

Purple Heart recipients are military personnel wounded as a direct result of enemy action.

Councilman Bobby "Gravedigger" Keisler sponsored the resolution to designate Lexington County as a Purple Heart county.

"It is important to support veterans and the people who served our country," Keisler said. He said James Miller asked him to sponsor the Purple Heart designation. Miller, of South Congaree, is the state commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Miller lives in Keisler's district.

"It's an honor to do it," said Keisler, who served a six-year stint in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era.

John B. Testruth is the Adjutant of Chapter 402. The chapter is the largest of the 13 in South Carolina. It has 298 members. Testruth said the Purple Heart Chapter also raises funds to donate to causes for veterans. He also said the county is supportive of veterans in general.

"Lexington is a very patriotic county," Thornburgh said. "People are supportive and appreciate those who served."

#### IN RECOGNITION OF PULASKI DAY 2012

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Polonia Foundation of Ohio as they unite the Polish community in remembrance and celebration of General Casimir Pulaski, for his legacy and dedication to the people of Poland and United States of America.

Born on March 4, 1747 in Warzka, Poland, General Pulaski achieved great military success in Poland with his focused leadership and strategies in fighting the Russian forces in Poland. By 1777, General Pulaski had become one of the most renowned cavalymen in Europe and was actively recruited by Benjamin Franklin to assist in the American quest for liberation.

Sympathetic to the American cause, General Pulaski sailed to America and was made head of the newly formed American cavalry during the Revolutionary War. General Pulaski had a deep level of commitment to the American cause, spending his own money to feed and equip his troops. General Pulaski was involved in many significant battles during the Revolution. His ultimate stand took place in Savannah, Georgia on October 1779, where he led a valiant charge against British artillery. General Pulaski was shot and died a few days later.

This year's celebration will be held on October 20 at Cleveland's City Hall Rotunda and will feature Dr. Marek Dollar, Ohio's Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland. Dr. Dollar is also the Dean of the Engineering College at Miami University.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of General Casimir Pulaski, who made the ultimate sacrifice in his fight to secure the ideals of the American Revolution. An American hero, General Pulaski's life and legacy serves as a reminder of the vital contributions and great achievements by Polish immigrants within our Cleveland community, and throughout America.

#### IN HONOR OF JUDGE COLLEEN TOY WHITE

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of my good friend Judge Colleen Toy White, who was recently honored by the Gold Coast Veterans Foundation with its General Roger L. Brautigan Excellence in Leadership Award.

I have known Judge White since she served as Chief Deputy in the Ventura County District Attorney's Office. We both trace our roots to Oklahoma, and share and respect the values of family, and of upholding the Constitution and the rule of law.

Judge White combined those values with drive, talent, and intelligence and rose from a law clerk in the prosecutor's office to become the chief assistant district attorney, the number two position. She also brought those values and qualities to the bench when she was appointed to the Ventura County Superior Court by Governor Pete Wilson.

Mr. Speaker, the General Roger L. Brautigan Excellence in Leadership Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the cause of veterans.

Judge White knows of veterans' needs directly. Her husband, Art Bliss, is a retired naval officer and several of her nephews are active military.

Her knowledge of veterans' needs led her to provide the ground work and to advocate for a veterans court. Judge White now presides over the veterans court, in addition to presiding over the domestic violence court, elder abuse court, and mental health court.

In addition, Judge White has been instrumental in assisting other courts to develop veterans programs.

Outside of the courtroom, Judge White is active in community organizations involving our youth and education. She served on the Board of Trustees of the Ventura/Santa Barbara College of Law and is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Ventura College Foundation. She served as president of the Board of Directors of Interface Children Family Services of Ventura County and was a past president and member of the Board of Directors of the Child Abuse and Neglect, an organization dedicated to the protection of children.

She was appointed Chairperson of President Reagan's Council on the Peace Corps and was appointed to a second term by President George H.W. Bush.

Not surprisingly, Judge White has won numerous awards for her service to the law and her community.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Colleen Toy White is a deserving recipient of the General Roger L. Brautigan Excellence in Leadership Award. It has been an honor for me to call Toy White my personal friend for a long time. She is someone for whom I have the highest respect, and I know my colleagues join my wife, Janice, and me in congratulating Toy for this great honor.

