

Tony served as a staff member for Congressman Bernie Sisk for 13 years, ultimately becoming his Chief of Staff. As staff, Tony honed his political skills and his knowledge of water and agricultural issues in the Central Valley. When Congressman Sisk announced his retirement, Tony ran to succeed him and won the seat in 1978.

After serving just one term in office, in 1981, Tony was selected to be chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee whose main job was to help get Democrats elected to Congress. He professionalized the campaign committee raising more money than had ever been raised before from traditionally Republican interests as well as Democratic interests to support worthy Democratic candidates. He also developed the permanent infrastructure comprised of pollsters, speech writers, and fundraising staff to enable Democrats to be competitive in races. Due to his success, in 1986, Tony was the first-elected House Majority Whip, third in line to the House Speakership. As Majority Whip, Tony secured the votes needed to pass the Democratic legislative agenda.

One of Tony's greatest accomplishments in Congress was serving as the primary sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This legislation has provided people with disabilities equal access to employment, public facilities, and transportation and has made it possible for them to become a full participating member of society. Since the passage of the law in 1990, millions of Americans have found employment that had previously known only discrimination. It is considered the most important piece of civil rights legislation in the past 30 years.

Although Tony resigned from Congress in 1989, he continued to dedicate time to public service and has remained deeply committed to his work in the disabilities movement. For many years, Tony has worked closely with the Epilepsy Foundation of America, serving as a national spokesperson, Board President, and fundraiser. He was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and Vice Chair of the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities as well as Co-Chair to the U.S. Census Monitoring Board. Tony also served as the U.S. Commissioner General to the 1998 World Exposition in Lisbon, Portugal.

Tony also has stayed very active politically. In 2000, he served as chairman of the Gore presidential campaign and continues to serve as an informal adviser to numerous Members of Congress and elected officials at all levels of government.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize a mentor and friend to many of us, Tony Coelho. He has made a lasting difference in our nation, and we must thank him for his unwavering commitment and service.

## RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA

**HON. PATRICK MURPHY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the City of Stuart, Florida, which I am so proud to have located in my Congressional District.

The City of Stuart, with its ideal location bordering the St. Lucie River and West of the Indian River, has long been a key destination for those looking to connect with the water, whether through fishing, boating, or other activities. Famed for its Sailfishing and other types of sport fishing, Stuart is known as the "Sailfish Capital of the World." The city offers a scenic and historic downtown, with museums, live music, and numerous dining and shopping options.

For the past 100 years, the City of Stuart has worked to promote and advance the interests and well-being of its residents and of the environment. Stuart has played a leading role in protecting and restoring local waterways from pollution, understanding that this issue impacts the community's entire way of life. Stuart's water treatment facility has received numerous awards for its efforts and dedication to protecting our waters, including the Operations Excellence Award from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Medium Public Water System of the Year award from the Florida Rural Water Association.

I am incredibly honored to represent the City of Stuart in Congress. This is a city whose beauty is paralleled only by the work ethic and dedication of its people, creating jobs and boosting economic growth. This is a city that knows the importance of protecting our environment, and is working to preserve it for our children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I again congratulate the City of Stuart on their centennial anniversary, and I wish them many more milestones to celebrate.

## THE DALLES READINESS CENTER

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take the opportunity to recognize the newly completed Fort Dalles Readiness Center in The Dalles, Oregon. For the past fifteen years, the Oregon Military Department, Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles Outreach Team, and other local, state, and federal officials have worked tirelessly to bring this innovative project to life. The Readiness Center will be home to the Oregon National Guard's Alpha Company, 3-116 Cavalry and replaces the original unit armory built in 1951. What makes this building so unique is its dual-use capability and its state-of-the-art construction. Situated on the campus of the Columbia Gorge Community College, the Readiness Center complex will host not only the unit's 150 soldiers during regular monthly drills, but

also share a large portion of its nearly 63,000 square foot space with the college for use as a lecture hall and workforce training center for students, and flexible rental space for the community at large. The Readiness Center is likely the first armory in the country to achieve "net zero" energy consumption, meaning it will produce as much energy on site as it uses, and will serve as an example of efficiency for Oregon Military Department's future armory projects. The building's solar panels, sod roof, and geo-thermal heat pump system also will serve as a working classroom for the college's Renewable Energy Program.

I would be remiss to not point out the Center's special relationship with Columbia Gorge Community College. Throughout his tenure as college president, Dr. Frank Toda, a 30-year veteran of the Air Force, has maintained his commitment to his fellow veterans and the local citizen-soldiers of the Oregon National Guard. This dedication was reflected in Columbia Gorge Community College being recognized as among the top fifteen percent of schools nationwide in helping returning veterans acquire needed job skills.

