Catherine, and Caroline. I wish him nothing but success and happiness.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN NEWBY ON HIS PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF MAJOR GENERAL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian C. Newby on his promotion to the rank of Major General, United States Air Force.

I have known Major General Newby for many years and have the honor of calling him my friend. He is a man of integrity and kindness. He is the epitome of what a General should be.

Major General Newby was born in Dayton, Ohio, but attended Western Hills High School in Fort Worth. He was commissioned in 1983 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force ROTC program at Texas Tech University and earned a law degree from the University of Texas Law School in 1986.

For more than 25 years he has been a true National Guardsman, serving his country while also working at senior positions in government and at a top legal firm.

He served as the Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander of the Texas Air National Guard before being promoted to Brigadier General.

Major General Newby also served as Chief of Staff to former Texas Governor Rick Perry and in that capacity co-chaired the State of Texas' recovery efforts following Hurricane Ike. He also served as the Governor's General Counsel before being appointed to serve as Chief of Staff.

He currently holds an Of Counsel position at Cantey Hanger, LLP of Fort Worth while also maintaining his own legal practice.

Major General Newby has been and continues to be an incredible public servant.

RECOGNIZING PAUL GROMOSIAK FOR HIS SUSTAINED COMMITMENT TO THE NIAGARA FALLS COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mr. Paul Gromosiak for his passionate support of and commitment to the City of Niagara Falls and Niagara Falls State Park. As a tribute to his hard work and dedication, a monument will be placed at Heritage Park commemorating his impact on the community.

As a committed life-long Western New Yorker, Mr. Gromosiak has inspired countless individuals who have come to visit the Niagara Falls State Park. He graduated from Niagara University with a B.S. in Chemistry and went on to receive a permanent certification in mathematics as well as in chemistry and general science from the State University of New York.

Mr. Gromosiak has spent countless hours walking the park and helping visitors learn more about the nation's oldest park. Moreover, he has authored numerous books about the place that means so much to him. In addition to being a well-respected historian, he is also an engaging teacher and a dedicated leader in the community. He worked as a chemistry teacher in the Niagara Falls School District as well as a chemist for both the Eastman Kodak Company and the Hooker Chemical Company.

Mr. Gromosiak is frequently interviewed by national and local media for his insight on the history and continued progress of Niagara Falls. In 1989, Mr. Gromosiak appeared on the CBS program ''America Tonight'' for a special segment on the environment surrounding Niagara Falls. He served as a guest columnist for The Buffalo News and The Niagara Gazette. Furthermore, he was consulted in 1993 by Canada's weekly news magazine MacLean's for information on the storied custom of honeymooning in the Falls. In 1997, he was featured in the PBS documentary ''Fading in the Mist,'' speaking about efforts to maintain the natural environment of Niagara Falls. Mr. Gromosiak also contributed to a web page on the history of Niagara Falls.

Mr. Gromosiak has been an avid fighter for the City of Niagara Falls and has championed projects such as the Niagara Experience Center as well as the relocation of the Stone Chimney. His ideas have sparked interest in and made the region's history more accessible to the public, as exemplified by his emphasis on history as an experience.

Family and friends of Mr. Gromosiak can attend the event to unveil the monument in his honor. It takes place on Friday, July 10th at 11pm at Heritage Park on Main and Buffalo.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Mr. Paul Gromosiak. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Gromosiak for his vital influence on the City of Niagara Falls, the State Park, and the community. His outstanding impact is derived from a deep understanding of the region's rich history, an innovative vision for its future, and a passion for its success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPE, ISLANDS AND SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Cape, Islands and Southeast Massachusetts Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Established in 1915, this Chapter of the American Red Cross of Massachusetts has served as a lifeline within our community—responding to the needs of residents and visitors alike by providing food, shelter and other disaster assistance in emergencies, teaching life-saving skills, and organizing blood drives. The Cape, Islands, and Southeast Chapter reaches a population of more than 1.2 million people across Barnstable, Bristol, Plymouth, Nantucket and Dukes counties and saves millions more from suffering the harm or loss of a loved one.

The American Red Cross of Massachusetts has served as a pillar for our community through the world's most trying times and through local and regional challenges. During the First World War, the Red Cross notably sent nurses to treat recovering soldiers and undertook initiatives such as knitting over 90,000 pairs of socks and treating the sick infected with influenza during the height of the epidemic. In 1955 when Hurricanes Edna, Carol and Hazel hit Massachusetts the Chapter provided shelter and food services to over 200 people across Cape Cod. By 1991, the number of people it was able to provide shelter to had increased to 17,000. After the 9/11 terrorist attacks the Chapter's blood drives was inundated with willing volunteers that individuals were asked to return at a later date. Chapter volunteers responded once again when Hurricane Katrina struck the shores of the southern United States by sending volunteers down to the areas hardest hit. And, most recently, when tragedy struck closer to home at the Boston Marathon in 2013, Chapter volunteers were quick to become involved in relief efforts.

Furthermore, this Chapter has a global reach. Volunteers have gone on to serve in the International Red Cross across the globe, from war-torn Afghanistan to impoverished African nations. Chapter volunteers exemplify the Red Cross' mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. I am proud of the work they have done in Southeast Massachusetts and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Cape, Islands and Southeast Massachusetts Chapter of the American Red Cross. I take comfort knowing that this Chapter will remain a vital humanitarian organization in not only the Commonwealth, but across the nation and the world, for generations to come.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2822) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Chair, this amendment is critically important. The designation of the Northern Long Eared Bat as threatened has had a significant impact on the Ninth District of Georgia, despite the fact that the only evidence it is there is a geo-tagged dot on a map.

These bats are listed as threatened because White Nose Syndrome has led to a drastic decline in their population. Humans don't cause White Nose Syndrome but they are being penalized for it. There are some counties in my district where the bat has never been seen, but because they're in the bat's ''range'' they are subject to burdensome restrictions.