

family settled in Acworth, where they have lived ever since.

Kalafut was a loving father to his 5 children and his wife, Mary Qualls-Kalafut. His unwavering devotion to his family and his country will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to Commander Kalafut's family and loved ones during this most difficult of times.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF REVEREND RONALD WINTERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Ronald Winters and to congratulate him on his retirement following 49 years of pastoral service to the Northern Virginia Community.

Rev. Winters is a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, where he graduated from Crispus Attucks High School in June 1950. He served honorably in the United States Navy and then attended Bishop College in Marshall, Texas. In 1969, Rev. Winters received the Bachelor of Theology and Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degrees from Baltimore College of Bible and Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland.

Reverend Winters was licensed to the Gospel Ministry by First Baptist Church of North Indianapolis, Indiana in 1954 and ordained to the work of the Gospel Ministry by Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Rockville, Maryland in 1965. He served as Pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Herndon, Virginia from 1965 to 1972, Shiloh Baptist Church in McLean, Virginia from 1973 to 1987, and Peace Baptist Church in Dunn Loring, Virginia from 1988 to 1993. In 1994, Reverend Winters organized the Resurrection Baptist Church of Reston, Virginia where he has served as Pastor for the past nineteen years.

Rev. Winters has also been involved in numerous religious and community service organizations. He is the former First Vice Moderator of the Northern Virginia Baptist Association; member of the Board of Directors of One Church One Child of Virginia; Life Member and Past President of the Fairfax County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and member of the Board of Directors of the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation. He is the past President of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Northern Virginia and a previous Board member of Food for Others in Northern Virginia.

Reverend Winters' professional experience as a United States Senate Staff member included Special Assistant for Minority Affairs for Senator Vance Hartke (1960–1973); Assistant Chief Clerk for the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (1973–1975); Special Assistant to Senator Harrison A. Williams (1975–1982); and Special Assistant to Senator Nicholas F. Brady (1982–1983). In 1970, he offered the convening prayer in the chamber of the United States Senate and in 1968 his "Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." was published in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Rev. Winters for his service to the church, his community, and our country and in congratulating him on his well-deserved retirement.

SANDY REINVESTMENT
EXTENSION ACT OF 2014

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, just over two weeks ago marked the second anniversary of Superstorm Sandy's landfall in New Jersey. I toured several areas hit hardest by the storm, meeting with residents and local officials who have been working at the ground level throughout the recovery. Their resiliency is ever-present, and much progress has been made. It remains clear however that as residents and businesses continue to rebuild, the federal government can do more to ensure a full recovery by incentivizing continued investment in the hard-hit communities.

Many will never forget the iconic images following the storm of Casino Pier's Jet Star roller coaster standing in the Atlantic Ocean off the shore of Seaside Heights, NJ. Businesses such as Casino Pier would eventually receive insurance payments for their lost or damaged property, a transaction known as an "involuntary conversion" under the U.S. tax code. Once the involuntary conversion occurs, businesses have a two-year replacement period, after which time any gain may be recognized and subject to taxation.

With amusement rides and other costly business assets, full replacement can be impossible within the two-year period. Accordingly, following past disasters—including Hurricane Katrina, the 2007 Kansas storms, and 2008 Midwest storms, floods, and tornadoes—Congress has extended the replacement period to five years, giving businesses the time they need to reinvest the money in the community. The Sandy Reinvestment Extension Act of 2014 would provide the same extension to those affected in the Sandy disaster area, and would apply only where the replacement property is of substantial use in the same area—ensuring reinvestment in the affected communities.

This legislation complements bills I have co-sponsored—the Hurricane Sandy Tax Relief Act (H.R. 2137) and the Mortgage Forgiveness Tax Relief Act (H.R. 2994)—that together provide critical tax relief for homeowners and businesses still struggling to recover from Sandy. As we have learned from many previous natural disasters, recoveries take time, and victims are burdened long after the storm has passed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider the Sandy Reinvestment Extension Act of 2014 and other critical tax relief legislation that will provide homeowners and businesses in the Sandy-impacted region with the assistance and tools needed for a full recovery.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF SAMUEL A. ALLEN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commemorate the life and dedi-

cated service of Crestview, Florida's beloved Mr. Samuel A. Allen, who passed away on November 5, 2014. Mr. Allen was a veteran, inspirational teacher, committed public servant, and loving family man. The entire Northwest Florida community mourns the loss of a great and compassionate individual.

