East Syracuse, New York and currently a resident of Oneida, New York. Sergeant Sullivan has more than 38 years of military service with the United States Air Force and the New York Air National Guard. She has been decorated with numerous medals, awards, and service distinctions and will retire from military service on 1 July 2015. It is my honor to recognize such a distinguished citizen and airman.

Sergeant Sullivan was born Anita M. Mozo on 29 August 1957. She is a 1975 graduate of East Syracuse-Minoa High School. After graduating from high school, she worked full-

time at the Syracuse School of Automation and subsequently the Syracuse University Department of Geology as a receptionist.

Sergeant Sullivan began her military career in the United States Air Force in January 1977, enlisting in the New York Air National Guard, and left for Basic Military Training to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas on 1 April 1977. After graduating from Basic Military Training, she began her Air Force Technical Training as an Air Passenger Specialist at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Upon graduation from technical training in July 1977, she returned to Hancock Field Air National Guard Base as a Drill Status Guardsman in the Traffic Management Office, where she worked during monthly Unit Training Assembly weekends and also performed additional annual training to achieve her 3-skill level and 5-skill level as an Air Passenger Specialist, becoming the “go to” person on base for all airline reservations. While assigned to Hancock Field she met Master Sergeant William E. Dardis and married on 30 September 1978, becoming Sergeant Anita M. Dardis. In June 1979, she applied for and was subsequently hired as a full-time Air Technician as a GS-04 Clerk-Typist in the Supply Squadron.

In December 1979, then Sergeant Dardis was hired as a full-time Air Technician as a GS-05 Air Operations Specialist assigned to the 174th Operations Group, and began career field cross-training into the Airfield Management career field and received her 7-skill level in Air Force Specialty Codes 27171 and 27172. During her tenure in the 174th Operations Group, she participated in several unit deployments to include a two week Coronet Sail deployment as part of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Checkered Flag Exercise program to Lechfeld Air Base, Germany in 1981; two deployed Operational Readiness Inspections to Savannah, Georgia in 1982 and Volk Field, Wisconsin in 1986; and also participated in unit deployments to Patrick Air Force Base, Florida in 1983 and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona in 1982.

In 1982, Sergeant Dardis was assigned a position as the GS-07 Standardization/Evaluation Technician, and in 1983 began an Active Duty Title 32 tour as the Wing Standardization/Evaluation NCO. In 1989, Sergeant Dardis left her Active Duty position and transferred into the 174th Fighter Wing Safety Office as the Administrative NCO as a Duty Status Guardsman, which allowed her to spend more time at home with her two young children. In 1992 Sergeant Dardis attended the 7-level in-residence technical school for the 3A071 Air Force Specialty Course at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, and earned the distinction of being named the class leader. She maintained her position in the Wing Safety Office until 1995. Sergeant Dardis performed additional duty at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in 1990 and 1991 when the 174th Fighter Wing was called to Federal Active Service in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD and Operation DESERT STORM, backfilling various positions in the 174th Operations Group for NCO's who deployed with the aircrew package in support of the Persian Gulf War.

In Nov 1995, Sergeant Dardis was asked by the acting Wing and Vice Commanders to take the position of the Commander's Executive Assistant as a temporary technician. In March 1996, she was hired into the position as a permanent GS-06 Air Technician. In April 1999,

the position was upgraded to a GS-07 and advertised as an Active Guard/Reserve active duty position which she applied for and was hired for as the Executive Assistant to the Wing Commander. She served in this position working directly for Wing Commanders Colonel Robert A. Knauff from 1996 to 2003; Colonel Anthony Basile from 2003–2008; Colonel Kevin Bradley from 2008–2012; and for Colonel Greg Semmel from 2008 until her retirement on 1 July 2015.

In June 2006, Sergeant Dardis became a widow when her husband, Master Sergeant (Retired) William E. Dardis passed away unexpectedly. In January 2009, she remarried to Master Sergeant (Retired) John D. Sullivan and became Master Sergeant Anita M. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan retired from the 174th in 2003 and is currently employed at Hancock Field as a New York State employee as the Base Carpenter.

