

In 2016, JFK's oncology program was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award by the American College of Surgeons.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of New Jersey's Sixth Congressional District and the state of New Jersey, I recognize JFK Medical Center and its dedicated staff for 50 years of exemplary service, cutting-edge innovation, and industry-leading quality of care.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF JUDGE FRED A. STINE

HON. THOMAS MASSIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the retirement of Judge Fred A. Stine, the Chief Circuit Court Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit in Campbell County, Kentucky.

Judge Stine graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1973, and received his J.D. from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University in 1978. He then worked in private practice for two years, until his appointment as the Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky. He served as an AUSA until October of 2004, when he was appointed to the Circuit Court.

Judge Stine has honorably served the Commonwealth as Circuit Court Judge since 2005. His many awards and recognitions include a Distinguished Service Recognition from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a "Special Recognition for Victims' Rights" from the U.S. Department of Justice, the "U.S. Department of Justice Commendation" from the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee, a "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the National Black Law Students Association at the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University, and an award for "Outstanding Contributions to KY Law-Related Education" from the Kentucky Court of Justice.

Throughout his career, and despite his busy case docket, Judge Stine selflessly gave of his time to serve his community. For example, he served as a volunteer judge for the Northern Kentucky Teen Court, and for the Newport Central Catholic, Highlands High School, and Dixie Heights High School mock trial teams. He was also an active member of the Kentucky Bar Association and the Alumni Association Board of Governors of the Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Judge Stine is a true public servant who has served his state and nation well. On behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and all the citizens of the Fourth District, I am honored to wish Judge Stine the very best on his retirement. From all of us, we thank him.

RECOGNIZING AVDHOOOT BABA
SHIVANDJI

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Avdhoot Baba Shivandji, a man

who has dedicated his life to enriching the lives of others through sacred ancient Indian healing rituals. Also known as Babaji, he has deeply inspired many through his deep belief that each person comes into this world with vast potential. Through the innovative ancient integrative process of Shiv Yog Cosmic Medicine and Shiv Yog Cosmic Farming, individuals learn how to access their vast spiritual potential to create their own destinies. He has shared this knowledge through media and live conferences to millions of citizens from both our country and the world. In addition to educating others on his Indian healing practices, Shivandji teaches English on Indian television. Avdhoot Baba Shivandji is truly a selfless person, always looking to help others, and for that I commend him.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW CONNERY'S
SERVICE TO THE NEW DEMOCRAT
COALITION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Andrew Connery for his many contributions to the New Democrat Coalition. Next month, Andrew will be leaving the New Democrat Coalition to attend law school.

The New Democrat Coalition, which I have the honor to Chair, is made up of 61 forward-thinking Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives who are committed to pro-economic growth, pro-innovation, and fiscally responsible policies. New Democrats are a solutions oriented coalition seeking to bridge the gap between left and right by challenging outmoded partisan approaches to governing.

Andrew joined the New Dem staff as the Policy & Member Services Aide in February 2015. Prior to joining the New Dem staff, Andrew was a legislative assistant for former New Democrat Coalition Member Rep. Joe Garcia of Florida. In recognition for his hard work, he was promoted to Senior Policy Advisor in January 2016 and Policy Director in June 2017.

Originally serving former New Democrat Coalition Chair Ron Kind, Andrew has been a trusted advisor to me and many Members of the Coalition. Over his tenure, the New Democrat Coalition has been active on many issues of national importance that have benefitted directly from Andrew's policy knowledge and expertise. These include working on the development of the American Prosperity Agenda, building support for President Obama's trade agenda, developing a tough and smart national security agenda, advocating for a bipartisan deal on tax reform and infrastructure, helping craft a path forward on fixing the Affordable Care Act, and working on several other policy issues through the New Democrat Coalition's task forces. Andrew also served as a key advisor for New Dem Members and their staffs working with them to develop individual policy priorities, counseling on floor votes, and advising on other matters.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Members of the New Democrat Coalition, I thank Andrew.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR.
KENNETH JOHNSTON

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kenneth Johnston for his years of service in the United States Army.

