

wounded. Officer McClintick was able to pull Marshal Ley from the kill zone while coming under fire himself.

Immediately, a Rapid Response Team comprised of Sergeant Baitinger, Sergeant Lounge, Officer MacDonald, and Officer Weaver was formed. Sergeant Baitinger, a Rapid Response Instructor, volunteered to lead the team into the house to rescue of his fellow officers and was fatally wounded.

Officer Weaver dropped his weapon and attempted to recover the body of Officer Yaslowitz, but was driven back by the gunfire and was wounded himself. He then helped Officer MacDonald move Officer McClintick and Marshal Ley to safety. Officer Weaver was then able to move Sergeant Baitinger's body out of the house along with Sergeant Lounge and Officer MacDonald.

On that January evening, it pained me to take to the House floor to inform my colleagues of the tragedy that had occurred. As I stated that day, "This is a sober reminder that the men and women who serve us as law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day. It is also a good time to say thank you for all those who serve us in uniform at home or abroad."

Sergeant Baitinger and Officer Yaslowitz made the ultimate sacrifice while serving their community and now have their names inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Marshal Ley, Sergeant Lounge, Officer MacDonald, Officer Weaver, and Officer McClintick all showed tremendous bravery in the line of fire. Because of their selfless actions, these law enforcement officers earned the Congressional Badge of Bravery.

IN HONOR AND MEMORIAM OF STANLEY WILSON, A COURAGEOUS DALLAS FIREFIGHTER

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of fallen Dallas firefighter Stanley Allen Wilson.

Stanley worked selflessly alongside his fellow firefighters and was an exemplary example of steadfast commitment to bettering, protecting and saving lives. When others run away, the brave men and women who serve as our first responders rush in. Stanley Wilson was no different. Responding to a massive six alarm fire, he answered the call of duty and made the ultimate sacrifice to keep our community safe.

Stanley, a lifelong native of Dallas, Texas, was a 1979 graduate of Lake Highlands High School and attended the University of Texas. As a 28-year veteran of the Dallas Fire Department, Stanley served proudly at Dallas Fire Station #53 in Lakewood.

Stanley's life reflected his love for family and community. He was a devout Christian, dedicated husband and father, and a true public servant. Whether it was serving his church community at Park Cities Baptist Church, serving his sons as the quartermaster for Boy Scout Troop 890, or serving the City of Dallas as a firefighter, Stanley held true to his principles and never wavered in his loyalty to those around him.

Stanley Wilson is survived by his wife of 20 years, Jenny and his two sons Noah and Luke.

I am privileged to honor this fellow Boy Scout Leader and commend him for "leaving his campsite better than he found it." Stanley Wilson will be greatly missed. May the peace of God be with those he loved and sustain them through this hour of sorrow.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL ARTHRITIS MONTH

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Arthritis Month. Arthritis is a disease that affects more than 50 million Americans of all ages including some residents of Pennsylvania's 7th District. Arthritis includes more than 100 joint diseases that can affect the entire body, causing severe pain for many. While questions still remain, I am encouraged by the cutting edge research being conducted on arthritis, particularly at the NIH. Early diagnosis and disease management can help prevent long term pain for individuals living with arthritis and their families. As May draws to a close, let us continue to raise awareness of arthritis, remembering the individuals living with the disease every day.

A TRIBUTE TO WWII VETERAN JERRY LUPTAK

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerry Luptak, a Michigan resident, a veteran, and a hero of one of World War II's most infamous battles—the "Battle of the Bulge."

Jerry began his military career in the ROTC at Michigan State University. His group was called into duty and assigned to the 36th Infantry division. Upon landing in Italy, he and his unit fought through southern France, advancing the Allied line.

During the Battle of the Bulge, Jerry served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 131st Field Artillery Battalion. He was positioned as a forward Artillery Observer on a bridgehead on the German side of the river, the very front of the Allied line. From his position in the fourth floor of a building, Jerry saw the enemy advancing with an overwhelming force of troops and tanks. Thinking quickly, Lieutenant Luptak called for his fellow troops to take cover, then called in an artillery barrage on the German advance. Still exposed in his fourth floor position, Jerry put his own life in danger to give the American forces their only chance at avoiding defeat. His quick decision-making and bravery proved successful, and the artillery barrage defeated the German advance.