The Fort Dalles Readiness Center will be officially dedicated to the public on April 17, 2014. While I cannot be there to help the community celebrate its success, I believe it fitting to recognize the years of hard work and steadfast devotion by all of those involved.

## OPPOSE THE PAUL RYAN BUDGET

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to the severely regressive Paul Ryan Budget Proposal a "slash and burden" bill written on the backs of programs and tax cuts that grievously affect low-income and middle-class Americans.

The Ryan plan proposes a pathway to American prosperity by attempting to balance our nation's budget through vicious cuts to programs that working people rely on, paired with cuts to taxes for the wealthy. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, sixty-nine percent of Ryan's cuts would come from low-income programs while the richest one percent of Americans would enjoy nearly a fifty percent tax cut.

One of the many low-income programs that would feel the sharp effects of the Ryan Budget proposal is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also referred to as SNAP. SNAP funding would be cut by \$137 billion over ten years effectively starving millions of families and children and furthering the economic instability of Americans.

These cuts would force states to decide whose benefits to reduce or terminate. They would have no good choices; the program already provides an average of \$1.40 per person per meal primarily to poor children, working-poor parents, seniors, people with disabilities and others struggling to make ends meet.

These proposed cuts rest on inaccurate claims about how the SNAP program discourages work and encourages waste, fraud and abuse. Chairman Ryan claims that SNAP doesn't encourage recipients to work. Yet, among SNAP households with at least one

working-age, non-disabled adult, more than half work while receiving SNAP and more than eighty percent worked in the year prior to or the year after receiving SNAP. The rates are even higher for families with children; more than sixty percent work while receiving SNAP, and almost ninety percent worked in the prior or subsequent year.

Chairman Ryan and House Republicans continue to push for devastating cuts that virtually eliminate assistance for millions of low-income Americans, instead of working to help lift them out of poverty AND away from government assistance by refusing something as fair and practical as raising the minimum wage.

The Ryan budget threatens the most basic needs of millions of Americans already struggling to make ends meet. It significantly increases hunger, poverty and hardship. It is for these reasons that I will vote NO on this budget and I ask my colleagues to oppose this budget with me.

RECOGNIZING THE PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS AS 2013-14 SOUTHERN PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE PRESIDENT'S CUP CHAMPIONS

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pensacola Ice Flyers on winning their second consecutive Southern Professional Hockey League President's Cup Championship. This outstanding achievement is evidence of the hard work and dedication of the entire Ice Flyers' organization.

Northwest Florida has a long and storied history as the "Cradle of Naval Aviation," and the Ice Flyers name was chosen to honor this legacy. Since joining the Southern Professional Hockey League in 2009, the Ice Flyers have been consistent contenders—reaching three straight President's Cup Championship finals and bringing two championships home to Pensacola.

This season, the Ice Flyers experienced unparalleled success also winning the Coffey Trophy as the league's best regular season team. En route to these titles, the Ice Flyers set several Southern Professional Hockey League records, including the most wins, most points, highest winning percentage, most road wins, fewest regulation losses, and longest road winning streak. The Ice Flyers boasted the league's best offense scoring more than 200 goals, while also allowing the fewest goals in the league. The Ice Flyers regular season was so outstanding that they posted a better regular season record on the road than any other team in the league had on home ice.

The Ice Flyers did not allow their regular season dominance to engender complacency, and when the playoffs began, the Ice Flyers raised their game to another level. The team averaged four goals per game while giving up just over one, and the deeper that they went into the postseason, the better the Ice Flyers performed. They posted an impressive 6-1 postseason mark, setting the playoff record for the highest road winning percentage. The Ice Flyers, however, proved to be truly clutch per-

formers, saving the best for the President's Cup Championship, where they set the playoff record for most goals in one game, most goals in one series, and largest winning margin.

In addition to their tremendous success on the ice, the Ice Flyers fans also proved that they are the most dedicated fan base in the Southern Professional Hockey League. The team shattered the league's attendance record, with more than 114,000 fans attending games at the Pensacola Bay Center, and three busloads of fans made the trip to watch the Ice Flyers defeat the Columbus Cottonmouths to clinch their second straight President's Cup Championship.

