

artist and a passionate advocate for the arts. And David brought valuable experience to the Board as a former English teacher and leader in community and business organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Mr. David Coen for his 18 years of service to Vermont and the nation and for his deep and abiding commitment to public service. Vermonters, and indeed our country, are better off because of his tireless and distinguished service.

HONORING JERRY MANSBACH AS HE IS AWARDED L'ORDRE NATIONAL DE LA LEGION D'HONNEUR

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Gerald (Jerry) Mansbach. On November 17, 2013, Jerry will be honored with l'Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur (the National Order of the Legion of Honor) by Honorary Consul Diane Thomas, representing the French Consulate in Chicago.

Created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, the Legion d'honneur is the highest and most prestigious distinction bestowed by the French Republic to celebrate extraordinary contributions to the country. Given solely based on merit, the Legion d'honneur expresses the gratitude of the French people for the bravery of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces who fought to secure France's freedom during the Second World War. It is an honor today to join the French people in expressing my gratitude for the sacrifices of America's troops during the struggle to liberate Western Europe from Nazi Germany, and especially to recognize one of my constituents, Sergeant Jerry Mansbach.

Jerry was born in New York City and moved to the Hoosier State at the age of ten, where he grew up and attended high school in Fort Wayne. While attending Indiana University, Jerry joined the U.S. Army in January of 1943. He defended France in the Battle of the Bulge and participated in the Normandy Invasion as a tank commander under General George Patton. Tragically, all of Jerry's fellow tank crew died in battle but he miraculously survived, though not without injury. For his courage, Jerry was awarded the Silver Star Medal for "gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States." He was also presented with the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Like many members of the Greatest Generation, Jerry came back home again to the Midwest to raise a family and begin a career. He worked for Merrill Lynch for forty years, retiring in 2000, and has four children, three stepchildren, and seven grandchildren. Jerry currently resides in Carmel, Indiana, with his wife Shirley. I am proud that such an exceptional Hoosier calls my District home.

Jerry Mansbach is a patriot and a hero. Along with the Honorary Consul and the French people, I am honored to recognize his sacrifices and bravery during the Second World War today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 574 I was unable to be present for the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CONGRATULATING ERIC LARRABEE AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an extraordinary milestone of Durham resident Eric Larrabee, as he celebrates his 50th birthday today, November 14, 2013.

A fourth generation Californian, Eric is an active member in the communities of Butte City, Chico and Durham. Eric and his wife, Treasa, are busy raising their twin daughters—Abigail and Jillian—in Durham, while simultaneously running a thriving agricultural operation and giving back to the communities he works and lives through volunteer efforts and serving on boards.

Eric currently serves on the boards of the Association of California Water Agencies, as a trustee to the Enloe Medical Center, and a director at Western Canal Water District. He has also served on the Glenn Country Farm Services Agency County Commission, California Rice Research Board, Levee District Three, Butte City Volunteer Fire Department, and the Glenn County Planning Commission.

Eric is also owner and partner of Larrabee Farms in Butte City, where he works alongside two of his brothers growing rice, pecans, walnuts and various row crops. Farming has been a part of Eric's entire life, being born in Chico and raised on a family farm his great grandfather originally started in 1918 in Clarks Valley in western Glenn County of the California coastal range.

Eric enjoys spending time with his family, skiing in the winter, hunting and fishing throughout the year and enjoying the beautiful landscapes all of Northern California has to offer. As a proud father and husband, family is a strong part of his character. His dedication to community service, family and a life in farming is to be commended.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Eric on this special day, November 14, 2013, and in wishing him a Happy 50th Birthday. May he have many, many more.

HONORING JAMES HAWKINS OF MOHAWK, N.Y. FOR VOLUNTEERING/BEING A LEUKEMIA SURVIVOR

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Hawkins of Mohawk, New York. James is a leukemia survivor. For years he has selflessly provided support to local blood cancer patients through volunteering with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, an organization dedicated to the mission of curing blood cancer.