Mr. Allen was born on November 4, 1921, in Tallahassee, Florida, to the late Samuel and Aljonia Allen, who instilled in him the teachings of Jesus Christ at an early age. As a young adult, Mr. Allen honorably served our Nation as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1946 before "discharging from the military and [falling] head over heels in love with a beautiful girl in Texas," as he would say. He married his beautiful girl, the late Caroline J. Barker, on June 5, 1946.

Mr. Allen enjoyed a long and successful career as an educator. He taught in the Okaloosa County School district for 34 years at Charles Drew High School in Baker, Florida, and at Carver Hill High School and Richbourg Junior High School in Crestview, Florida, until he retired in 1983. Mr. Allen's pride in his teaching was extremely evident by the impression he left on others. In addition to his exceptional work in the classroom, Mr. Allen was also a leader in Northwest Florida's civic society, and on November 4, 1968, Mr. Allen became the first African-American elected as a councilman to the Crestview City Council, on which he served for 11 years.

In addition to his successful career and selfless leadership in the Northwest Florida community, Mr. Allen was also a member of Lebanon Baptist Church of Baker, a member of their Trustee Board, a Sunday School Superintendent-Teacher and Student, the transportation chairperson, and was active in the Progressive District of West Florida Association. From his humble beginnings, Mr. Allen achieved tremendous success throughout his lifetime, and his commitment to service never wavered. To some, Mr. Allen will be remembered as a man of integrity who devoted his life to public service and the shaping of the youth of Northwest Florida. To his family and friends, he will always be remembered for his loving and caring demeanor, and his dedication to his family.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is a privilege for me to honor the life and dedicated service of Mr. Samuel A. Allen. My wife Vicki and I extend our prayers and sincere condolences to his son, Samuel Jr.; his daughter, Aljonia; five grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; one great-great grandson; and the entire Allen family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMBAT OPERATIONS OF THE 55TH ELECTRONIC COMBAT GROUP

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 55th Electronic Combat Group, the Compass Call mission, and its 25th anniversary of combat operations in defense of our great nation. Compass Call is a United States Air Force mission that uses modified C-130s to fly above contested airspace, jamming

enemy command and control communications. By targeting enemy navigation, radar and data systems, Compass Call helps save lives on the ground and in the air.

This Saturday, current and past members of the Compass Call mission will be taking part in a reunion in Tucson, Arizona, my home district. Since Operation Just Cause ended the military dictatorship of Manuel Noriega in Panama, Compass Call has been flying in every major conflict over the past 25 years.

Spanning the last eleven years, Compass Call has provided exceptional electronic warfare protection for the United States and allied forces in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. To date, the mission has amassed 37,000 combat hours and there is a high likelihood that at this moment, there is an EC-130H flying overhead providing coverage for our troops.

I am proud that Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson is home to Compass Call. No state is as fiercely loyal to our service members as Arizona.

It is our honor to celebrate with the 55th Electronic Combat Group as they reunite this weekend.

It is no wonder that the group has been awarded the Air Force's 2014 Electronic Combat Annual Award Program Unit of the Year and the Air Force's Association of Old Crows Outstanding Electronic Combat Unit of the Year.

What these men and women do behind the scenes may not get much attention but it is what wins wars.

RECOGNIZING JAMES P. MORAN'S
LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to recognize my friend and colleague, JIM MORAN, for a distinguished career in public service spanning four decades. JIM announced earlier this year that he would not seek re-election to Congress, where he has spent the last 24 years as a formidable advocate for Northern Virginia and the entire Commonwealth of Virginia. For anyone who knows him, JIM's passion for public service is apparent. He wears it on his sleeve like a badge of honor. Throughout his career, he has been a proponent for protecting the environment, a defender of the downtrodden, and a champion for commonsense, responsive government, even if that meant challenging his own party.

I have had the pleasure of knowing JIM since his days serving on the Alexandria City Council, where he was first elected in 1979. He'd already amassed a respectable career in public service by that point, working for the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Library of Congress, and the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations. During JIM's tenure on the City Council, Alexandria was experiencing rapid growth along with the rest of Northern Virginia. He was elected Mayor in 1985 and re-elected to a second term.

At the urging of his late friend, Mame Reiley, and others in the community, JIM decided to run for Congress in 1990. He chal-

lenged and defeated 5-term incumbent Republican Stan Parris—I know for some it might be inconceivable that a Republican ever represented the 8th District, but it just demonstrates how much the demographics of the district have shifted. JIM did not waste time making his mark on any number of local, national, and international issues. He quickly became a champion for consumers, working to prohibit state motor vehicle agencies from selling personal information to mail order companies and other organizations, and he worked in bipartisan fashion with our former colleagues Dan Burton and Ed Markey to pass legislation that allowed parents to better monitor and control the television viewing habits of their children.

