

teenager. And if that's not enough, he is always offering to perform at charity events to help small communities raise money throughout the Delta.

So, after migrating from his birthplace in Homer, Louisiana, after getting an early start on his Blues career when he moved to Chicago in 1953, and recording his first number one hit eighteen years later in 1971, with six decades of singing the Blues, Bobby Rush has settled on his Mississippi roots in Jackson, Mississippi in 1983. His great-grandmother and grandfather were from Jackson, Mississippi. And I am glad to be working on his behalf as well.

When Bobby Rush is not out of state touring or participating in a charity event, you just might catch him performing for fun and entertainment at a local night club somewhere in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a humanitarian and blues musician from the Second Congressional District of Mississippi, Mr. Bobby Rush.

RECOGNIZING BROOKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S 12TH ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to recognize Brooks Elementary School's 12th annual Veteran's Day Program in Fayette County, Georgia, on November 9, 2012. This is a momentous event for the 3rd district, and I am proud to help honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's brave veterans so that we may live free.

This is the 12th consecutive year that the Brooks Community has invited Veterans to their school to honor their service to our country. The annual program includes a breakfast for these brave men and women and the school uses the occasion to express their gratitude and appreciation. The breakfast is followed by a program presented by the elementary students and the Sandy Creek Color Guard. Lastly, there is a parade with the Veterans and their families around the town of Brooks featuring the Whitewater High School Marching Band.

In the past, more than 120 veterans have attended the program and this year they are expecting even more. This program is a testament of Brooks Elementary School's mission to strive for excellence by creating an environment that is focused on improving academic performance, and providing opportunities that develop responsible citizens and lifelong achievers. I know that this program has taught the students of Brooks Elementary the value of patriotism, which is an essential part of each American's education.

I would like to thank all of our Veterans and the Brooks community that have continually made the Veteran's Day Program a success. It is vital that students everywhere are taught the importance of our history and national service firsthand, like the students of Brooks Element in Fayette County, Georgia.

PLAINS SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Paul Gosiewski, James Jesikiewicz, Stephen Krushnowski, Heather Susek, and Alfonso Zangardi for their induction into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Plains Sports Hall of Fame recognizes local athletes who demonstrate a lifelong commitment to athletics and have excelled in sports both during and after high school and college.

Mr. Gosiewski graduated from Plains Memorial High School in 1957 where he served as a starting guard for the Red Raiders. After graduation, Mr. Gosiewski served in the United States Marine Corps for 12 years and competed as a member of the Marine Corps wrestling team.

Mr. Jesikiewicz graduated from Coughlin High School in 1983 where he was a member of the golf and basketball teams. During his time on the basketball team, James scored 1,069 points and recorded 624 assists for the Crusaders. He was named a Wyoming Valley Conference All Star in 1982 and 1983.

Mr. Krushnowski graduated from Coughlin High School in 1990 where he was a varsity letter-winning member of the football, wrestling, and basketball teams. Mr. Krushnowski continued his wrestling career at Mansfield University and was a three-time place finisher in the NCAA Division II national qualifier.

Ms. Susek graduated from Coughlin High School in 2007 where she was a member of the soccer, track and field, and field hockey teams. As a member of the Syracuse University field hockey team, Heather was selected to the Big East All Conference Team in 2010 and was named Co-Offensive Player of the Year in 2011.

Mr. Zangardi is a graduate of Seton Catholic High School where he participated in golf, basketball, and baseball. As a member of the Plains American Legion baseball team, he received the Rookie of the Year Award in 1995 and the Coach's Award in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, today it is with great pleasure that I commend Paul Gosiewski, James Jesikiewicz, Stephen Krushnowski, Heather Susek, and Alfonso Zangardi as they are inducted into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame.

HONORING MR. FRED FLOWERS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable gospel singer, Fred Flowers. Mr. Flowers was raised in Shelby, Mississippi by his parents Mr. Nathaniel Flowers and Mary Pippins.

Mr. Flowers attended church regularly and sang gospel songs at the request of his grandmother Ms. Mary Hall. Upon graduating from Shelby High School he attended Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi where he enjoyed listening to the renowned Rust College

Acapella Choir. It was during this time he developed a love for Acapella singing. After graduating from Rust College with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Biology, he furthered his education at Coahoma Community College, graduating with a Certificate in Practical Nursing. He also attended Mississippi Delta Community College graduating with an Associate Degree in Nursing, and Delta State University where he received a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing. Mr. Flowers has worked 16 years as an Emergency Nursing specialist. His colleagues tell stories of Fred singing gospel songs to his patients which calms their fears.

