

When I drive down North Park Drive and pass a local store, the smell tempts me every time. I reflect on my childhood and can't help the urge to pull into what is now a Shipley Donuts drive thru. A trip to the donut shop is a personal tradition that I've passed onto my family, too. When my grandchildren tug away at my sleeve, begging me for a sweet treat, I tell them I know exactly the place to go.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING BILLY WOODY

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor several of the volunteers who have served in my District office over the past six years while I have been in office. A Member of Congress' most important responsibility is to provide exceptional constituent services and these volunteers have assisted my staff in providing the excellent assistance so many have come to expect from our District. I take great pride in the work that each one has done on my behalf and on behalf of everyone in the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina.

These volunteers have always treated our constituents with the utmost respect and always made sure their needs were met in a timely fashion. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship they have shown to me during my years of service in Congress.

Billy Woody has served in numerous roles as a volunteer in our District office. As retired military himself, Billy took special interest in making sure our veterans received exceptional representation as they sought needed benefits through the Veterans Administration. I could always count on a warm smile and kind words of affirmation each time I interacted with Billy. I know our local veterans share my sense of gratitude and recognize Billy's dedication for always putting them first and for making their mission his own.

Billy should be proud of the service he has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with him and as I retire from office I wish him the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of his efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Billy and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Billy Woody for his hard work on behalf of all of western North Carolina and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my East Bay colleagues, Representatives GEORGE MILLER, JOHN GARAMENDI, JERRY MCNERNEY, and PETE

STARK on the occasion of the East Bay Bicycle Coalition's 40th anniversary celebration. In its 40 years of bicycle advocacy, the East Bay Bicycle Coalition has garnered an impressive list of victories and a vast network of supporters working toward the shared goal of promoting cycling as a sustainable, healthy, and safe form of transport in the San Francisco Bay Area.

On March 20, 1972, a group of cyclists created the East Bay Bicycle Coalition as a non-profit bicycle advocacy group with the simple mission of promoting bicycling for people of all ages and abilities in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties of California. One of the organization's first battles was for bicycle access on the then-new San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system. By 1975, the coalition had succeeded in that goal and paved the way for BART's continued reputation as one of the most bike-friendly transit agencies in the country.

During the past 40 years, the East Bay Bicycle Coalition has also worked to expand and establish bikeways on Bay Area bridges, stripe hundreds of miles of bike lanes in East Bay cities, and complete 244 miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail. The organization's members have worked tirelessly for access to urban bicycle parking, inclusion of bicycle pathways in local and regional transit plans, and to establish an annual "Bike-to-Work Day" throughout the East Bay.

With growing awareness that an ever-increasing number of individual automobile commuters is neither sustainable nor responsible, there has been a national movement towards alternative forms of transportation. Thanks in great part to the work of the East Bay Bicycle Coalition, our East Bay Congressional districts are leading the way in this trend, with four cities certified "bike-friendly" by the League of American Bicyclists—Oakland, Emeryville, Brentwood and Alameda. Berkeley, in my district, ranks fourth in the nation amongst cities with the highest number of people bicycling.

We are pleased to see the role that federal investment has played in promoting and sustaining this transportation shift, beginning in 1991 with the walking and biking provisions of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act. My colleagues and I look forward to continuing to work with the East Bay Bicycle Coalition and their allies around the country as we prepare in the coming years to develop a long-term Federal Transportation Bill that works for everyone, including those who find the bicycle to be a clean, healthy, and enjoyable form of transportation.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 9th, 7th, 10th, 11th, and 13th districts, we pay tribute to the East Bay Bicycle Coalition in recognition of their 40th anniversary. We ask our colleagues to join with us in congratulating the East Bay Bicycle Coalition for its continued leadership and commitment to making the East Bay a wonderful place to ride, and we wish them success in the coming years.

HONORING JULIE B. FAGAN (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, CONNECTICUT) ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Julie Fagan, a dedicated public servant, who will be retiring at the end of this month.

After 23 years of service with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Julie B. Fagan is set to retire effective November 30th. Julie is currently the Field Office Director of the Hartford Field Office for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She was previously the Director of the HUD Salt Lake City Field Office and the national director overseeing the Public and Assisted Housing Drug Elimination Program in Washington, DC. She also served on the senior management team for Governor Roy Romer (D) of Colorado.

Julie started her career at HUD following her passion to fight drug use in public and assisted housing. During her career she has played a critical role in preserving and redeveloping critical Federal public housing properties all over Connecticut, particularly in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport. Julie has also made it a top priority in her time as director of the Connecticut HUD office to collaborate with her peer Federal, State and local agencies. She has greatly improved the housing landscape for the people of Connecticut by initiating many vital working relationships with government, non-profit and private organizations that play a role in housing the people of Connecticut. In addition, Julie has been a leader in Connecticut by helping residents navigate the challenges presented by the foreclosure crisis. Her leadership and ability to train her staff to accommodate the many changes in the housing market allowed for constituents to have their needs addressed in as timely and professional a manner as possible. Julie is looking forward to spending more time with her husband Jack, her five wonderful children and nine grandchildren.

I applaud her hard work, time and dedication in serving the State of Connecticut and the country and thank her for her years of public service that has helped so many families. I know that our office will miss working with Julie and we wish her and her family all the best.

HONORING BETH TIELKE

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Beth Tielke and the many volunteers working with her to improve the lives of Nebraskans and our servicemen and women. Beth is a well known small businesswoman from O'Neill, Nebraska. She has owned a store, several restaurants, and a sandwich business. Her children now run these businesses, but Beth continues to work

and devotes a significant amount of her time running Nebraska Troop Support and Share Our Dream.