He was an early, outspoken critic of the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and has been a consistent advocate for LGBT rights. JIM was one of 67 members to oppose the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996. Nearly 20 years later, he can feel a sense of vindication knowing Don't Ask, Don't Tell was repealed in 2011 and 30 states now recognize same-sex marriage, with more likely to join them as the courts continue to question the constitutionality of banning such marriages.

Following one of the worst tragedies to befall our nation on 9/11, JIM was instrumental in the fight to restore air service, which had been temporarily suspended, at National Airport. He also helped lead the charge in questioning the legitimacy of the Bush administration's case in the build up to the war in Iraq, ultimately voting against the use of military force—something we continue to debate to this day as other conflicts in the Middle East have erupted. It was JIM who later introduced legislative language requiring regular reports to Congress on the Strategy for Success, including performance metrics which have since become benchmark standards.

Through it all, JIM never lost sight of his local government roots. Early in his tenure, he helped secure passage of legislation requiring the CBO and other agencies to analyze and report on the fiscal impacts of federal legislation on state and local governments, capturing the unfunded mandates, something to which I wish more of our colleagues in Congress would pay greater attention. He also partnered with our former colleague Tom Davis, the Clinton administration, and former District of Columbia Mayor Tony Williams to advance D.C. Home Rule and reduce Congressional restrictions on the District. During my tenure on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, we worked closely with JIM and the rest of our Congressional delegation on the closure of the D.C.-operated Lorton Prison, and the eventual sale of the 3,000-acre former prison property to the County for use as parkland, public facilities, and limited economic development.

JIM's fingerprints also are visible on most major transportation improvements across Northern Virginia in the last two decades. He worked with the regional delegation and leveraged his position on the Appropriations Committee to help secure the major federal commitment to help Virginia and Maryland replace the aging Woodrow Wilson Bridge, the only federally owned bridge in the nation. Later, JIM worked with Fairfax County and the Commonwealth to convince the Pentagon to help build a new road skirting the outer edge of Fort Belvoir after two popular commuter routes through the base were closed following 9/11.

He also was instrumental in securing federal commitments to help the region absorb the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure movements, in which Fort Belvoir saw the largest net increase in military personnel. Richmond Highway provides the primary access point to the base, which has no transit connection, and JIM helped secure funding to widen the already clogged Route 1 to ensure the new workers and visitors to Belvoir could actually get there.

In addition to those road improvements, JIM worked with the regional delegation to secure the long-term capital funding agreement with Metro, in which the federal government has committed to match the contributions from Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. And I was pleased to stand with JIM and our colleague FRANK WOLF, who is also retiring after 34 years in Congress, at the recent ribbon cutting ceremony for Metro's new Silver Line. That one project has been more than 50 years in the making and will have a transformative effect on the National Capital Region, and JIM and FRANK were among those who helped us finally push it over the finish line.

From his days working at the Department of Health to his tenure as chairman of the House Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, JIM has labored to make government work better for our constituents and our communities and to ensure we have competent and committed public workforce to advance our shared priorities. It is fitting that we use the occasion of the 8th Congressional District Democratic Committee's annual Kennedy-King Dinner, which honors the legacies of Sen. Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to celebrate the tremendous record of accomplishment of JIM MORAN. Like others in our generation, JIM stepped forward to accept the baton to carry on Bobby Kennedy and Dr. King's mission to promote a civil, just, and prosperous society. Mame Reiley, who we tragically lost earlier this year to breast cancer, was the impetus behind this annual gathering, and we rightfully take a moment to honor her legacy of service as well.

Though she ran her own communications firm, Mame's true calling was as a political strategist. As noted earlier, she counseled JIM on his first run for Congress and went on to serve as his campaign manager and first Chief of Staff. She was elected to the Democratic National Committee from Virginia, chairing the Women's Caucus. She advised former Gov. Doug Wilder in his Presidential exploratory campaign and went on to serve in political advisory roles for Gov. Mark Warner and Gov. Tim Kaine. She also advised JIM's brother, Brian, in his bid for statewide office. There is no question JIM and Mame were a dynamic political duo, and their collective efforts have touched and improved lives throughout the community.

In closing, let me just say that for me personally, JIM MORAN is first and foremost, a dear friend. When I came to Congress as the junior member of the Northern Virginia delegation, JIM was there for me every step of the way. We've become true partners and have collaborated on hundreds of issues facing our region, and I hope to be able to continue calling on his counsel. I wish him and his family all the best as he begins this new chapter of his life, and I congratulate him on a meaningful legacy of service and accomplishment for which any of us in public life could be proud.