After marrying Ms. Kerrin Williams and moving to Ruleville, Mississippi, he joined Delmar Avenue Church of Christ and made a decision that he was going to do more than sing privately in his car, at home or to his patients. Fred began to take the lead role singing church songs. He enjoys singing at church because his singing provides encouragement to the hearts and souls of the congregation. His singing has impacted his four sons, Darrell, Deracius, Fredarian and Justin so much that they enjoy harmonizing with him during their family activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Fred Flowers as an inspirational gospel singer.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED PROVISION ATTACHED TO H.J. RES. 117, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION OF 2013

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative HINOJOSA submit the following: Educational success depends on well-prepared, qualified, and effective teachers, leaders and other support professionals. We believe that establishing and continuing to improve programs that train, develop, and support these professions must be integral in elementary and secondary education.

Unfortunately, we know that in too many states and districts across the country, students with the greatest needs are being taught by teachers with little or no training, including those enrolled in alternative route teacher preparation programs. That is why we are glad H.J. Res. 117 requires the Department of Education to provide to Congress—and the Nation—comprehensive information on the extent to which our highest-need students, including students with disabilities, English learners, students from rural communities, and low-income students, are being taught by teachers-in-training who are enrolled in alternative route programs, disaggregated by state and district, as well as by student subgroups. The data that will be included in this report should be made public and disseminated to parents and other interested parties so that it is understandable and actionable.

Specifically, the provision requires the Secretary of Education to submit a report to Congress by 12/31/13 that provides a comprehensive picture, with state-level and LEA data, on the extent to which the following categories of

students are taught by alternative route teachers-in-training who are deemed "highly qualified" pursuant to 34 CFR 200.56(a)(2)(ii): students with disabilities; English learners; students in rural areas; and students from low-income families.

34 CFR 200.56(a)(2)(ii) is the regulation that allows individuals participating in alternative route programs but who have not yet completed their full state certification to be labeled "highly qualified." This regulation was struck down by the Ninth Circuit in the *Renee v. Duncan* lawsuit but written into statute in the December 2010 CR.

To produce the report required by this legislation, states and LEAs will be required to compile the data that they are already required to have under Section 1111(h)(6)(A) of NCLB regarding the professional qualifications of all their teachers, including: whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and the baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

This data will provide essential information to parents, to educators and to policy makers so that informed decisions can be made to strengthen one of our Nation's most valuable assets, our public schools. We will be in a much better position to look at our neediest students and our neediest rural and urban school districts and determine the extent to which well-prepared teachers are or are not equitably distributed. Mr. Speaker, we look forward to receiving this important report from the Secretary on December 31, 2013.

DEDICATION OF WAR MEMORIAL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on October 13, I attended an event in Leesburg, Virginia dedicating a war memorial to four soldiers who gave their lives in service to their country.

The event would not have been possible without the valuable contributions of event organizer Ben Lawrence, Boy Scout Troop 1910 in Lucketts, Virginia, the Parkview High School Band, the 116th Infantry Brigade of the Virginia Army National Guard, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1177, American Legion Post 34, the Loudoun County Sheriff's office, and Scott Warner, owner of the Downtown Salon.

I have included the full remarks from Colonel John Epperly, commander of the 116th Infantry Brigade, that properly honors the soldiers and Marine honored on the memorial.

Colonel EPPERLY: Congressman Wolf, General Mills, Admiral Kemp, General Forsythe, Honorable Members of the Virginia Legislature, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, the Leesburg Town Council, Distinguished Guests and most importantly, families of our Fallen Warriors...Good Morning. On Behalf of the Virginia Army National Guard and the 116th Infantry Brigade Com-

bat Team, it is a profound honor to be with you on this crisp autumn morning in Northern Virginia to pay tribute to our brothers in arms. Loudoun County, Leesburg and the surrounding towns and hamlets have provided Warriors for the defense of the Commonwealth and Nation since the dawn of our Republic.

My own regiment was formed not far from here in 1742 to defend what was then the frontier of the Americas. Since then, men and women from towns like Leesburg, Reston, Purcellville, Sterling, Lovettsville and many more have served in every battle and campaign our nation has fought in. Our generation is no different and today we gather to honor the sacrifice of four extraordinary men who gave the last full measure of devotion in defense of our nation. I'd like to take a moment to introduce you to these men of uncommon valor.

