

COMMENDING THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS WHO PROVIDED HEROIC SERVICE DURING WINTER STORM JONAS

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the selfless assistance provided by many of the volunteer fire department and public assistance agencies from southern and central Pennsylvania during the recent Winter Storm Jonas.

While many of us sought shelter during the recent winter storm that struck the East Coast, some of us were not so fortunate, as was made evident by the miles and miles of cars that were stranded on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Many of these travelers had gotten trapped on the turnpike as a number of crashes stopped traffic while a huge amount of snow fell. Fortunately for the beleaguered travelers, a number of local volunteer fire departments from the surrounding communities braved the weather to assist those in need.

For the drivers stranded overnight, these volunteer emergency responders were the only ones who could reach the area to help. As snow continued to fall, these volunteers worked together to ensure the well-being of those stranded by traveling car to car and offering supplies to many. To aid the cause, many local stores and restaurants contributed food and water to be distributed. It was truly a community effort.

On behalf of the 9th Congressional District of Pennsylvania and all of those who were assisted by the area's volunteers, I would like to thank these public servants for their selflessness. It is my honor to highlight this tremendous effort and its illustration of the neighborly commitment my constituents embody.

To the volunteer organizations and governmental agencies listed below, we thank you for your generous dedication to serving the public:

New Baltimore Vol. Fire Co.
Shawnee Valley Vol. Fire Co.
Shawnee Valley EMS
Bedford Fire Co.
Everett Fire Co.
Breezewood Fire Co.
Southern Cove Fire Co.
Alum Bank Fire Co.
Chestnut Ridge EMS
Blue Knob Fire Co.
Claysburg Fire Co.
Martinsburg Fire Co.
Imler Fire Co.
Bedford American Legion
Pa. National Guard
SCMRTF Incident Management Team
DCNR
PEMA
Pa. State Police
Pa. Turnpike
Somerset Co. EMA & 9-1-1
Bedford County EMA & 9-1-1
American Red Cross
Salvation Army.

RECOGNIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FLOTILLA 77 OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY DIVISION 7

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the chartering of Flotilla 77 of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 7. Flotilla 77 was officially recognized in a chartering ceremony on January 23, 2016, in Polk County, Florida.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the volunteer corps that assists the U.S. Coast Guard in promoting boating safety. Formed originally as the Coast Guard volunteer Reserve on June 23, 1939, the volunteer Reserve was renamed the Auxiliary two years later. During World War II, the Auxiliary rapidly expanded as Auxiliarists provided oversight assistance in many of the Coast Guard surface and air operations, which freed up active duty Coast Guardsmen for wartime missions. Today the Auxiliarists support and augment the non-military and non-law enforcement operations including communication watchstanding, public education programs, marine safety, and assisting with search and rescue missions.

The selflessness by which they voluntarily serve and put their lives on the line for our safety and security is inspiring. We honor these brave men and women whose dedication to our great nation have and continue to ensure the safety and security of our ports, waterways and coastal regions.

It is my distinct pleasure, as a representative of the people of Central Florida, to recognize and honor the establishment of Flotilla 77 of the United States Coast Guard. I thank them and their loved ones for their dedication and service to our community and country.

CONGRATULATING DAVID JOHNSON AND JAMES FERENTZ ON REMARKABLE NFL SEASONS

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two of my constituents, Arizona Cardinals running back David Johnson and Denver Broncos center James Ferentz, on a remarkable 2015-2016 NFL season. David and James each helped lead their teams to the AFC and NFC conference championship games, and James now has the distinct honor of being called a Super Bowl champion.

Having grown up in Clinton and Iowa City, David and James both know the meaning of hard work. This hard work ethic propelled them from the gridirons of the University of Northern Iowa and University of Iowa to the top of their profession.

Currently in their rookie and sophomore NFL seasons, each has achieved so much in just a few short years. Their successes can be attributed to the family, friends, teachers, and coaches that continue to challenge the future David Johnsons and James Ferentzes of Iowa.

I am honored to represent these men in Congress and look forward to seeing them achieve much more in their careers. The state of Iowa looks forward to watching these young men play on Sundays for years to come.

Congratulations on a great season, David and congratulations on becoming Iowa's Super Bowl champion, James.

