

HONORING LT. MATTHEW
STAPLETON

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lt. Matthew Stapleton on the occasion of his retirement from the City of Petaluma Police Department.

Lt. Stapleton joined the Petaluma Police Department on April 4, 1988. Over the last 26 years, he has dedicated himself to ensuring the safety of our community. Through various specialized assignments, including SWAT, Investigations, Narcotics and Patrol, Lt. Stapleton has consistently demonstrated bravery in the line of duty. As an instructor, he has provided proper training to numerous law enforcement officers throughout Sonoma County. It is no surprise that Lt. Stapleton's outstanding supervisory and managerial skills have earned him many decorations throughout his career, such as Petaluma Police Officer of the Year, Petaluma City Employee of the Year, and the Medal of Bravery.

Lt. Stapleton's legacy is one of sincere passion for the most challenging police work and dedication to the community. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Lt. Matthew Stapleton for his long and singularly exceptional career, and for his outstanding record of service to the people of the City of Petaluma and Sonoma County.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
JOB CORPS PROGRAM

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Job Corps program, which was founded in 1965 as a key part of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty. Founded with the mission of empowering youth, ages 16 through 24, from disadvantaged backgrounds to improve their own quality of life, the Detroit Job Corps Center has been a vital part of the Southeast Michigan region by providing vocational and academic training.

Created under the administration of the U.S. Department of Labor under the Economic Opportunity Act, the dedicated staff of the Job Corps program have been working for half of a century to address the many different barriers that youth encounter in their efforts to obtain employment and attain independence. By providing youth with a combination of academic, vocational, and work-based learning experiences, alongside assistance with resume writing and interview preparation, the Job Corps program helps its students develop the tools they need to find stable, long-term, and well-paying jobs. Today, 125 Job Corps centers across the United States serve more than 60,000 youth annually, ensuring that employment is a goal that can be obtained regardless of one's personal circumstances.

To carry out the mission of the Job Corps program locally, the Detroit Job Corps Center

has engaged with an extensive network of community stakeholders in Southeast Michigan; which allows it to offer its students a wide array of experiences as they seek to build their skills and determine their future career path. Among its partners are Quicken Loans, the United Auto Workers, the NAACP, many local elected officials, Southwest Solutions and the Wayne County Department of Homeland Security. With these connections, the Detroit Job Corps Center has been able to offer its students internships and community service activities with organizations that are making a difference in the Southeast Michigan region, organizations like: The Greening of Detroit, the United Way of Southeast Michigan, Forgotten Harvest and the U.S. Veterans Administration.

The record of Detroit Job Corps Center is embodied in the success of its graduates, 95 percent of whom end up obtaining a college degree, pursuing advanced training, finding fulltime employment or serving our nation in the Armed Forces. Of the 125 Job Corps centers across the nation, the Detroit center ranks second in graduate ranking and sixth in overall program ranking for the 2013–2014 period. In recognition of its success, the Detroit Job Corps Center has received a National Job Corps Gold Star Award for outstanding achievement each year since 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the remarkable impact the Job Corps program has made over the last 50 years and it is my pleasure to specifically recognize the Detroit Job Corps Center for the work it has done to empower youth in the Southeast Michigan community to build a better future for themselves. As our economy becomes increasingly knowledge-based, the value and power of an education takes on an ever-growing importance. The work of the Job Corps program and the Detroit Job Corps Center is vital to ensuring that a quality education is available to all youth in our communities, regardless of their background or circumstances. I congratulate the Detroit Job Corps Center on its many achievements and wish its staff continued success in fulfilling the mission of the Job Corps program and realizing President Lyndon Johnson's dream of an America free of poverty.

HONORING JERRY YOUNG

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Jerry Young, who has been selected as President of the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Jerry Young was born in Scott, Mississippi to Reverend E.L. and Elizabeth Young. He was raised in the Mississippi Delta in the heart of the Civil Rights Era, enduring the pains and struggles of several disappointments, and beating the odds of his predetermined failures. Throughout his life, it became increasingly clear why God called Pastor Young to the ministry at the young age of seventeen. Young's service began at Mt. Tennia Baptist Church in Lamont, Mississippi and led to him serving as pastor of St. John and Pilgrim Rest Baptist Churches, both in Greenville, Mississippi.

Young has faithfully led the congregation of New Hope Baptist Church since 1980. He is the founder and headmaster of New Hope Christian Pre-School and New Hope Christian Elementary School, serving over 300 students.