Through Nebraska Troop Support, Beth assembles care packages for our soldiers, veterans and their families. She solicits small donations and gifts which are sent in about 40 care packages each month to let all of our servicemembers know how much their sacrifice is appreciated.

Share Our Dream, also run by Beth, has benefitted more than 1600 Nebraskans with small gifts such as cookies, flowers, and short notes to lift the spirit of someone in need. While most of the costs have been paid by Beth, the organization has made it possible for local businesses and citizens to donate small items to help their neighbors. These small gestures not only bring smiles, but also renew the spirit of giving in our State.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in honoring Beth Tielke and her selfless work to bring joy to our troops, veterans, military families and all Nebraskans.

TRIBUTE TO DON ARTHUR MCGRUFF

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of a beloved and respected Alabaman who passed away on October 2, 2012, at the age of 70. Don McGriff was a devoted public servant and a tireless advocate for safer communities at the state and local level.

Don McGriff was born in Mobile on April 22, 1942. He was a graduate of Murphy High School, the University of South Alabama, and the Jones School of Law at Faulkner University. Don also served his country honorably in the United States Marine Corps.

Active in state and local politics, Don was the Republican Nominee for Alabama Lieutenant Governor against Democrat Jim Folsom, Jr. in 1986. He served as Chairman of the Baldwin County Republican Party and on the Baldwin County School Board.

Don's reputation for fairness also earned him bipartisan respect in Montgomery. In 2004, Governor Bob Riley appointed him to serve on the newly expanded Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles.

His long political career also included runs for State Senate and State Representative in Baldwin County and service as an assistant district attorney.

Don's public service was marked by his unwavering dedication to fighting crime as well as the rehabilitation of those convicted of crimes. Don was a founding board member of We Care Prison Ministries and the Lovelady Center. He was a charter member of the Fairhope Sunset Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I offer condolence to his wife of 46 years, Jeanne Kelly; their son, Kelly; their daughter, Heather; their eight grandchildren and their entire family and many friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO LT. BOBBY PRICE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to honor a great friend, an honorable man and a tireless champion for all veterans, Lt. Bobby Price. Bobby passed away on November 2, 2012 after many years battling cancer.

Throughout his 24 years of active duty service in the U.S. Navy, Bobby demonstrated tremendous zeal for getting the job done. As an advocate for veterans he brought the same zeal towards fighting on behalf of veterans and he never let up. He never gave up. His heart was in it all the way.

Mr. Speaker, I often credit Bobby with informing me of everything I needed to know to fight on behalf of veterans. He spent many, many hours going over everything that needed to be done legislatively, educating me on what veterans have to confront as individuals and how much we owe to them. His ambitious goals really personify what it means to be a champion for veterans. I hope through my work I was able to justify his confidence in me.

Bobby has received scores of awards recognizing his tremendous service throughout his life—including 2007 San Diego County Veteran of the Year. He was President of the nonprofit Chula Vista Veterans Home Support Foundation at the time of his death, having served on the charity's board for six years.

He was active in the VFW and other veteran's organizations locally, statewide, and nationally. Many of my successes on behalf of veterans came about because of Bobby Price's suggestions. He would say: "We got to do this. We got to do that. We can't have this offset. We have to do this!" I listened to every word, most of which we tried to enact. Bobby, I will miss you and I appreciate everything you did every single day.

Bobby is survived by his wife, Julia; his sons, Paul Hoch, Russ Price, Marcus Bush and Adam Price; and daughter Adriana Bush. Another daughter, Jennifer Crane, preceded him in death. He has five grandchildren, with another due soon.

Bobby will be truly missed by all who were touched by his love for life and his passion for his fellow veterans.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. SAVA SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral. I was so pleased to join members, friends and the community on October 7, 2012, to celebrate 100 years of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral as a congregation.

It was also a time to give thanks for the spiritual leadership, generosity, dedication, and the sacrifices made by generations of your faithful members. Your congregation has contributed much to the religious, social, cultural and civic life of this city.

Your hard work and decades of effort culminated in this beautiful Cathedral, St. Sava. It demonstrates to your community and to people of faith throughout our area the dedication by people of faith, to honor their beliefs and holy traditions. I am particularly moved by the timeline of over 40 years to establish the first place of worship until the Cathedral's final completion—from 1912 to 1958. I wondered about this significant period of time and then realized that your grandfathers, fathers, sons, brothers and husbands, all who could serve, indeed did serve our country in two World Wars. It is a sacrifice that must always be honored and remembered; a sacrifice that many American immigrants have made in our history. We are so very proud and grateful to acknowledge this commitment.

You have accomplished much my friends. You have worked in our factories, our breweries, legislatures, schools and medical facilities to advance our city, state and country. We have all found a home at St. Sava Hall that was established by the St. Sava community as a welcoming place for all; it has served as a meeting place for Presidents, Senators, Congressmen, Congresswomen and elected leaders from all levels of government. You have shared in and contributed to the economic and political life of our community.

October 7, 2012, was a day for St. Sava members to celebrate a work well done and to consider the challenges ahead. Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to St. Sava Orthodox Cathedral's 100th Anniversary. I extend my heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for all they have done to enhance the quality of life throughout the Fourth Congressional District. I look forward to the Serbian community's continued involvement and leadership for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL JOHNSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 604 I was unavoidably detained and therefore was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING MS. KAREN THOMAS

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Karen Thomas, a member of the professional staff of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, and to congratulate her on her retirement at the end of this year. Karen has made invaluable contributions to the function of the Subcommittee, and she will be greatly missed by the Members and her colleagues.

During her nearly 40-year tenure in federal government, Karen has served in all three branches: In the Executive Branch for the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Commerce, in the Judiciary for