#### IN HONOR OF CHRIS TREPAL

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Chris Trepal, who is retiring from the Earth Day Coalition, one of the major forces in Northeast Ohio to promote environmental education, protection, and advocacy.

In the late 1980s, as the nation coalesced around how to best acknowledge the 20th anniversary of the first Earth Day of 1970, Chris was a parent, educator, and volunteer for the Sierra Club. Called by Governor Richard Celeste, Chris attended an organizing meeting at Cleveland State University and was moved to action to fight for the environment. Along with Scott Sanders, Chris co-founded the Earth Day Coalition in 1990 and until her retirement was co-director with Sanders.

In the last 23 years, Chris has been a visionary who organized the "Annual EarthFest" and "Walk or Bike for the Earth." Every spring at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, the EarthFest has been the largest and longest-running environmental education event in the State of Ohio. It is widely attended and is the place-to-be for non-profits and leaders who want to promote their causes.

For more than 10 years, Chris worked with the region's best environmental education experts, naturalists, and interpreters to establish the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, formerly Dike 14. Officially opened in February 2012, the Preserve is 88 acres of wild lands along Lake Erie in the heart of Cleveland with almost 300 species of birds who live and migrate on the site along with butterflies and mammals such as the red fox, mink, coyote, deer and others. Chris led the Earth Day Coalition's efforts to convene and be the fiscal agent for the collaborative effort to establish the Preserve.

Chris is a founding member of the City of Cleveland's Air Pollution Advisory Committee, created by city ordinance. She has worked on clean air issues such as Diesel Hot Spots, idle reduction, and reining in mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants and the proposed City of Cleveland waste incinerator (which was stopped, based in part on the Earth Day Coalition's advocacy).

Chris Trepal is the recipient of numerous awards for the work she has done over the years, including: Conservationist of the Year by the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District; Outstanding Conservationist Award by the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo; Award for Outstanding Service by the Lee-Seville-Miles Citizens; Greater Cleveland Woman of Achievement Award from the YWCA of Cleveland; Certificate of Environmental Achievement from the National Awards Council for Environmental Sustainability; Golden Spruce Award from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission; and the Excellence in Education Award from the Better Business Bureau.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the many achievements of Chris Trepal as she makes the transition from her successful career as co-director of the Earth Day Coalition to the next phases of her life in retirement and wishing her much success in her next endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF CARROLL L. "LEW" WATSON

## HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Lew Watson who is retiring as Mayor of the City of Lincoln, Alabama, on the 40th anniversary of the day he first took the oath of office.

Carroll L. "Lew" Watson was born in Norfolk, Virginia, to Carroll and Ruth Watson on May 9, 1943. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1961 and graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor's of Art degree in 1965.

After graduation from college, he joined the United States Army where he served until September of 1969 when he retired at the rank of Captain. He later attended Birmingham School of Law and received his Juris Doctor degree on May 23, 1982.

Watson was first elected mayor in 1972 at the age of 29 when Lincoln's population was a little over 1,100. Over the years, Lew was able to help build local infrastructure and help recruit industries like Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, LLC which helped the city grow and prosper to what it is today. During his time in office the city's population grew by over 450 percent.

Watson's children include Carroll Lewis Watson and his wife Alyson, Samantha Bluhm and her husband Patrick, David G. Watson and his wife Azumi, and Jessica Laffosse and her husband Michael.

Mr. Speaker, we join his friends and family in this surprise celebration in his honor. We will miss Lew's leadership in Lincoln, and wish him the very best.

HONORING FORMER FIRST LADY MRS. CLAUDIA ALTA "LADY BIRD" JOHNSON

## HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former First Lady, Mrs. Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Johnson. Mrs. Johnson, wife of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, was known for her prominent role in public service, and for her lifelong efforts to beautify public places across the country.

As First Lady, Mrs. Johnson promoted the conservation and beautification of our public lands. She believed that by making these civic improvements, we could help pay tribute to our great country. One of Mrs. Johnson's greatest rehabilitation efforts took place right here in Washington, DC, where she oversaw the planting of thousands of flowers throughout our Nation's capital.