HONORING THE LIFE, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MAURICE WHITE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Memphis singer, drummer, songwriter, producer and founder of the world-renowned band Earth, Wind & Fire, Maurice White. Maurice White was born in Memphis, Tennessee on December 19, 1941, and attended Booker T. Washington High School where he was in the drum corps. After graduating, he and his family moved to Chicago, Illinois and Maurice White enrolled at the Chicago Conservatory of Music. Having developed a love for drums while singing in his church choir in Memphis and watching marching bands, Maurice found work as a drummer in nightclubs and in 1963, he became a session drummer for Chess Records.

While at Chess Records, Maurice recorded with music legends Etta James, Fontella Bass, Muddy Waters, The Impressions, Betty Everett and many more. In 1966, he joined the Ramsey Lewis Trio during a time when the group was one of only a few jazz groups to rise to the upper levels of the pop charts. Maurice White left the group to form the Salty Peppers in 1969 alongside his two friends, Wade Flemons and Don Whitehead. After little success, he moved to Los Angeles, California, recruited new band members including his brother Verdine White and, drawing inspiration from the astrological chart, changed the group's name to Earth, Wind & Fire.

Earth, Wind & Fire signed with Warner Bros. in 1971 but did not gain renowned fame until Maurice, again, brought on new band members, with the exception of Verdine, and signed the band with Columbia. It was then that Earth, Wind & Fire infused its sound with jazz, funk, soul and pop, and recorded the album Head to the Sky in 1973, which sold over 500,000 copies and included hit songs Evil and Keep Your Head to the Sky. In 1974, Earth, Wind & Fire released the album Open Our Eyes and reached the pop Top 40 for the first time with the song Mighty Mighty. Their next album released just a year later, That's the Way of the World, included the group's first and only No. 1 pop hit, Shining Star. Earth, Wind & Fire also recorded hit songs Reasons (1975), That's the Way of the World (1975), Fantasy (1977), September (1978), Boogie Wonderland (1979), and Let's Groove (1981), including many more hits and popular songs. Maurice White helped produce seven double platinum albums, two platinum albums, two gold albums and two gold singles.

In addition to writing or co-writing many of the songs for Earth, Wind & Fire, Maurice White produced music for the Emotions, Ramsey Lewis and Deniece Williams, and in

1985, he released a solo, eponymous album and earned a hit with his cover of Ben E. King's Stand by Me.

In all, Earth, Wind & Fire had 16 Top 40 singles and sold an estimated 90 million albums worldwide. The group has won six Grammy Awards from seventeen nominations, four American Music Awards from twelve nominations, the BET Lifetime Achievement Award, the NAACP Hall of Fame Award, Soul Train's Legend Award, and has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Vocal Group Hall of Fame as well as earned a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. In 2010, Maurice White was inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame along with band members Verdine White, Philip Bailey, Al McKay and Larry Dunn. Earth, Wind & Fire has earned a list of other awards and recognitions and will receive the 2016 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Maurice White's music was written and produced to inspire and bring all people together. Maurice once said, "Being joyful and positive was the whole objective of our group. Our goal was to reach all the people and to keep a universal atmosphere—to create positive energy. All of our songs had that positive energy. To create uplifting music was the objective." Maurice's goal was easily recognized by all who heard and loved his work. President Barack Obama stated, "Only Maurice could make such sophisticated songs so catchy. Only he could inspire generations of such diverse artists. And only he could get everyone—old and young, black and white—to let the groove move them on the dance floor."

Maurice's universal sound was remembered by Flea, bassist for Red Hot Chili Peppers, who said, "In my junior high school, the white kids loved Zeppelin, the black kids loved funk [Parliament Funkadelic], the freaky kids loved Bowie, but everyone loved Earth, Wind & Fire. They were just undeniable. Old people loved 'em, kids loved 'em, every race and economic class loved 'em. They just crossed every line with the power of incredible music and amazing performances." Tributes from artists from all genres include mentions of Maurice as a genius, a king, a masterful artist, a leader and a teacher.

Maurice White passed away on February 3, 2016 in Los Angeles at 74 years of age. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1992. The music community has lost one of the greatest musical minds of our time. Maurice White's influence cannot be denied and his contributions are lasting. Maurice White was a true "shining star" and his legacy will shine on for generations to come.