Pastor Young attended Nugent Center High School in Bolivar County, Mississippi and went on to attain an Associate of Arts in Social Science from Coahoma Junior College in Clarksdale, Mississippi. He received a Bachelor of Science in Sociology and Social Welfare from Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi, where he met and married the love of his life, Mrs. Helen Akins Young. With her support and encouragement, Pastor Young has earned a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi.

Instilling the values of faith, education, and love, they are the proud parents of two daughters, Dr. Jerlen Nelson and Kelli Elizabeth Hart. Adding to their life's joy are their two adorable granddaughters, one grandson, and one step-grandson.

Dr. Young makes history as the first Mississippi pastor chosen to lead the National Baptist Convention. He was elected amongst five candidates nominated for the seat.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Jerry Young.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 494, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 495 and 496, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on both.

IN APPRECIATION OF COLONEL
PATRICK T. "SMACK" MCKENZIE

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Colonel Patrick T. "Smack" McKenzie, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force after 26 years of service.

I have had the pleasure of working with Smack on a number of occasions during his tenure in the Air Force House Liaison Office. I greatly appreciate and admire his professionalism, knowledge, and dedication, which has benefited me, and numerous other Members and staff.

Colonel McKenzie has given a great deal to this Nation through his distinguished and selfless service. He began his Air Force career as an ROTC Cadet and a "Jayhawk" at the University of Kansas—an allegiance he maintains to this day, as evidenced by the Jayhawk lanyard you will always see around his neck. Upon graduating in May 1988, he was competitively selected for pilot training at Reese AFB, Texas. He was the envy of Class 90–06, not only because of his perfectly restored red

1965 Pontiac GTO affectionately known as "The Goat", but also because as one of the top graduates, he was awarded the only F-16 training slot for the class. He was assigned to the 70th Fighter Squadron at Moody AFB, where he was certified as combat-ready and qualified for air-to-surface, air-to-air, and nuclear missions. He quickly caught the eye of his leadership, and was handpicked as one of only 15 squadron pilots qualified to operate the new LANTIRN system (Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night). He also caught the eye of his future wife, Jennifer, and they have been married now for 21 years. Col. McKenzie's skill as a fighter pilot was quickly recognized during his first deployment, patrolling the skies over Iraq for Operation Southern Watch. His leadership ability earned him a Regular commission and selection for Squadron Officer School, where he was a Distinguished Graduate.

Capt. McKenzie was then assigned to the 51st Operations Support Squadron at Osan Air Base in the Republic of Korea. He continued to impress as a Wing Plans Officer, maintaining critical operational plans for wartime taskings. He again rose above his peers as a pilot, winning the 51st Fighter Wing's Low Angle Strafe Top Gun award and selection as the Chief of Standardization and Evaluation for the 51st Operations Group—a position reserved for the Group's most skilled and trusted pilot. In this position, he was responsible for assessments and maintaining operational standards not only in his F-16 squadron, but also in the HH-60 rescue flight, and a C-12 flight, a job essential to deliver wartime capability. He so impressed his leadership, that even as a Captain he was identified as a "future squadron commander" and was selected for USAF Weapons School, the premier advanced weapons and tactics school for our Air Force Pilots. While there, he was praised for his research on F-16 Night Close Air Support and Targeting Aids, advancing our operational capabilities in this critical capacity. Captain McKenzie's training was put to immediate use with his assignment to the 510th Fighter Squadron at Aviano Air Base, Italy. He flew dozens of combat sorties during Operations Southern Watch, Decisive Edge, and Deliberate Guard, enforcing no-fly zones over Iraq and Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was also a Mission Commander for more than six large force packages in NATO's Operation Allied Force in Kosovo, for which he garnered praise for his skills, leadership, mission execution, and most importantly ensuring zero combat losses. Additionally, Smack was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement, planning the first NATO strike of Operation Allied Force to cross the Kosovo/Serbian border, defeating surface-to-air missiles, and executing the first-ever F-16 night attack utilizing Night Vision Goggles and the LANTIRN system to destroy an ammunition storage facility. As a Flight Commander, Weapons Officer, and Instructor Pilot he was recognized by his superiors as an "exceptional leader with unlimited potential", the "#1 Captain in the Group", the "Wing's top flight commander", and the USAFE Fighter Pilot of the Year. Smack was sent to Air Command and Staff College, where his tremendous leadership and team building skills led his peers to recognize him as the "Outstanding Team Member" for his class. Following school, he became the Assignments Officer for nearly

