

Pennsylvania. After six weeks of basic training, he was shipped overseas on the North Atlantic Convoy. On December 18, 1944, Staff Sergeant Anderson was captured as a prisoner of war by German forces in Krinklet. During his time as a POW, he endured a forced march of over 105 miles in freezing conditions with little to no rest or food while being moved to different camps.

During his confinement at Stalag VIIA, he was exposed to harsh weather conditions and nutritional deficiencies. Staff Sergeant Anderson was finally freed in April 1945. When asked why many of the POWs of the camp survived, he explained, "we were all young, mentally tough, and in relatively good shape. We had a lot to live for."

After his service in the Army, Staff Sergeant Anderson returned to his home in Wisconsin. Family life was and still is very important to him. He spent time regularly attending church with his wife and two children, going to stock car races, and enjoyed time gardening, fishing, and hunting.

On behalf of the residents of Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, I would like to thank Staff Sergeant Anderson for his time serving our nation during World War II and for the resilience he showed during the most dreadful times.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SARANAC LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 12, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 125th Anniversary of the Saranac Lake Fire Department in Franklin County, New York. The Saranac Lake Fire Department prides itself on saving the lives and property of those who it has served since 1891.

Before 1891, two competing hose companies fought the fires of Saranac Lake separately. However, realizing that the community would benefit more from joining forces, the Woodruff and Miller Hose Companies combined to form the Woodruff-Miller Hose Company and formally establish the Saranac Lake Volunteer Fire Department.

Since that day, the Department has worked together with the community to combat fires in both Franklin and Essex counties. This includes community outreach events to raise awareness for fire safety, a dive rescue and recovery team for lake accidents, and the actual volunteer fire fighters who form the base of the department. Their mascot, Smokey the Dalmatian, has served as the symbol for all that the company does for their Adirondack community.

Congratulations to the Saranac Lake Fire Department on the 125th anniversary of your formation. I want to wish the department and the Village of Saranac Lake continued safety and success in the future.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF MARY SANSONE

**HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 12, 2016*

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Birthday of Brooklyn's Mary Sansone.

Mary was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, where she became a prominent activist from a young age. Taking part in movements since she was eight years old, advocacy became second nature. Following World War II, she helped the Red Cross provide aid to Italians. In 1964, along with her husband, Mrs. Sansone founded the Congress for Italian-American Organizations (CIAO).

In the 1970s, Mrs. Sansone helped forge alliances between the African-American, Hispanic and Italian communities via the New York Urban Coalition. Mrs. Sansone hosted community leaders at her home serving up her famous meatballs and hoping to find common ground.

At the age of 100, Mary Sansone is still involved in causes that are close to her heart. Her birthday was recently celebrated at Dyker Beach Golf Course in Brooklyn with hundreds of friends and admirers coming to celebrate. Mrs. Sansone currently resides in Borough Park, Brooklyn, living in the same home for the past 70 years. She is a true lifelong Brooklynite.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Sansone's decades of activism and advocacy truly show what America is about, regardless of one's political affiliation. I commend her outstanding life and I am proud to honor this citizen from New York's 11th District on her 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUAN RIVERA VELAZQUEZ

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 12, 2016*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Juan Rivera Velazquez of Kissimmee, Florida. Juan was a resident of my district. His life was cut short in the early morning hours of June 12, 2016, during the tragic shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando.

Juan died at the club alongside his life partner of 16 years, Luis Daniel Conde. The two grew up in the same small town in Puerto Rico, and even attended the same school, Jose Campeche High School in San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico.

Juan Rivera Velazquez was 37 years old. Juan and Luis were co-owners of Alta Peluqueria D'Magazine Salon & Spa in Kissimmee where they enjoyed a loyal client base and frequently offered their services to victims of domestic abuse, free of charge. The pair were known to friends as exceptional people and a loving couple. While Juan is remembered as the shy, quieter half, driven and focused on the work, Luis was more the jokester, who was always making people laugh. They valued their clients as friends with their encouraging words, always reminding them that they look 'beautiful' and 'amazing' before leaving the salon.

Juan Rivera Velazquez will never be forgotten in our pursuit of a more just and loving world. His memory and acts of kindness will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

May his family, relatives and friends eventually find solace and comfort, and may he rest in eternal peace.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL JAMES "JJ" JACKSON

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 12, 2016*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Lieutenant General James "JJ" Jackson today in honor of his retirement as Chief of the Air Force Reserve and Commander of the Air Force Reserve Command and thank him for his many years of dedicated service to our country.

A 1978 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, Lt Gen Jackson completed fourteen years of active duty, flying tours in Europe and the Pacific before joining the Air Force Reserve in 1992. During his years of service, Lt Gen Jackson held numerous wing leadership and command positions as well as staff assignments at the Eighth Air Force and Headquarters U.S. Strategic Command, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Headquarters U.S. Pacific Command, and Headquarters U.S. Air Force. Lt Gen Jackson also earned major decorations and awards including the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters. As a career instructor pilot and evaluator, Lt Gen Jackson was a command pilot, logging more than 3,600 hours in the F-4 Phantom II, F-16 Fighting Falcon, and KC-135R Stratotanker.

Through his years of service and leadership, Lt Gen Jackson demonstrated his unwavering loyalty and dedication to our country and commitment to protecting our freedom. On behalf of the House Armed Services Committee and the people of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to thank Lt Gen Jackson for his service and wish him the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONALD R. SMART

**HON. MARK MEADOWS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 12, 2016*

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald R. Smart of Haywood County, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Mr. Smart for his service to the farmers in Haywood County and congratulate him on his induction into the Western North Carolina Agriculture Hall of Fame.

A lifelong resident of Haywood County and fifth-generation farmer, Mr. Smart was an