

TO HONOR JOHN M. GILLIS, RECIPIENT OF THE HENRY W. BOSWORTH, JR. MEMORIAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished and revered public servant of Quincy, Massachusetts, Mr. John M. Gillis. John has served as a Norfolk County commissioner since 1992, but has been an active member of the Massachusetts community for many decades.

A lifelong resident of the Quincy area, John attended Adams Elementary School, Quincy Point Junior High School, and Quincy High School. Motivated by service to his country, he enlisted in the Marines during World War II and fought bravely in the Battle of Saipan. John then enrolled at Northeastern University and received his accounting degree in 1953.

John's exemplary background in public service spans from his dedication as a Quincy firefighter stationed at Central Headquarters following World War II to his post as City Clerk in Quincy. Of his nearly four decades as clerk, John asserts they were his best in city government because he was able to champion the "little guy."

In recognition of his commitment to the common good, John will be the honored recipient of the Henry W. Bosworth Jr. Memorial Citizenship Award— aptly named in memory of Quincy Sun founder Henry Bosworth, John's long-time friend—on March 27th. I extend to John my most heartfelt congratulations, and I urge my constituents and all Americans to follow his example of service and leadership.

HONORING TOM BRYSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Tom Bryson upon his retirement as President and CEO of WJRT-TV. Tom retired on February 28th with over 25 years of service.

After graduating from the University of Missouri's School of Journalism, Tom worked with Group W Radio in Washington, DC covering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. Over the years he has worked for various stations throughout the United States before accepting a position at WJRT-TV and has called it home for the past 25 years. Tom has accepted several leadership roles within the Michigan broadcasting industry including President of the MAB Board of Directors, and Chairman of the MAB Foundation. He was inducted into the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2007 and received the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Communities served by WJRT are better because of his dedicated service. He has provided guidance and direction to several organizations including: United Way of Genesee County, the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan,

the School of Health Professions and Studies for the University of Michigan-Flint, Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan, Genesys Charity Classic, Kiwanis Club of Flint, the Flint Salvation Army, the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce, the Genesee Focus Council, and the Genesee County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Tom and his wife, Mary, have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Tom Bryson and wish him a happy retirement. He has been a great influence on Flint and on me personally. I am a better person because of Tom Bryson. I wish him the best in the future and thank him for his service to our community.

HONORING WES LEONARD

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wes Leonard, the Fennville Blackhawks Basketball Team, and the entire community who came together in the aftermath of tragedy that has been followed by our entire nation.

The Blackhawks finished their season this Monday, capturing a Class C District Championship trophy before their season ended with a 23-1 record.

But theirs was no ordinary run for a high school state basketball title.

Their star player, Wes Leonard, collapsed and tragically passed away after scoring the game-winning basket for his team on March 3, the final game of the regular season.

With that basket, Wes Leonard led his team to a perfect winning record during his junior year. According to all who knew him, this 16-year-old student exhibited the character, discipline, and affability that made him both respected and loved within the Fennville Community. His school superintendent described him as "the quintessential all-American kid." While attending Wes's family visitation, I was struck by how many members of rival school teams in their letter jackets came to pay their respects to Wes, the team he led, and his family. More than 1,500 people attended his funeral service at Christ Memorial Church in Holland. These facts are sure testaments to what this young man meant to the Fennville community.

In a massive outpouring of support from his community and even people across the nation and world, fans came out in record numbers to cheer on the Blackhawks, who played their first District playoff game on March 7, just three days after Wes's death. Even in this chamber, as I wore this orange ribbon in Wes's memory and in support of the team, colleagues and strangers who asked about its meaning knew the story of Wes and the Blackhawks and asked me to pass along condolences and encouragement.

Sellout crowds packed the Hope College DeVos Fieldhouse to witness the team's playoff games in person, and scores more followed along online and saw highlights on such programs as SportsCenter on ESPN.

The Blackhawks played on honorably through it all, and I want to congratulate them on an outstanding, admirable, and courageous

finish to their season. The true mark of character is how one responds to adversity. These young men have shown unbelievable character.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this House to join me in honoring this team and commending all who rallied around them. I would like to express condolences on behalf of myself and the people of the 2nd District to the family, friends and teammates of Wes Leonard. And I would like to honor this young man for his leadership that was an inspiration to all who knew him.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROL NAOMI TANITA, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today, I stand to laud the tireless efforts of Carol Naomi Tanita of Monterey Park. Born in the Boyle Heights region of Los Angeles, Carol grew up committed to her education. Upon graduating high school with honors, she attended the University of Southern California, where she attained her bachelor's and master's degrees in the field of education, and earned her specialist credential in bilingual cross-cultural education in Japanese.