HONORING LORI FLORES

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lori Flores, a South Texas native and a leading researcher in the fields of Latino and labor history.

Lori attended Yale University, and she was the first woman in her family to earn a college degree. At Yale, she realized her passion to study Mexican American history, ultimately leading her to earn a PhD from Stanford Uni-

versity. Lori's dissertation explored the political development of Mexican Americans and immigrants in California's Salinas Valley during the mid-1900s. Her research on the Latino civil rights movement culminated in the publication of a book which will be released this year.

Lori now teaches at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where she nurtures the thinkers and dreamers of tomorrow. Dr. Flores has received numerous awards, and she continues to be a role model for young people in her community.

RECOGNIZING DOMINION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR THEIR DISTRACTED DRIVING CAMPAIGN

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three students from Dominion High School who recently led a Distracted Driving Campaign at Dominion High School in Sterling, Virginia. Kirsten Chun, Bryce Griffin, and Joseph Pavich took on this campaign as part of their Creative Marketing Project, which focused on Distracted Driving and Joshua's Hands. Joshua's Hands is a non-profit organization based in the 10th District whose mission focuses on community service and teen safe driving, founded in memory of Joshua Guthrie who died in a car accident. Their mission is to keep roads safe and to educate teens about the consequences of distracted driving. To create a visualization to meet this awareness goal, these students removed 15 students from classes throughout the day and instructed them to dress in black and not interact with their classmates. This exercise served to represent the 15 people that are killed each day due to distracted driving. Ms. Chun, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Pavich utilized the school announcement system to convey their message, in addition to selling t-shirts which said "Take Action STOP the Distraction." Students at Dominion also took a distracted driving survey in order to gain a better understanding of their peers' views of distracted driving. These students partnered with Chantilly Autobody in addition to Joshua's Hands for their project.

Driving while distracted seems to plague many of our drivers today, and young people are particularly susceptible to this. I am honored to recognize these students today for their mission to educate their peers about the grave consequences of texting while driving. It is my sincere hope that their project will facilitate more awareness in the future about the growing problem of distracted driving so that our community will remain safe.

DR. AJANWACHUKU TO RECEIVE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Vincent Ajanwachuku, who will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Dreamers, Visionaries, and Leaders

Project on February 6, 2016. Currently, Dr. Ajanwachuku serves as the chief of surgery at St. Mary Hospital in Apple Valley, California, a position he's held since 2004.

Dr. Ajanwachuku's journey is a remarkable one. Born and raised in Nigeria, he arrived in the United States in 1973 to pursue his undergraduate education at New York University. Eventually, he earned his medical degree from the Howard University School of Medicine and was selected to teach medical students in the discipline of surgery.

During his career in medicine, Dr. Ajanwachuku has received a number of accolades, including "Humanitarian of the Year" from St. Mary Hospital. He was given this award because of his dedication to improving the educational growth and practical experiences of nurses and medical technicians at his hospital. He has also been honored with a "Values in Action" award from St. Mary Hospital for being a servant leader.

It is long overdue that Dr. Ajanwachuku is receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award. He has persevered through significant obstacles during his life, yet he continues to give back to his community and improve the lives of those around him. I want to congratulate Dr. Ajanwachuku for this notable achievement and for being a role model to the youth in the Victor Valley.

RECOGNIZING THE BOCA POINTE CHAPTER OF AFMDA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Boca Pointe Chapter of the American Friends of Magen David Adom on the occasion of their ambulance dedication.

Magen David Adom is Israel's emergency medical service, blood bank, and disaster-relief organization. The American Friends of Magen David Adom (AFMDA), a nonprofit organization, is the largest supporter of MDA worldwide. Today, the AFMDA Boca Pointe Chapter will dedicate a fully-equipped ambulance to the people and State of Israel. This is the fourth such ambulance they have donated, a generous gift that truly saves lives.

I express deep appreciation for the Boca Pointe Chapter's selfless humanitarian endeavors. Their unwavering support for the State of Israel not only sets an example for the future but for the South Florida Jewish community as a whole. I am proud to honor them and thank them for their work and service.

HONORING MICHAEL BURNETT, THE DON SHULA NFL HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE YEAR

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Michael Burnett, who the NFL and Washington Redskins recently recognized as the Don Shula NFL High