Lieutenant Luptak was awarded a silver star for his gallantry in action. According to his citation, Jerry "effectively directed artillery fire was of material aid in crushing enemy attacks." This battle was an important stepping

stone in halting the German opposition during World War II.

Jerry's vast combat experience and tactical knowledge provided vital tools to the United States Armed Forces. In addition to his silver star, he also received the American Theater Service Medal, German Occupation Medal, and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

As Memorial Day approaches, all Americans should remember our brave servicemen and women, like Jerry Luptak, who dutifully and nobly answered the call to service for our nation, and the debt of gratitude we owe to them. On behalf of Michigan's 4th Congressional District, the Members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation, and all Americans, I thank Jerry Luptak for his dedicated and selfless service, and bravery in the face of the enemy.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF CHAPLAIN DAVID L. GIBSON OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the dedication and service of Chaplain David L. Gibson upon the occasion of his retirement. Chaplain Gibson is a proud resident of the Gulf Coast, where he is retiring after serving his nation with honor and distinction as Command Chaplain and Protestant Chapel Pastor at Naval Air Station Pensacola.

Chaplain Gibson was born in Mableton, Georgia, and began serving his community at an early age through religious education. He acted as a minister of Youth, Music, and Christian Education at numerous churches, first as an intern and ultimately as director of a tri-city area based in Midland, Michigan. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in Christian Education in 1980 and his Masters in Divinity in 1983, Chaplain Gibson was ordained in July 1984 and commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy.

Chaplain Gibson led his military communities spiritually in posts as Chaplain or Command Chaplain in Naples, Italy; Norfolk, Virginia; Yorktown, Virginia; and Beaufort, South Carolina; before arriving in Pensacola to serve in 1998. While assigned to Naval Air Station Pensacola as the Assistant Department Head of the Naval Education and Training Professional Development Command, he designed and delivered over two hundred professional development courses. For his dedication and exceptional service, Chaplain Gibson was awarded the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. Following his promotion to Commander in 2003, Chaplain Gibson moved to serve at the Navy Chaplains School in Newport, Rhode Island for three years before returning to Naval Air Station Pensacola. In a further testament to his devotion to education, he earned his Doctorate of Strategic Leadership from Regent University in 2006.

During his career, Chaplain Gibson founded the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Program. Today, this program is the standardized training that all chaplains and other Navy

leaders receive in order to effectively deal with suicide situations. Further, he worked extensively on combat operation stress, particularly with its diagnosis and response. He co-authored a chapter in a 2012 Marine Corp University textbook on combat operation stress titled, "Spiritual Injuries: Wounds of the American Warrior on the Battlefield of the Soul." He was also instrumental in training chaplains on how to minister to these hidden wounds. As a pastor and an educator, Chaplain Gibson has had an enormous impact on our Armed Services both in Northwest Florida and throughout the United States.

From an early age, Chaplain Gibson learned the importance of serving God and his community. It is evident that this dedication has remained over the years, and thousands have been touched by his presence and service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the selfless service of David L. Gibson. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing David, his wife Tami, and their children, Zachary and Micah, all of the best.

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#### NORTHERN ROUTE APPROVAL ACT

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SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3) to approve the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes:

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chair, I rise today in astonishment that the House even had to consider H.R. 3, the Northern Route Approval Act. Now, I'm a cosponsor of this bill and I strongly supported its passage yesterday in the House. But we wouldn't need to pass it if the Administration would've green-lighted the Keystone XL pipeline like it should have long ago. For more than seventeen-hundred days, Americans have waited for the Administration to approve this pipeline. We have waited long enough for 20,000 new jobs—600 of which would be created in my home state of Iowa. We have waited for \$20 billion to be added to the economy, much of it in the Midwest and Iowa. And we have waited for more than 800,000 barrels of North American oil per day to be carried to U.S. refineries—to help fuel our economy. The State Department has found twice that this pipeline would have a limited impact on the environment. Labor groups support its construction. And seventeen Senate Democrats endorsed it earlier this year by helping to pass a budget amendment approving the pipeline. Approval of the Keystone XL pipeline means jobs, a boost to the economy and greater American independence when it comes to energy.

