

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Jack and his teammates demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jack on a job well done, and wishing him nothing but continued success in all his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF JOHN F. HEGARTY,
NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE
POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of John F. Hegarty, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU) and the United States Postal Service (USPS). John retired on May 1, 2015 and has moved back to his beloved Western Massachusetts.

The son of Charles and Ann Marie Hegarty, John was born on January 31, 1955 in Holyoke but grew up on Rupert Street in Springfield, before moving his family to Wilbraham, MA, where he currently resides.

Mr. Speaker, John Hegarty attended Commerce High School. After graduation like many of his contemporaries he sought work. He worked at Titeflex in Springfield and started his union career as a steward (Teamsters Union) representing his fellow workers. John left Titeflex in 1985 when the USPS called and he started his Postal career.

John was National President of the National Postal Mail Handlers Union from July 2002 to his retirement. He was re-elected to that position by acclamation of the delegates to the Union's National Conventions in 2004, 2008, and 2012. In this capacity, John is the chief spokesperson for the NPMHU in national bargaining with the USPS.

For the ten years prior to becoming National President, John served as Administrative Vice President for the General Mail Facility/Bulk Mail Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. He then became President of Local 301 in New England, one of the largest local unions affiliated with the NPMHU, covering six states. In addition, beginning in 1996, he also served on the NPMHU National Executive Board of the NPMHU's parent union, the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA).

Mr. Speaker, John Hegarty is known for his generous spirit and kind heart. He has had the good fortune to be married to his wife, Constance, for thirty-three years. John and Connie are proud parents of two children, two grandchildren with a third on the way.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to join with John Hegarty's family, friends, and contemporaries to thank him for his extraordinary service to the National Postal Mail Handlers and the United States Postal Service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPT.
RICHARD "DICK" CURRIER

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of retired Navy Captain Richard "Dick" Currier, the commanding officer who oversaw the construction of what was known then as Naval Submarine Support Base Kings Bay.

Captain Currier spent most of his Navy career in the submarine service during the transition from diesel to nuclear-powered submarines. He joined the Navy in 1954 and served upon four surface ships before becoming a submariner. As his first sea duty, Captain Currier served aboard the diesel powered submarine USS *Grampus*. After that tour of duty, he was sent to nuclear power school and was assigned to the nuclear submarine USS *Scorpion*. Five more submarine assignments followed, three of which he served as the commanding officer.

Captain Currier's last duty assignment started in 1983 as the commanding officer of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay in St. Marys, Georgia. At the time of his arrival, only 100 people were assigned to the base. Kings Bay's pier was still under construction, a majority of roads were unpaved, and most buildings were still in the planning stages. Under Captain Currier's leadership Kings Bay developed into the Navy gem of Georgia's Golden Isles.

Captain Currier retired after 34 years of service and continued to be active in the St. Marys community where he served on the board of directors for the St. Mary's Submarine Museum among other roles.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the service and life of Captain Richard "Dick" Currier, a pioneer of Kings Bay who will always be remembered.

TRIBUTE TO JHETT WILLIAMS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jhett Williams of Madison County, Iowa, for qualifying for the National Junior High Rodeo Finals in breakaway roping, team roping, and chute dogging.

Each summer, approximately 1,000 youth competitors from across the country qualify to compete for scholarships and prizes at the National Junior High Rodeo Finals. I commend Jhett for his hard work and dedication to achieving his goals. He is a phenomenal young role model for others who are aspiring to compete in this prestigious national event.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I represent Iowans like Jhett in the U.S. House of Representatives. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jhett on a job well done, and wishing him nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 469, my flight was delayed due to inclement weather.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

TRIBUTE TO ANITA LYONS BOND,
PH.D.

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable woman and long-time civic icon in St. Louis, Missouri, who has set a standard of excellence in academics, educational reform, social justice, community leadership and personal courage, Dr. Anita Lyons Bond.

Anita Lyons Bond has been making history for decades. As the first African American student to graduate with Latin Honors from Saint Louis University in 1949, she has devoted her life to opening up the doors of equal educational opportunity to all, especially those students in urban areas who are still striving to overcome difficult circumstances and persistent academic disparities.

In May of this year, as she presented an honorary doctorate to Mrs. Bond, Saint Louis University trustee Martha Uhlhorn recognized her "extraordinary determination, her exemplary character, her exceptional commitment to education, her concerns for others, her fearless focus on social justice and her desire to provide equal access to education for all students."

In 1965, Mrs. Bond challenged the Missouri Board of Education's elections. Her lawsuit, contending civil rights violations, went to the Missouri Supreme Court and ultimately resulted in changes in election procedures. Later that year, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis honored her with the Argus Distinguished Public Service Award for her service to the city as a leader in education and in the community.

Mrs. Bond established the Citizens Education Task Force, an organization funded through the Danforth Foundation that functioned as an independent critical body of the Board of Education.

In 1974, she became president of the St. Louis Board of Education. She served the board in various roles and was instrumental in the Board of Education and the Higher Educational Council establishing Harris-Stowe as a state college, rather than a secondary school.

In 1981, U.S. District Judge James Meredith appointed her to serve on the committee that wrote the St. Louis public school desegregation plan. She also served on the boards of the YMCA, NAACP, Urban League, United Negro College Fund and others. The NAACP named her one of the "Most Outstanding St. Louisans."

Mrs. Bond has also served as a delegate to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and is a nationally recognized educational expert in special techniques of speech correction for the culturally disadvantaged.