In 2007, Sergeant Sullivan completed the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy Course. In 2010 she was reassigned to the military position of the Cyber Systems Superintendent and promoted to the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. That same year she attended the Air Force Protocol Fundamentals Course at Maxwell AFB, Mississippi and was assigned the high profile additional duty as the 174th Fighter Wing Protocol Coordinator for high ranking distinguished visitor arrivals and numerous protocol events for the 174th Fighter Wing. During her tenure in this position, Sergeant Sullivan played an integral part in the planning and execution of countless high level Distinguished Visitor visits, numerous Change of Command Ceremonies, Wing Commander Farewell Receptions, Retirement Ceremonies, F-16 aircraft Farewell, F-86 aircraft static display dedication, Military Funerals, unit re-designation ceremony, as well as numerous community events involving the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, and various Veteran's Service Organizations, and various other community organizations.

Sergeant Sullivan's military Decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal; the Air Force Commendation Medal; and Air Force Achievement Medal. Her military service awards include the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with five oak leaf clusters; the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with eleven oak leaf clusters; the National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with eight oak leaf clusters; the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with gold hourglass and mobilization “M” device; and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

Sergeant Sullivan also holds the following New York State awards and decorations: New York State Long and Faithful Service Award, with one gold and one silver device; the New York State Defense of Liberty Medal; New York State Medal for Merit with one silver shield device; New York State Recruiting Medal; New York State Exercise Support Ribbon; and the New York State Physical Fitness Ribbon with two silver shield devices.

In addition to the previously mentioned awards and decorations, Sergeant Sullivan was also named the 174th Fighter Wing's Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter in December 1984, and the 174th Fighter Wing's Outstanding Unit Career Advisor of the Quarter in July 1985.

Sergeant Sullivan was promoted to Airman in 1977; Airman First Class in 1978; Sergeant in 1979; Staff Sergeant in 1980; Technical Sergeant in 1982; Master Sergeant in 1996; and her current rank of Senior Master Sergeant in 2010.

Without question, Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Sullivan is a very special person. She willingly served her nation, exuding loyalty and pride. For her unrelenting service and dedication to duty, Sergeant Sullivan can retire knowing she has earned such a status. I would like to wish Sergeant Sullivan well in her retirement years as she will now be able to spend more free time with her husband John, daughter Katelin Dardis, son and daughter-in-law Christopher and Amy Dardis, stepsons Daniel, Ryan, and Evan Sullivan, and granddaughter Ryleigh Dardis. Your late father Casper Mozo and your mother Margery (Burbank) Mozo can be proud of your service and accomplishments. Sergeant Sullivan, thank you for all your years of hard work, dedication and service to our country.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR FRED
BROUSSARD

HON. GWEN GRAHAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Major Fred Broussard upon the occasion of his retirement after 29 years of honorable service to our great Nation in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve.

Major Broussard began his career in 1986, upon graduation of Basic Personnel School, as a Distinguished Graduate. He was then assigned to Hurlburt Field, where in 1990, as a recognized expert in the Personnel career field, he was selected to facilitate the stand-up of the Headquarters Squadron Section for Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command (HQ AFSOC) and was nominated and selected as the Military Personnel Technician of the Year for 1990 and 1991; and deployed as the sole SOF representative of the Personnel Support for Contingency Operations team during OPERATION DESERT STORM. He was selected as a member of the USAF "Thunderbird" Team in 1993, where he served as the Assignments NCO until his separation from active duty in 1995.

After leaving active duty, he immediately entered the Air Force Reserve where he served as a Traditional Reservist and Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) in a variety of assignments. After nearly 15-years in the enlisted ranks, he earned his commission as an officer in April 2001. He was brought to Washington D.C. at the U.S. Air Force Headquarters, Pentagon in 2006 where he has served in three directorates filling numerous positions.