Carol has maintained an active spirit for all her passions in life, and continues to be involved with the community as a tireless volunteer and parent. She served as a member of the PTA of Brightwood and Repetto Elementary Schools for 12 years, and received numerous awards, including the title of Parent of the Year at Repetto Elementary School for her exemplary service.

In 2007, Ms. Tanita was presented with the Community Service Award by the Alhambra Educational Foundation. Her continuous efforts were always appreciated, as she repeatedly received the Honorary Service Award and Continuing Service Award at Mark Keppel High School. Upon the graduation of her children, Carol continued to be active with the PTSA and the Mark Keppel Alliance. As a result of her unwavering commitment, she was awarded the Golden Oak—the highest award the California PTA gives for outstanding service to schools and communities. During 20 years of committed service, Carol has surpassed 9,000 volunteer hours.

Ms. Tanita also serves the community beyond the realm of education. For two years, she served on the F.A.C.E.S.'s Board at Pacific Clinics and the Family Advisory Council at the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center, which serves individuals with developmental disabilities. Currently, Carol dedicates her time to Parents In Community Inclusion (PIC), a group which mentors families and educators in creating an inclusive community for special needs individuals.

Carol served as a parent volunteer for the Boy Scouts of America as well, when her son Nicholas enrolled as a Cub Scout. Over the years, she served as the Parent Committee

Chair, Treasurer, and now is the District Finance Chair for the Mission Amigos District of the San Gabriel Valley Council Boy Scouts of America, which serves the cities of Monterey Park, Alhambra, San Gabriel, Rosemead, El Monte and South El Monte.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Carol Naomi Tanita, for her outstanding service to the community.

TO HONOR AND CELEBRATE THE
LIFE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL
ALVIN D. UNGERLEIDER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of a true American hero, Brigadier General (RETD) Alvin D. Ungerleider who recently passed away at the age of 89.

General Ungerleider honorably served our country in uniform for 36 years, beginning when he was drafted in November, 1942. He received his commission and was assigned to the 115th Regiment, 29th Infantry Division of the National Guard. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, at the age of 22, then Lieutenant Ungerleider led 50 men into battle on the beaches of Omaha.

The Invasion of Normandy changed the course of World War II and of history. During the intense fighting in the opening days of the Normandy invasion, Lt. Ungerleider was wounded twice. He reluctantly left the battlefield for only two weeks to recover from his wounds, and then returned to continue fighting throughout France and into Germany. He led his men through minefields and joined the battles to free the town of St. Laurent-sur-Mer and the city of Brest from Nazi occupation.

Nearly one year later, during the spring of 1945, Lt. Ungerleider received orders to capture part of an industrial complex and liberate Dora-Mittelbau, a slave labor concentration camp that was a subcamp of Nordhausen prison. In April, 1945, after taking heavy fire from the Nazi soldiers guarding the prison, Lt. Ungerleider and his men liberated the camp. Years later, General Ungerleider said that although he had become battle hardened, nothing had prepared him for what he encountered at Nordhausen. To quote General Ungerleider, "We thought we had entered the gates of hell."

At Nordhausen, he and his men freed approximately 300 prisoners, most of whom he described as "living skeletons." He and his men shared the small amount of food that they had with the prisoners. Lt. Ungerleider then led them in reciting Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead. Only then did the prisoners accept that the horror of the Nazi death camp had ended.

General Ungerleider continued serving our country in the United States Army for several more decades, in times of both war and peace. He commanded an armored tank unit during the Korean War and a Tactical Unit during the war in Vietnam, where he spent his free time working with a Vietnamese orphanage. Later in his military career, he com-

manded the Aberdeen Proving Grounds and eventually retired in 1978.

In recognition of his distinguished military service, General Ungerleider received three Legion of Merit awards, the Four Chaplains Award, 2 Bronze Stars for bravery and meritorious service, and a Purple Heart. While commanding at Aberdeen, he established Equal Opportunity programs, and he was recognized by the Secretary of the Army and the NAACP for these innovations. The Brigadier General also received decorations from the Korean and Vietnamese governments, and he is one of only 99 Americans to be awarded the French Legion of Honor for his role in D-Day and the eventual liberation of France.