Army Sergeant Scott L. Kirkpatrick fell while serving with the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment in the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 3rd Infantry Division. Sergeant Kirkpatrick and his fire team were assaulting a sniper position in Arab Jabour, Iraq when he was lost. Scott was doing what Infantry NCOs do best. He was leading his men from the front in one of the most dangerous places in Iraq. But who was he? Well Sergeant Kirkpatrick was many things. He was a poet, a writer and a leader of men. Indeed, Sergeant Kirkpatrick was a Renaissance Man who felt strongly that his country needed him after the 9-11 attacks. When he fell, he was on his second combat tour in Iraq and he had already become what many aspire to be in this life. Sergeant Kirkpatrick, the Warrior Poet, had earned the undying respect of his fellow warriors, the gratitude of his community and the love of his family. Today we honor a life well lived. Sergeant Kirkpatrick's decorations include the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Army Specialist Stephan L. Mace fell while serving with the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment in the 4th Brigade Combat Team of the 4th Infantry Division. Specialist Mace and his platoon were fighting a savage defensive action to hold Combat Outpost Bostick in Kamdesh, Afghanistan when he was lost. Stephan's outpost was attacked by over 200 Taliban fighters and his unit was seriously outnumbered in what would be one of the fiercest actions of the Afghan Campaign. According to his company commander, Specialist Mace fought valiantly from an exposed position with no regard for his own life. Stephan would earn the Bronze Star for gallantry in action that day. Who was this gallant Virginian? Stephan was a multi-sport athlete. He played Football, Basketball, Baseball and he loved Motor-Cross racing. He was a history buff and no doubt had an acute understanding of his difficult mission in the mountains of Afghanistan. Today we honor his courage in a land so far from his Virginia home. Specialist Mace's decorations include the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Badge.

Army Specialist Douglas J. Green fell while serving with the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment in the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team of the 25th Infantry Division. Specialist Green and his platoon were engaged by Taliban forces with small arms fire and IEDs in Sperwan Ghar of Afghanistan's Kandahar Province when he was lost. Specialist Green was on his second combat tour, with his first being in Iraq. In the cold and rugged mountains of Afghanistan, Doug was known for his warmth and the gift of bringing humor and hope to his brother infantrymen even in the toughest of times. Doug was one of those truly inspirational people who could raise the spirits and fortunes of others

through the strength of his personality and positive attitude. He is remembered for his selflessness and care for others. Indeed, while stationed in Alaska he volunteered many hours of his time with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. There can be no doubt that his selflessness and courage were on full display in Kandahar as well. Today we honor a hero with a unique gift to lift the spirits of those around him regardless of the circumstances. Specialist Green's decorations include the Bronze Star with V Device for Valor, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Marine Captain Michael M. Quin fell while serving with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469 of the 3rd Marine Air Wing. Captain Quin, a UH-1 Yankee Pilot was flying a combat training mission in Yuma, Arizona one month prior to an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan when he was lost in a helicopter crash. Captain Quin was a 2006 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. His loss reminds us of the risks our warriors take in training before they reach the combat zones they are destined for. Captain Quin lived life with a zest few can muster. He was a notable athlete playing soccer as well as track and field. His was also a life of service rarely seen. Michael became an Eagle Scout with Troop 29 and the Gazebo he built for his Eagle Project still stands today at Arndt's Lutheran Church. Mike was proud to be a U.S. Marine and wear the Gold Wings of a Marine Aviator. This morning we honor a gallant life of service from one of our Nation's best and brightest. Captain Quin's awards include the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal and the Global War on Terror Service Medal.

These four exceptional American warriors and patriots remind us that it isn't how long we live, but how we live. With this monument, we commit the valor of these four men to immortality. Fifty or a hundred years from now on another cool October morning, people will stop and read the names of:

Sergeant Scott Kirkpatrick

Specialist Stephan Mace

Specialist Douglas Green

Captain Michael Quin

And their Legend will live on . . .

Thank You and God Bless America.

HONORING RONA RAMON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Rona Ramon, a teacher, healer, mother, friend and partner. Originally from Tel-Aviv, Rona served as a medic in a parachute unit with the Israeli army before earning a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education at Wingate Institute and becoming a respected teacher. In 1986, Rona married Ilan Roman, an Israeli fighter pilot who later became Israel's first astronaut.

Logging over 4,000 flight hours over his 14-year career, Ilan was a highly respected Colonel in the Israeli Air Force. In 1981, he was the youngest pilot flying in Operation Opera, the successful Israeli mission to destroy a nuclear reactor being constructed in Iraq. Ilan continued to dedicate his life to science as a Payload Specialist astronaut by using a multi-spectral camera to record and study desert dust among other research projects. His commitment to the advancement of science has positively impacted the people of Israel, the