Mr. Johnston, a native of southwest Missouri, was born in 1925. He was only 19 years-old when he began his service in the military. His dedication led him to become a highly-decorated soldier over the years due to his bravery and selfless commitment to defending the lives of others.

Mr. Johnston fought bravely in the Battle of the Bulge and on various other fronts. In addition to this, Mr. Johnston was the second man to go through the gates of Dachau as allied forces liberated the Jewish people from the brutality of the Nazi camp. His gallantry led him to be awarded the Bronze Star for his service. In addition to this he earned a variety of other medals and served in three different countries in Europe.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Johnston's service to the U.S. military over the years and his astonishing achievements. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Johnston on his many years of service.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RONNIE
GATHERS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ronnie Gathers who recently announced his intention to retire as Director of Prince Georges County (Maryland) Parks and Recreation Department after thirty years of outstanding service.

A native of my hometown of Sumter County, South Carolina, Ronnie Gathers graduated from my alma mater South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education and Recreation. In addition to serving as Director with great distinction, he also developed and provided oversight of Prince Georges County Parks and Recreation Foundation.

Mr. Ronnie Gathers has provided tremendous leadership in direct operations for fourteen divisions comprised of Park Police, Park Planning, Capital Development, Management Services, Special Projects, Information Technology, Northern, Central and Southern Area Recreational Services and Maintenance, Special Needs Programs, Arts, Cultural Heritage, Natural and Historical Resource Management, Sports Management and Trades Maintenance Division. He has worked collaboratively with communities and elected officials to establish policy, provide public safety, acquire land, plan programs, develop facilities, amenities and deliver quality services.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Gathers has done our shared home town and alma mater proud, and I ask that you and my colleagues join me in wishing him Godspeed on the occasion of his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Chair, I was absent during roll call votes No. 416 through No. 425 due to my spouse's health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on the Perry Amendment. I would have also voted "nay" on the Griffith Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Takano Amendment. I would have also voted "nay" on the King (IA) Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Castor Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Norcross Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Esty Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Garamendi Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Pingree Amendment. I would have also voted "yea" on the Jackson Lee Amendment.

CONGRATULATING DAVID DAUGHERTY ON HIS RETIREMENT AS GOSHEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate David Daugherty on his retirement as President of the Goshen Chamber of Commerce and to thank him for his 14 years of serving northern Indiana Hoosiers.

As Chamber president, David was committed to fostering opportunities that advanced our growing workforce, supported existing businesses, attracted new ones, and united our community under a common vision for a brighter future. I am grateful for the outstanding leadership and insight David brought to the Chamber. In tackling important issues like redevelopment, our community saw David's keen ability to build valuable relationships among community members and strong partnerships with education and government leaders.

David's work at the Chamber was guided by the values of integrity, respect, collaboration, and the belief that thriving businesses build stronger communities. A forward thinker, David has consistently led efforts that aim to improve the quality of life for Hoosiers, their families, and our local businesses. In doing so he encouraged greater inclusion and empowerment through the Chamber's efforts to work "Together, Growing Goshen."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Indiana's 2nd District I want to thank David for all he has done to make Goshen a wonderful place to live and work. His impact on the community is sure to last far into the future, and I have no doubt the Chamber will continue to honor David's legacy by working to strengthen our business community and welcome growth and innovation.

IN HONOR OF CHERYL NIMMO

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Cheryl Nimmo, CRNA, DNP, MSHSA. Ms. Nimmo will soon complete her year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). It is an incredible honor that Ms. Nimmo was elected as the 2016–2017 president of this prestigious national organization.