On behalf of the United States Congress, it is my privilege to congratulate the Ice Flyers players—Ryan Salvis, Steve Bergin, Shaun Arvai, Brett Lutes, Ross MacKinnon, Malcolm Lyles, Tyler Amburgey, Drew Baker, Keegan Flaherty, Paul Rodrigues, Joshua Turnbull, Mitchell Good, Steve Whitely, Joe Caveney, Adam Pawlick, Corey Banfield, Peter Di Salvo, John Dunbar, Jeremy Gates, and Joe Buelte—and their staff of Majority Owner Greg Harris, Head Coach Rod Aldoff, President Chuck McCartney, Group Sales Manager Patrick Casey, Merchandise Manager Josh Kersh, Communications Manager Geoff Nichols, Director of Ticketing Tom Reading, Manager of Corporate Partnerships and Fan Experience Brittany Tindell, Athletic Trainer Jen Lorenzo, and Equipment Manager Mark Bradtmueller on a fantastic season and another championship success. My wife Vicki and I are proud to have the Ice Flyers call Pensacola home and to honor our long and proud history as the Cradle of Naval Aviation with their name, and we wish them continued success and many more championships to come.

COLONEL GEORGE McDOWELL

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to live to be 100 years old is in and of itself a remarkable accomplishment. But, to do what Colonel George McDowell has done in his life is truly impressive. His patriotic legacy of military service is one of the best examples of a founding member of the Greatest Generation.

Born in Detroit, Texas on August 27, 1913, McDowell grew up like most rural Texas children. At the age of 17, he enrolled in North Texas Agricultural College (now the University of Texas at Arlington). In the 1930s, this college served primarily as a military academy. In less than two years, McDowell graduated and decided to attend a third year to command D Company. This decision proved to be life-changing: in 1933, he earned a competitive appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point where he eventually served as president of his class. He graduated four years later, in 1937, as a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery.

McDowell started his military career at Fort Sill, Oklahoma in the 18th Field Artillery, a horse-drawn artillery unit. There, he trained with new long range guns, participated in the development of bomb handling equipment and worked with specialized vehicles that would be

used during World War II. He learned the fundamentals of how to support the U.S. Infantry with close fire support.

In Oklahoma, McDowell's friend from West Point, Lt. William Westmoreland (Class of 1936), later the Vietnam Commander, set him up on a blind date with Rae Woods. Rae, an Army "brat" of an Artillery Officer also stationed at Fort Sill, would soon become Mrs. McDowell.

Two years later, with the mechanization of the Army, McDowell was transferred to the Ordnance Department for duty with the Air Corps. He attended the Aviation Ordnance School at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland and at Langley Field in Virginia. There, he served as an instructor and participated in developing bomb-handling equipment and specialized vehicles that were used in World War II.

With the Germans invading across Europe and the Japanese seeking to gain ground in Asia, the U.S. Army and Air Corps were expanding quickly. Under this expansion, McDowell was assigned positions at Ordnance Officer at Bowman Field, Kentucky, Ireland Task Force, New Orleans Air Base and at Birmingham Air Base in Alabama as Ordnance Officer, Third Support Command.

By the summer of 1942, McDowell was ordered to Washington D.C. to serve in the redesignated 12th Air Support Command of the Western Task Force to prepare for the North African campaign under the command of General Patton. McDowell was in charge of logistical planning, including movement of units and equipment, in the invasion of French Morocco called Operation Torch.

General Patton and his troops, along with McDowell, arrived in Morocco at the port of Casablanca aboard the USS *Augusta* in the fall of 1942. Within three days, Casablanca fell, providing the U.S. a strong military port. This Campaign built up the power of the U.S. Armed Forces leading into World War II by eventually pushing the German forces out of North Africa.

McDowell then spent two years overseas in North Africa and Italy. There he was responsible for the logistics for arms and equipment necessary for both the Royal Air Force and the U.S. Tactical Air Support for the Fifth and Eighth Army Operations. In 1944, two years after deploying, McDowell was assigned to the War Department general staff where he was responsible for standardizing and approving procurement of newly developed small arms, ammunition, and specialized vehicles for the Army and Air Corps units.

Upon returning home from World War II, part of America's Greatest Generation, McDowell wanted to do more with his life. He took his experience and knowledge from West Point and his military service and enrolled at Harvard Business School where he earned an MBA degree in 1948. After Harvard, McDowell was then transferred from the Army to the Air Force, and he served at the Air Force's Headquarters at the Pentagon and at Wright Patterson Air Force Base from 1948-1955. He signed the procurement order and oversaw the installment of the first four UNIVAC computers for the Air Force, the Navy, the Bureau of Census, and Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

McDowell then studied for one year at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and re-assigned from 1958-1960 to the Air Force's