I have known Mrs. Bond, her late husband (the remarkable Dr. Leslie Bond), and her wonderful family since my earliest days growing up in St. Louis. Both she and her husband stood shoulder-to-shoulder with my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, as he led the historic Jefferson Bank protests which broke down the walls of segregation in our city.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring this great American who has helped so many and continues to inspire us to have courage, to work towards transformative change, and to confront injustice and inequality wherever it exists.

TRIBUTE TO THE ATTACK 121 VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Attack 121 Volleyball Team of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for qualifying for the USA Volleyball Junior National Tournament. The competition began June 27th and ran through June 30th.

This team dedicated their time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend them for their hard work and determination. They were able to come together to achieve great success.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this group of young Iowans demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating the Attack 121 volleyball team on a job well done, and wishing them nothing but continued success as they continue their volleyball careers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 468; my flight was delayed due to inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

HONORING TURLOCK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF TIM LOHMAN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock City Fire Department Chief Tim Lohman, who announced his retirement after serving 35 years in the fire service.

Since the beginning of his career, Tim Lohman has always been dedicated to the Turlock City Fire Department. On July 1, 1980, he took his first step into the Department by becoming a Volunteer Firefighter. After only three years of hard work and perseverance, Tim Lohman succeeded in becoming a full-time Firefighter for the City of Turlock. There he worked at all levels of the department including Fire Engineer, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief, Division Chief of Training, and Division Chief of Operations. On account of his commitment, professionalism, and integrity he had demonstrated throughout the years, Tim Lohman was awarded the high rank of Fire Chief four years ago.

Response times and personnel safety are a priority to Chief Lohman, and during his tenure as Fire Chief, he ensured many technological advances to the Turlock City Fire Department to achieve this goal. He oversaw the installation of Mobile Data Computers to each fire engine, which provided the crews with the most recent advances in mapping systems and programs. Furthermore, Chief Lohman oversaw the implementation of the 911 system and other additions that changed the landscape of emergency service response for the Fire Department.

Serving as a Firefighter was not the only calling for Chief Lohman, as he owns and operates his own almond farm in Ballico, California. In 1989, he purchased the 28 acre parcel from his grandparents, and has been growing and harvesting the land ever since. Chief Lohman has been familiar with the almond industry for some time, but will be experiencing a new challenge after his retirement from the Turlock City Fire Department. He will be beginning a new career as Chief Executive Officer with the almond cooperative Northern Merced Hulling Association. Chief Lohman's vast experience and leadership will ensure he thrives in his imminent position.

Chief Lohman has been recognized by colleagues with many awards and accolades. He is well respected by his community and fellow firefighters.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commanding the outstanding contributions made to fire service and the City of Turlock by Turlock City Fire Department Chief Tim Lohman and hereby wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER OF CURTIS M. GRAVES

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished public service career of Curtis M. Graves.

Mr. Graves was one of the first African Americans elected to the Texas House of Representatives since the turn of the 20th century. A Democrat and political contemporary of Barbara Jordan, Mr. Graves served in the Texas legislature from 1967 to 1973, where he championed progressive legislation on issues ranging from gun control to criminal justice reform. Mr. Graves also spent many years actively participating in the Civil Rights

Movement, fighting for equal rights of all Americans.

Mr. Graves was born August 26, 1938 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is an alumnus of Texas Southern University and Princeton University. After serving in the Texas House of Representatives, Mr. Graves had a thirty year career at the National Aeronautic and Space Administration—first in NASA's Academic Affairs Division and ultimately as its Director for Civil Affairs.

On behalf of the people of Maryland's Eighth Congressional District, and in anticipation of his seventy-seventh birthday on August 26, 2015, I would like to thank Curtis M. Graves for his lifelong career of public service and for his many contributions to our nation. I wish him and his family all the best in the years to come.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE VICTIMS OF THE SENSELESS SHOOTING IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak out against the loss of innocent lives that resulted from yet another unimaginable act of violence in our great country.

I humbly ask the House to observe a moment of silence for the victims of the horrific tragedy that occurred in a movie theater in Lafayette, Louisiana, on July 23, 2015.

My thoughts and prayers are with these victims, the families, and the friends of those who lost loved ones in this horrific shooting.

From current reports, we know that the gunman unloaded over 13 rounds into the crowd at the movie theater late Thursday night.

The gunman inexplicably began his rampage by firing shots into the seats directly in front of him, and then took his own life.

His actions claimed the lives of two young women, Mayci Breaux and Jillian Johnson, and injured nine others at the Grand Multiplex Theater in Lafayette, Louisiana.

I want to commend the rapid response by the law enforcement personnel that arrived at the scene and acted with courage and skill, likely preventing any further loss of innocent lives.

Individuals who have a history of mental instability, as did this shooter, should never be allowed to possess a firearm.

This is why my colleagues and I co-sponsored, H.R. 226, the "Keeping Guns from High Risk Individuals Act", which prevents individuals with a history of mental illness from gaining access to firearms.

Tragic events such as this should not be a part of the American culture.

Yet, in 2015 alone, we have had 204 mass shootings where innocent lives have been senselessly taken from our communities.

No American should ever have to experience fear and violence when they are stepping out into their communities to participate in activities, such as going to the movies or attending a faith meeting.

Americans have proven time and time again that we are capable of tackling the tough issues that face our nation and culture.