Throughout his myriad of assignments in the Pentagon, Major Broussard's ceaseless efforts and devotion to duty resulted in several accomplishments to include; successful articulation of the Air Force Reserve in the crafting of the Department of Defense policy on Active Duty for Operational Support and the Department of the Air Force policy for the Post Deployment-Mobilization Respite Absence; crafting the first ever game plan for the cre-

ation of the Air Force Reserve General Officer Vacancy Promotion Board, leading the nomination process, whereby shortening the timeline from nomination to Senate confirmation; building the foundation and ensuring the implementation of consolidated Full-Time support guidance; crafting revised promotion processes encompassing all three components of the Air Force in keeping with the implementation of the Under Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs initiative to consolidate personnel programs; pioneering the institutionalizing statute-required process for release of promotion results, which were adopted by the Chief of Air Force Reserve, Chief of the Air National Guard and the General Counsel for the Secretary of the Air Force.

Major Broussard's final role began in July 2012, as the AFR Program Manager for Legislative proposals, Office of Reserve Policy Integration, in direct support of the Chief of Air Force Reserve. In this position, Major Broussard played an integral role in proactively engaging Congress as he developed and defended legislation required to enact needed policy changes.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation of Major Joseph Fred Broussard for his many years of dedicated service. There is no question that the Air Force, Department of Defense, and the United States benefitted greatly from Major Broussard's visionary leadership, planning, and foresight, and we wish him and his wife, Elaine the very best.

HONORING J'MYIAH SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Quitman County Middle School.

J'Myiah Smith is the daughter of Ms. Teresa Smith of Sledge, MS. She is a very intelligent individual, and she is an outstanding student because she continues to strive to maintain a spot on the Superintendent's List. Among her outstanding grades, J'Myiah was also elected as Miss Seventh Grade 2014–2015 by her peers. She is an active member of the Quitman County Middle School Student Council, Newspaper Committee, and QCMS S.T.E.F. Ambassador Society.

J'Myiah is active in her community as well. On this past year, she participated in the "I Support the Bond" meetings and marches. She has collected clothes and donated them to the needy. She is also a member of her church's youth choir. J'Myiah plans to attend Jackson State University and later attend medical school.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing J'Myiah Smith as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, 2015, I traveled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to be with the health care providers, first responders, and volunteers working to restore peace and safety to the scene of Amtrak Northeast Regional Train 188's derailment. For this reason, unfortunately, I missed some important votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, including H.R. 2048, the USA FREEDOM Act. If I were present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 224.

PEGGY PICKENS—TEACHER, COUNSELOR AND COMMUNITY WARRIOR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Peggy Pickens has served as a pillar of the greater Humble/Kingwood community for over thirty-five years, devoting herself to her family, church, and school communities. A native Houstonian, Mrs. Pickens graduated from Phyllis Wheatley High School in the historic Fifth Ward, going on to earn a degree in education from the University of Houston in 1974 and a Master's Degree in Counseling from Prairie View A&M University. She then began her career in education as a teacher in the Aldine Independent School District at Teague Middle School, Nimitz High School, and MacArthur High School. In 1987, Mrs. Pickens joined the Counseling team at Kingwood High School, serving with true distinction until her retirement from public education in 2002.

Immediately following her first retirement, Mrs. Pickens began developing the Counseling program at Northeast Christian Academy.

During her successful tenure at NCA, Mrs. Pickens has assisted over three hundred graduating seniors earn acceptance into some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in our nation. Through the guidance of Mrs. Pickens, NCA graduates have successfully attended such schools as Stanford University, Duke, Vanderbilt, West Point, the United States Air Force Academy, Rice University, the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University. Her love of students and commitment to their lifelong success has been the hallmark of her distinguished career.

Yet, not only has Mrs. Pickens invested herself into the lives of countless students, but she has faithfully served her church community at Second Baptist Church North Campus in Kingwood for over a decade. Through the teaching of various Bible studies, the mentoring of others, as well as numerous public speaking engagements, Mrs. Pickens has modeled for others the life of a servant leader in all she has done. Her influence and impact on the lives of others has been a living testimony to the work of Christ and His gospel in and through her.