So today, Mr. Chair, I urge our colleagues in the U.S. Senate, in the strongest possible terms, to consider and pass this bill as soon as possible—but I also urge the Administration to stop hitting the snooze button on real chances to create American jobs and energy independence.

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#### HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE MAY 23, 2013 HONOR FLIGHT OF THE QUAD CITIES

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**HON. DAVID LOEBSACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today, over ninety Iowa veterans of World War II and the Korean War will travel to our Nation's Capital. Together, they will visit the monuments that were built in their honor by a grateful Nation.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude. For many, today will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. I can think of no greater honor than to be able to greet them and thank Iowa's—and our Nation's—heroes for their service to our country.

That is why I am deeply honored to join them for their visit to the National World War II Memorial to personally thank these heroes for their service to our Nation and to pay tribute to the incredible sacrifice they made for our country.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude and the Honor Flight demonstrates that we as a State and as a country will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our Nation's uniform. As a reminder of the service and sacrifice of the Greatest Generation, I am proud to have a piece of marble in my office from the quarry that was used to build the World War II Memorial. Our World War II and Korean War veterans rose to defend not just our Nation, but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest Nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country. Their sacrifices and determination in the face of great threats to our way of life are both humbling and inspiring.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities and Iowa's veterans of World War II and the Korean War to our Nation's Capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. SEAN P. DUFFY**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, last week, the needs of my constituents took me away from D.C. and my work here in this Chamber. Though this absence was excused, I would like the record to show my support for legislation which was passed to repeal the misguided and over-burdensome health care law known as Obamacare, and two bills which increase analysis of new and existing regulations and strengthen our local financial institutions. I have supported these pieces of legislation in the past, and would have voted for them had I been here.

That being said, last week, a devastating forest fire—the largest Wisconsin has seen in 33 years—hit the northwest corner of my district in Douglas County. I was grateful to be back home to evaluate the damage, offer assistance to those who suffered loss and personally thank the first responders. By the

grace of God, and with the help of many selfless first responders and firefighters, no one was injured and the destruction was limited. I was inspired by neighbors coming together to help each other, and was proud to see governments at the local, State, and Federal level respond quickly and effectively. I commend all those who stepped up and took charge in this situation, and my staff and I will continue to offer our assistance in any way we can.

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#### HONORING WHITNEY COY AND OTHER MEMBERS OF FIREWIVES.COM

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**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of my constituents from Lancaster, Ohio, who pulled together to make a difference in the wake of an explosion at a fertilizer plant in West, Texas that injured hundreds and killed at least 14 people.

Of those lost in the explosion on April 17, many were firefighters from different departments who responded to the fire and explosion. When the wives of Lancaster firefighters and members of "Firewives.com" heard about what happened, they knew something had to be done.

Whitney Coy and the other members of "Firewives.com" formed a committee to fundraise for the West, Texas Volunteer Fire Department. Their group has grown to roughly 350 members since April. The group's original goal was to sell 150 T-shirts, which they sold in the very first day. So far, they have sold more than 850 t-shirts and raised more than \$7,500 for West, Texas.

The money raised by our neighbors in Lancaster will be used to purchase new equipment to help protect firefighters in West, Texas. I am confident that Whitney Coy and her team played a very important role in ensuring the new equipment could be purchased.

Again, I am thankful for Whitney Coy's hard work in helping the people of West, Texas. I ask that all Members of Congress stand with me to recognize her, and her team, for their acts of selflessness and kindness.

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#### CONGRATULATING THE COMMITTEE OF 100 ON THE FEDERAL CITY ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating The Committee of 100 on the Federal City on its 906th anniversary and for its work in promoting the District of Columbia's distinction, beauty, and grace as a community.

Founded in 1923 by Frederic A. Delano under the auspices of the American Civic Association, the Committee of 100 was formed to sustain and to safeguard the fundamental values for establishing strong standards for parks, monuments, public buildings, and scenic vistas far beyond the monumental core of