James has worked to support blood cancer patients through public education/awareness events, public advocacy, and personally speaking with many newly diagnosed blood cancer patients each year. The positive impact he has had on these patients is immeasurable. James' dedication to this cause can be seen in his work with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, where he volunteers in the patient services department and fundraises for the organization to advance their goal of curing blood cancer.

The work James has done with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is particularly inspirational. The society has invested almost \$1 billion in research, contributing to the development of life-saving drugs, and is making great strides in its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Since 1963, myeloma survival rates have more than tripled. Lymphoma survival rates have more than doubled. Leukemia survival rates have more than quadrupled.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending James Hawkins for his hard work with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and his efforts to make a difference in the lives of blood cancer patients in Upstate New York and Vermont.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. ANNIE JANE (BLAKELY) JACKSON CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Annie Jane (Blakely) Jackson who will celebrate her 100th Birthday on Monday, November 18, 2013. The community will join with Annie J. Jackson to celebrate her centennial on Saturday, November 16, 2013.

Mrs. Jackson was born November 18, 1913 in Hopten, Alabama, was raised in Adamsville, Alabama and moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1945. She found work at the Cudahy Meat Packing Company and was also employed at the Veteran Hospital for two years. She later found employment with the American Can Company where she worked for twenty-three years prior to her retirement from the company in September, 1976.

Mrs. Jackson was married to the late Junior Lee Jackson for 32 years. Junior Lee Jackson was the owner of Party House Tavern for

nearly 30 years and as an entrepreneur was able to employ many people in the community. Mrs. Jackson is the mother of three children—Jonathan, Arlene (both deceased) and Valerie; grandmother to Venus and Raven.

I have literally known Mrs. Jackson all of my life. She is a charter member of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin since May of 1956, my church home. There were 17 members when the church was incorporated and today she is the only living charter member. Mrs. Jackson was an active member in the church; she served on the Usher Board and Mission Board and was the very first Mission Board President. She is now confined to a wheel chair and is unable to attend church services but continues to be supportive both spiritually and financially.

Mrs. Jackson volunteered for many years at Lutheran Social Services agency calling the elderly to determine their needs and refer them for necessary services. Cooking and fishing are her most favorite things to do. She has already begun preparation for Thanksgiving dinner; she has cleaned thirty pounds of Chitterlings. It gives her great joy and happiness to be able to cook the entire Thanksgiving dinner for her family, then sit down at the table to eat and thank God for all of their blessings.

It is an honor for me to acknowledge someone who continues to contribute so much to Milwaukee and the 4th Congressional District. She set a strong example of leadership and excellence as a member of her church and for the entire community. She is a Milwaukee and Wisconsin treasure and I value her service. Mr. Speaker, that is why I rise to honor and celebrate Mrs. Jackson's 100 years of life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE ELIOT MARCUS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding man, Lawrence Eliot Marcus. Born in Dallas, TX, "Lawrie," as he was generally known, was the last surviving child of the second-generation in the family that built the Neiman Marcus retail chain to international prominence. The department store, founded by Lawrence's father and aunt, would eventually become a transcendent international retail chain.

Following the death of his father, Herbert Marcus, in 1950, Lawrence Marcus and his brother Stanley took leadership of the the family's iconic department store. Neiman Marcus continued to serve as Lawrence's funnel for dedication to quality and service well beyond his retirement in the early 1980s.

As a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas, Texas, Lawrence Marcus earned both a bachelor's degree and an MBA from Harvard University, served in World War II, and eventually earned a Purple Heart during his military service before returning to Dallas to assume a bigger role in the Neiman Marcus' operations. While he was known and recognized for many great qualities, most notable was his attention to detail. He once flew to New York to approve the yarn for a new

store's carpet before weavers could begin putting the carpet together. Even on the day before his passing, Lawrence Marcus was said to be critiquing shirt fabric.

It is with great respect that I recognize the life and accomplishments of Lawrence Marcus. Both his memory and legacy serve as examples of hard work and tireless dedication to many and I ask that my colleagues keep his family in our hearts and prayers.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BIKE- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, along with my colleagues Representative COBLE, Representative DEFAZIO, and Representative MCCAUL, I am introducing the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Act. This legislation requires the US DOT to establish separate measures for motorized and non-motorized safety targets with the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Under this program, states will set their own safety targets and are given the flexibility to choose the best methods to meet them. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Act encourages states to make their roadways safer while acknowledging local needs.

