

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODBURY HEIGHTS

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Borough of Woodbury Heights in Gloucester County, New Jersey.

On May 25, 1915, the citizens of the future Woodbury Heights were formally recognized by the New Jersey Legislature as an independent borough out of Deptford Township. However, history for this small town did not begin in 1915. Settled in 1771, the area we know today as Woodbury Heights, New Jersey has a deep history of rich involvement in the South Jersey community. Indeed, many of the older homes can still be seen today, including the La Pann House, built in 1771, that is on the National Historic Registry.

In 1892, six businessmen from Philadelphia and Camden: John Mayhew; E.R. Artman; Judge Pancoast; Howard M. Cooper; William Moland; and I.W. Wilson bought land from Deptford Township. There they laid out streets, built homes, and constructed a community hall in 1894, forming the nucleus of the future Woodbury Heights. In the 1900s, the once sparse town started to flourish when a train station was built. Later, Simon M. Snook donated Glen Terrace Lake to the borough and it remains one of the most popular recreation sites in the area. Over the next hundred years, the Woodbury Heights community thrived, and in the past century, the population of Woodbury Heights has quadrupled to reach over 3,000 today.

Mr. Speaker, the character of the Borough Woodbury Heights and its emphasis on community engagement is best exemplified by three of the figures featured on its official seal: a scale of justice, a shield of safety, and two shaking hands. This weekend, as the people of Woodbury Heights celebrate their Centennial, I congratulate the citizens, Mayor Robbie J. Conley, and the Borough Council on the past one hundred years and wish them another hundred years of richness and good fortune.

HONORING EL PASO VETERANS WHO CONTINUE TO SERVE

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, Veterans Day is a time to honor the selfless service that members of our Armed Forces displayed while keeping our nation safe. Today, I am privileged to recognize five of my constituents who continue to serve long after their time in uniform has ended: Mr. Jose Andow, Mr. Roy Aldridge, Mr. Ron Holmes, Mr. David Garcia and Mrs. Melinda Russell. Although each is from a different generation, these veterans embody a continued dedication to their fellow veterans and the El Paso community.

Jose Andow understands the price our service members pay in the name of freedom from

his experience fighting in WWII. As one of five siblings to serve in WWII, Mr. Andow was part of 10 combat missions during the war flying in both Italy and Germany. As a way to continue serving his country even decades after his formal military service ended, Mr. Andow has volunteered regularly at the El Paso VA Health Care System since November of 2010, and has logged over 1,600 hours of volunteer service. At age 94, Mr. Andow still volunteers every Monday and Wednesday at the VA, where he greets local veterans as they come in to receive care. Throughout the country over 140,000 volunteers donate millions of hours volunteering at local VA hospitals and clinics annually. Their service enhances the veteran healthcare experience and supplements VA's ability to provide quality care to our veterans. Due to his significant contribution to the El Paso VA and his fellow veterans, I am proud to recognize Mr. Andow for a lifetime of selfless service to our country.

Roy Aldridge is a combat veteran of the Korean War and a prominent member of the El Paso veteran community. After enlisting in the National Guard in 1949 at the age of 16 and then being wounded in Korea, Mr. Aldridge was discharged from the military for being underage. He completed high school, reenlisted, and returned to Korea in 1953. After being shot down and spending five months as a prisoner of war in North Korea, Mr. Aldridge returned to the U.S. where he completed a distinguished military career. Following retirement, Mr. Aldridge has continued to advocate for his fellow veterans. He has served as a Vice President for the Korean War Veterans Association and is currently the organization's National Director. Additionally Mr. Aldridge is a member of the VA Volunteer Service and the Texas Veterans Commission. Mr. Aldridge also serves on my office's Veterans Citizen Advisory Panel where he regularly advocates for policies to improve veteran's benefits and healthcare services.

Ron Holmes is a Vietnam-era veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. After serving four years, attaining the rank of Sergeant and deploying to Okinawa, Mr. Holmes left the Marines in 1974 to begin a construction business in El Paso. After observing neglect of his fellow veterans at the VA in 1997, Mr. Holmes decided to volunteer his time and advocate for his fellow veterans in El Paso while simultaneously running his business. From a small office at a Northeast El Paso American Legion Post, Mr. Holmes has since assisted over 3,500 El Paso veterans attempting to obtain benefits from the VA and has received favorable decisions in most of these cases.

David Garcia enlisted in the United States Army in 1975, later deploying to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield. Following 20 years of honorable military service, Mr. Garcia retired as a Chief Warrant Officer. Since leaving active duty, Mr. Garcia has dedicated himself to fulfilling the promise to care for the men and women who have served our great nation. Mr. Garcia subsequently became a member of Disabled American Veterans in 1999 and since has served in multiple leadership roles for the organization, including District 1 commander, Northeast El Paso Chapter 187 Senior Vice-Commander and Combat Related Special Compensation ambassador. Mr. Garcia has assisted numerous El Paso veterans, family members and widows in obtaining earned

benefits from the VA. He continues to advocate for important veteran issues including toxic exposure and quality orthotic and prosthetic services within VA.

Melinda Russell served as a Chaplain in Iraq and was medically retired from the Army in 2010 at the rank of Captain. After leaving the military, Mrs. Russell dedicated herself to improving veteran healthcare by offering alternative therapies and being a persistent, dedicated advocate for her fallen veterans. Retiring in El Paso, Mrs. Russell founded Hope and Healing Horse Therapy Ranch to help those veterans suffering from PTSD and TBI. Additionally, at a time when 22 veterans take their own lives daily, her moving and personal writings serve as a stark reminder that we have a responsibility to care for our service members and veterans both physically and mentally.

Mr. Speaker, as Veterans Day approaches, it is important that we remember the legacy of service of this country's veterans. Our country can learn from and be inspired by the examples set by Mr. Andow, Mr. Aldridge, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Garcia and Mrs. Russell. It is my honor to recognize these veterans who continue to serve in advance of Veterans Day 2015.

EXPRESSING SORROW ON THE DEATH OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN JOHN HOWARD COBLE OF NORTH CAROLINA

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American and one of the beloved and respected persons ever to serve in this body, Howard Coble of North Carolina, who died yesterday evening, November 3, 2015, in Greensboro, North Carolina, at the age of 84.

First elected in 1984 to the 99th Congress by the constituents of the 6th Congressional District of North Carolina, Howard Coble would go on to win reelection to the 14 succeeding Congresses.

When he retired at the end of the 113th Congress, Howard Coble held the distinction of being the longest serving Republican from the state of North Carolina to serve in the House.

Congressman Coble, served in the U.S. House longer than any other North Carolina Republican, died late Tuesday. He was a respected member of this body and respected by all who knew him. His presence will be greatly missed and we all mourn his loss and extend our sincerest condolences to his family and friends.

Born March 18, 1931 in Greensboro, North Carolina, John Howard Coble joined the United States Coast Guard one year after graduating high school where he served on active duty for five years and an additional 18 years in the Coast Guard Reserves.

After his honorable discharge, Howard Coble attended Guilford College on the G.I. Bill, from which he graduated in 1958 with an A.B. in History, and then went on to earn his J. D. in 1962 from the law matriculated to the University of North Carolina School of Law.