On June 6, 1994, in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of D-Day, General Ungerleider was selected to escort President Clinton at the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer in Normandy France. There he walked alongside the President and together they laid a wreath to honor all who fought and died to liberate Europe.

As committed as General Ungerleider was to serving our country, he was equally committed to his family, Jewish faith, and community. He was a loving and devoted husband to Ruth Golden Ungerleider for more than 66 years, a dedicated father to Neil, Ilene and Daniel, and a doting grandfather to his grandchildren. In 1955 while still on active duty stationed in Monterey, CA, he started that city's very first Jewish Sunday School. He worked with the Jewish Welfare Board to find new homes in America and Palestine for displaced Jews. The National Holocaust Museum recognizes the 29th Infantry as Liberators due to the efforts of General Ungerleider and the men he led in Europe.

He was also active in his temple, Olam Tikvah, and served for 8 years as an administrator, helping to build the membership of the temple and increase its involvement in the community.

I would like to personally thank Mr. Bruce Waxman, an officer of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227 and a member of Congregation Olam Tikvah, for bringing the extraordinary contributions of General Ungerleider to my attention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Brigadier General Alvin D. Ungerleider and in expressing our deepest condolences to his family and friends. Often we hear a person described as a hero, but rarely does that moniker fit as well as it does in this case. General Ungerleider dedicated his life to serving his country, his family, his faith, and his community. He rightfully earned the appreciation and respect of all Americans for his lifetime of honorable service to our nation, as well as the gratitude of many others around the globe who owe their lives and their quality of life to this true American hero.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT
BLOOD THINNERS AND POTENTIAL RISKS TO PATIENTS

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of a constituent of mine, Shannon

Elizabeth Mudd from Mt. Sterling Kentucky, who died due to complications from treatment she received by medical personnel who were not aware of an underlying medical condition and the use of blood thinners. Shannon was 17 years old and today would have been her 19th birthday. Mr. Speaker, this tragedy should prompt us to look more closely at protecting people who use anti-coagulant drugs to treat blood clots and deep vein thrombosis (DVT). It is my hope that more awareness and better labeling might help prevent what happened to Shannon from happening to other patients on anti-coagulant drugs.

Shannon was diagnosed on September 4, 2009 with neuroendocrine carcinoma, a rare form of cancer, and was beginning to respond well to new treatments when a visit to her doctor revealed she had deep vein thrombosis (DVT), or a blood clot, in her chest. Rather than put Shannon through an invasive procedure, her doctor instead prescribed an anti-coagulant drug used to treat DVT. Like any anti-coagulant drug, the medication included a warning that there was a risk of severe bleeding associated with it. However, the medication warning did not alert her to the risk associated with internal bleeding that could become life threatening if a minor injury were left untreated.

When Shannon received some encouraging news about her cancer prognosis, she went to lunch with her father to celebrate. While at the restaurant, Shannon fell and hit her head. Because her father was not informed of the danger of internal bleeding associated with the drug Shannon had been taking, paramedics were not made aware of her history with the anti-clotting medication. Since it appeared it was a minor injury, Shannon was not taken to the hospital. Later that day, Shannon complained of dizziness and exhibited signs of a stroke. Her father called 911 and Shannon was flown to the University of Kentucky Medical Center where emergency physicians began treating her for massive brain hemorrhaging. By this time, little could be done for Shannon and she slipped into a coma. Shannon passed away almost a month later and just 5 weeks shy of her 18th birthday.

In memory of her daughter, Shannon's mother, Angela Visone Mudd, took up the cause of educating the public about the risk of traumatic brain injury associated with anti-coagulant drugs and minor head injury. Ms. Mudd developed bands for patients taking these medications to wear, communicating the risk of internal or external bleeding to medical personnel in the event of an accident.

Shannon was taken from her family much too soon. I applaud Shannon's mother and her many supporters for their courage and efforts to help other families avoid the same tragic set of circumstances that ultimately led to Shannon's death a year ago. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that through sharing Shannon's story, more tragedies like this can be prevented and more lives saved.

SPOKANE VALLEY REMEMBERS
BOB MCCASLIN

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my friend Bob