The need for such legislation has never been clearer. The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration recently reported a 2 percent drop in roadway fatalities, and a 4.6 percent drop for occupants of cars and light trucks between 2010–2011. These safety improvements, however, have not helped all road users. Even as driver and passenger deaths have decreased, the percentage of bicyclist and pedestrian roadway deaths has increased. While overall traffic deaths have decreased, the number of bicyclists dying on our roadways has increased by 9 percent and pedestrian deaths have increased by 3 percent.

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Act requires states to address this increasing safety concern, while maintaining state flexibility. I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this legislation and protect all roadway users.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF KATYŃ MASSACRE OF 1940

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit a recent New York Times article titled, "Ruling on Katyn Killings Highlights Russia-Poland Rift," by Alan Cowell and Andrew Roth, regarding the Katyn Massacre of 1940. In so doing, we call continued attention to the atrocities committed in Stalinist-controlled Russia inside the Katyn Forest and surrounding areas, events which continue to deeply resonate within the world consciousness and haunt Polish-Russian relations. In 1940, the Soviet secret police was directed by Joseph Stalin to systematically murder approximately 22,000

Polish military officers, prisoners, and intellectuals in and around the Katyn Forest. A U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee was tasked in 1951 with conducting an investigation into the Katyn killing and concluded that the Soviets were responsible for the mass murder. In 2010, after decades of denial and despite protests from its Communist members, the Russian Parliament approved a statement that ultimately acknowledged Stalin's responsibility in perpetrating these heinous crimes. Thus, in September 2012, I issued a formal announcement that the US National Archives and Records Administration, at my request, opened newly declassified compilations and Katyn documents held in storage by the government of the United States. Yet, this past October, while reaffirming in its ruling that Russia had failed to meet obligations to properly investigate the massacre, The European Court of Human Rights found it had no jurisdiction over the massacre and that it ultimately held no duty to investigate the events at Katyn. The Polish people and freedom-loving Americans deserve better. Humanity deserves better. As pointed out in the New York Times piece, in its ruling and in failing to demand a complete and thorough investigation into these events, the ECHR fails to fully condemn this genocide, setting a disturbing precedent for the future and provides no comfort to those families of the victims. As Pope Paul VI so eloquently stated, "If you want peace, work for justice." Justice remains unserved. Thus, I call upon Russia to declassify, once and for all, its 2004 decision to close the investigation into the Katyn Massacre. Let the world of nations continue to work in conjunction with the Polish government and victims' families to uncover the truth of what happened in the Katyn Forest and nearby killing fields. The whole truth will enlighten future generations so that they learn from these heinous crimes, heal the fissures of tyranny and prevent atrocities of the future.

[From the New York Times International,
Oct. 22, 2013]

RULING ON KATYN KILLINGS HIGHLIGHTS RUSSIA-POLAND RIFT

(By Alan Cowell and Andrew Roth)

LONDON.—In the long-simmering and emotional debate over a notorious mass killing during World War II, the European Court of Human Rights ruled Monday that Russia had failed to comply with its obligations to adequately investigate the massacre of more than 20,000 Polish prisoners of war by the Soviet secret police in 1940.

But the court said it had no jurisdiction over the massacre itself or on the subsequent treatment of the relatives of the dead, prompting an outcry in Poland and expressions of satisfaction among officials in Moscow, underscoring the deep and lingering divisions inspired by the mass killing in the Katyn Forest near Smolensk.

"We are rather disappointed by this verdict," said Poland's deputy foreign minister, Artur Nowak-Far, according to Agence France-Presse. "The ruling does not take into account all the arguments of the Polish side that have here a great moral and historic right."

Andrzej Melak, president of the Association of the Families of Katyn Victims, called the judgment "scandalous," adding that it was "inadmissible and incomprehensible."

"The failure to condemn this genocide and the impunity of its perpetrators led to it being repeated in Rwanda, the Balkans and it will be repeated again," he said. "Poles will not accept a ruling like this."