As a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) for nearly 38 years, Ms. Nimmo has contributed greatly to the healthcare community in Rhode Island and nationwide. Ms. Nimmo is currently assistant professor and assistant program director for the nurse anesthesia program at the University of New England, in Portland, Maine. Hospitals in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Missouri have all benefited from Ms. Nimmo's work as both staff and chief CRNA. In addition to serving as an airway skills and pediatric anesthesia instructor, locum tenens CRNA, and clinical preceptor, she has provided expertise in office-based orthopedics and coronary care.

Ms. Nimmo has also modeled lifelong commitment to her professional education and development. She was awarded her nursing diploma from Newport Hospital School of Nursing, in Newport, R.I.; her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Evangel University in Springfield, Mo.; her certificate in nurse anesthesia from St. John's School of Anesthesia at Missouri State University in Springfield; her Master's Degree in Health Service Administration from Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I.; and her Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Northeastern University, in Boston.

During her AANA Presidency, Ms. Nimmo has been a prominent advocate for patients and for the practice of nurse anesthesia. In addition to her service as AANA President, Ms. Nimmo has long been an active member of her state and national professional associations. She has served in multiple capacities on various committees, boards of directors, and the AANA Foundation.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Nimmo today on a job well done. Her service to the AANA and her patients and her commitment to high quality healthcare nationwide are commendable, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her notable career and outstanding achievements.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SERGEANT (SGT) TAUREAN TRAVANTI' HARRIS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Sergeant (SGT) Taurean Travanti' Harris who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our great nation on August 2, 2007, during Operation Enduring Freedom. SGT Harris died of wounds he received from an improvised explosive de-

vice in Kala Gush, Afghanistan. SGT Harris was assigned to the 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Gordon, GA.

SGT Harris, a Liberty native, attended Amite County High School. He served as a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) cadet throughout high school. He graduated with honors in 2003. SGT Harris followed in the footsteps of his uncle, Frederick Wagner, and joined the U.S. Army.

SGT Harris' mother, Yolanda Wagner, said that her son was loved by all who knew him.

"Taurean truly was a beautiful person," Mrs. Wagner said. "He was the man every girl wanted to marry. Everybody loved him. He strived for excellence. He always wanted to better himself."

Mrs. Wagner said SGT Harris' memorial service, held at the Jerusalem Baptist Church, was unforgettable.

"I was so emotional," Mrs. Wagner said. "It was an honor to see so many people come out to honor him and support us. It was amazing."

According to the Associated Press, hundreds of family, friends, and military personnel came to the funeral. Mrs. Wagner says over 100 members of The Patriot Guard led the procession.

During the service, Brigadier General (BG) Jeffrey Foley commended SGT Harris for his positive attitude. "He was able to bring joy to whatever we would do," BG Foley said. "No matter what the task."

For his service, SGT Harris earned the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, and a Good Conduct medal.

Mrs. Wagner says SGT Harris was honored for his service during a ceremony held on the tenth anniversary of his death. A portion of Highway 48, close to the Jerusalem Community where he grew up, was named in his honor by Mississippi Department of Transportation Commissioner Mike Tagert.

SGT Harris is survived by his daughter, Tiana Marie Harris; his daughter's mother, Joanie Poleder; his parents, Cecil Harris and Yolanda Wagner; his four brothers, Justin Davis, William Harris, Christian Harris, and Okoye Harris; and his sisters, Tara Cockerham and Bianca Sesson.

HONORING ROTAPLAST INTERNATIONAL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rotaplast International's 25th Anniversary of enabling children across the world with cleft lips and palates to receive life-changing surgery.

Founded in 1992 as part of the Rotary Club of San Francisco by its members Dr. Angelo Capozzi and Peter Lagarias, Rotaplast has since sponsored over 200 missions that have helped over 18,000 children worldwide. From the fast mission to La Serena in northern Chile, Rotaplast has been saving smiles and changing lives in 26 countries, including Chile, Columbia, Guatemala, Mexico, the Philippines, India, Ethiopia, and Tanzania.

Rotaplast is able to do this tremendous work because of the thousands of medical