Driving from her home in Texas to Washington, DC, Mrs. Johnson expressed concern

with the uninviting appearance of our Nation's Interstate highways. Ultimately, President Johnson signed the "Highway Beautification Act" into law in 1965, enhancing the scenic views of our highways and byways. In 1999, when Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt presented Mrs. Johnson with the Native Plant Conservation Initiative Lifetime Achievement Award, he noted that the First Lady had been a shadow Secretary of the Interior for much of her life. Today, we continue to enjoy the benefits of the First Lady's efforts to beautify our roads and highways.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the centennial of Mrs. Johnson's birth, we hold in great regard the value of these national improvements by preserving the beauty of our lands—through constant revitalization and conservation. We have Mrs. Johnson's unifying grace to thank for her contributions to the American landscape, and I am pleased to recognize these lasting contributions by the former First Lady from Texas.

HONORING MR. CABLE TELEVISION IN NORTH CAROLINA—JACK W. STANLEY

## HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, I take this occasion to honor Jack W. Stanley—a great personal friend for many years—as he retires from 45 years of service in the cable television industry. Jack has been a true pioneer in the industry, helping to lead its growth from a service designed merely to extend over-the-air broadcast signals into hard to reach areas to what it is today—an industry that makes available to homes across the nation hundreds of linear video channels, on-demand programming, high-speed broadband services, digital telephone services, home networking and home security services. It is an industry that is driven by innovation and private investment. And Jack has seen it all and helped make it happen.

In any conversation with Jack, it doesn't take long to find out about his roots—rural Georgia. He is proud to be a country boy. His professional life to this day remains grounded in the clay of Dodge County, Georgia, where he grew up in modest circumstances on his family's farm and learned the lessons of hard work and respect for others that he has carried with him throughout his career. Jack graduated from South Georgia Technical College where he studied Electronics Technology and completed an Executive Management Development Program at Denver University.

Most recently, Jack has served as the Regional Vice President for Government Relations for Time Warner Cable with responsibility for North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Alabama. In this role, he has represented his company before various governmental bodies and coordinated its advocacy on important issues affecting the cable industry. Jack enjoyed many successes in this challenging role, including developing positive relationships with federal, state and local govern-

mental leaders and helping to ensure consistent and fair regulatory treatment for cable operators.

For the bulk of his working career, Jack served in a variety of operational roles in the cable television industry, including successfully leading cable systems in Georgia, Texas and North Carolina. He served as Division President of Time Warner Cable's Greensboro Division, where he managed a staff of some 700 employees. Under his leadership the Division was top-ranked in customer satisfaction and consistently exceeded the established business metrics.

He is known among his peers as an innovative leader who is committed to exceptional customer service and who has the ability to forge positive relationships with consumers, employees and public officials. In 1988, Jack developed the first set of service standards for Time Warner Cable, which quickly became the basis for national industry standards and are still in use today. This commitment to customer service was recognized with a Chairman's Award and the National Public Affairs Award of the Maryland and Delaware Cable Association. As anyone who has worked with him will tell you, Jack always has the customers' interests foremost in his mind in any decision impacting the business.

Jack carried this customer commitment over to his service to the industry. He served four separate terms as President of the North Carolina Cable Telecommunications Association where, in addition to being a terrific leader and gracious colleague, he was instrumental in establishing a college scholarship program to help provide higher education opportunities for children of members of the cable industry. Providing opportunities for others has always been a driving focus of Jack's career.

Jack has also been an active leader in the community. He was appointed by former Governor Jim Hunt to represent the cable industry on a task force where he was instrumental in establishing a partnership between the Association of Public Telecommunications and the cable industry in OPEN/Net, a virtual "town hall" that provided citizens direct access to state and local leaders via cable technology. He eventually served on the APT Board for two terms. He also served on numerous other boards, including the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research, and the Greensboro Partnership.

Jack enjoys golf—and he's really good at it. You want to be on Jack's team in business and golf—especially golf! He has a passion for history, and realizes his most important accomplishment is his family, which includes twelve grandchildren.

The depth of his experience and knowledge about the cable industry is matched by the depth of his character and judgment. When you shake hands in an agreement with Jack Stanley, you do not have to wonder whether you have a deal.

A modest man, who came from modest means, he doesn't seek attention—but he deserves it. Jack is a true Southern gentleman in the best sense of that term.

I join with all of the residents of the Sixth District of North Carolina in honoring Jack for his fine career and to wish him all the best as he enters, what I am sure will be, a very active and productive retirement.