1,500 Air Force F-16 pilots, single-handedly managing the Air Force's largest group of pilots and maintaining 100 percent manning level despite historic shortages just after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

Lt. Col. McKenzie then moved to Luke AFB for a short period as the 56th Operations Support Squadron Operations Officer before being entrusted with his first command—the 310th Fighter Squadron "Top Hats"—the largest fighter squadron at Luke, responsible for the only formal Forward Air Controller-Airborne course, which has been a vital capability in the War on Terror. He was heralded as the "top warrior and leader of 618 officers" and led his unit to the 56th Operations Group "Top Squadron" award. Following this highly successful command, Lt. Col. McKenzie attended National War College at Fort McNair and received a Master of Science in National Security Strategy. He then went to U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, VA where he provided readiness analysis on current operations, and was a liaison with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Government Accountability Office, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff on all readiness related issues. He provided critical data and assessments for the planning of Operation Enduring Freedom which were influential in leadership decisions. Col. McKenzie then Commanded the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. There he profoundly impacted the Global War on Terror, directing air operations and leading over 830 troops to execute over 24,000 missions, dropping 1.1 million pounds of ordnance, and delivering 37,000 tons of cargo—the busiest operation in the CENTCOM area of responsibility. Following this tremendous performance, Col. McKenzie was challenged with a new role as the SECAF's legislative liaison to Congress for all USAF air and space weapon systems, ensuring the Air Force message and priorities were consistently and convincingly articulated to directly ensure the full authorization of their \$120 billion budget. Smack was then sent back to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea to command the 51st Fighter Wing "Mustangs" where he previously spent time as a Captain. He was the Joint installation commander for over 10,200 personnel, executing the Combat Air Force's largest and most highly-utilized A-10 and F-16 operation in a tense location, just 6 minutes flight time to North Korea. "At", "inspiring", and "superb" were just a few words used to describe his tenure there. After his highly successful tour as a Wing Commander, the Air Force returned Smack to legislative liaison work by assigning him to one of the most demanding positions within the Air Force, his current job as the Chief of Air Force House Liaison. Since July 2013, Smack has advised the Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Director of Legislative Liaison, and numerous other senior military and civilian leaders on issues of the greatest concern to the Air Force and Congress. He has been more than a liaison between the Pentagon and the Hill, he developed and improved key relationships to enable the Congress to make better decisions about the future of the Air Force and our national defense. He is extremely intelligent and articulate, and has helped shape my thinking and influenced many Members of Congress. Simply put, we trust him and will miss him!

Col. McKenzie is a command pilot with over 3,200 flying hours and 630 combat hours in

the F-16. He is the recipient of numerous major medals and decorations for his service and accomplishments. The most significant of these include the Defense Superior Service medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and Meritorious Service medal.

Throughout his distinguished career he has represented our country and the Air Force with dignity and honor, and this is why I'm so privileged to pay tribute to this fine Airman. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congress and the United States of America, I thank Colonel Patrick McKenzie, his wife Jennifer, and their daughter Ashleigh, for their service and sacrifices of the past 26 years. I wish them Godspeed, and continued happiness as they start this new chapter in their lives.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, as the Republic of China, which is commonly called Taiwan, celebrates its National Day, Double Ten Day, or the tenth day of October, we in the Congress look back upon the many years of close cooperation with its leaders. Cemented by the Taiwan Relations Act, the relationship we have enjoyed over decades has given meaning to what friendship between two peoples is all about.

To complement this relationship in actively engaging with Mainland China is the constructive initiative taken by Taiwan's present leader, President Ma Ying-jeou. By doing this, President Ma is lessening tensions among those parties concerned and contributing to the peace and stability of the region. We are currently faced with many unsettling events of terrorism and conflict out of the Middle East and Europe.

Taiwan is a living example of how leadership can contribute to peaceful resolution if the intent is well-meaning and balanced. On this auspicious day of Double Ten, we congratulate President Ma for continuing to redouble his efforts in tamping down the flames of conflict in Asia. I don't think the world can handle another conflict among nations right now. Thank you so much President Ma and Taiwan for creating a peaceful environment when there is so much strife in many other parts of the globe.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GLEN MILLS SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of The Glen Mills School and to acknowledge the life-changing work it does for young men.

One hundred twenty five years ago the cornerstone was laid at the Glen Mills School. Today, the Glen Mills School is the oldest institution in the country of its kind. The Glen