

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owe a great debt of gratitude to Major General Nathanael Greene.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 468.

My flight was delayed due to weather.

Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the City of Madison Heights, Michigan, as it celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. The City of Madison Heights was incorporated in 1955, and currently has a population 29,694 people.

I have had the pleasure of representing the City of Madison Heights, centrally located in the 9th Congressional District, in Congress for the past thirty-two years. From walking in the annual Memorial Day parade to attending numerous events in the schools, important projects like the 12 Town Drains, now known as George W. Kuhn Retention Treatment Basin and the formation of the Madison Heights Community Family Coalition to combat youth substance abuse I enjoy working in this community.

Known as the "City of Progress" Madison Heights residents have always prided themselves on a high level of community spirit, volunteerism, having top-notch city services, a rich heritage, and being known as a warm and family-oriented community. After sixty years of growth and change, the city remains embodied in that local spirit.

Madison Heights originated from pioneering families, such as the Lamphere Family, who gave the community land in 1888 for the school house at 13 Mile and John R, and the Kendal family who donated their land in 1926 when the school was moved. Later, farm families came to Madison Heights in the early 1900s from other countries for the opportunity to start fresh and be self-sufficient, farming their land and often working to buy it. These families gave rise to the life and hope of the community that became Madison Heights.

Today Madison Heights residents take advantage of the city's 13 parks covering over 140 acres; numerous recreational opportunities including a golf course, wave pool and water park, soccer complex, baseball complex, Friendship Woods and nature center, wooded walking trails, sledding hill, bowling lanes, dog park, public library and Heritage Rooms Museum. Residents also benefit from popular community events including a spring 5K run, Art Challenge and Art Exhibit, the annual Festival in the Park with fireworks, Memorial Day

parade, Afterglow Car Show in conjunction with the Woodward Dream Cruise, fall Nature Center Open House, and Tree Lighting.

While auto-related manufacturing remains an important component of Madison Heights economy, Madison Heights is quickly developing a multifaceted economy, attracting emerging industries such as defense and aerospace—Navistar Defense and IonBond to name a few. The University of Michigan recently awarded Madison Heights with an eCities 5-Star Rating and "Best Practice Community" for the City's Economic Development programs. Madison Heights is proud to now host over 100 major high-tech companies within its borders.

As the City of Madison Heights celebrates this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating its residents, elected officials, and businesses as they celebrate their history, preserve their rich local heritage, and look forward to growth and prosperity in the future.

CONGRATULATING JESSICA CAVINESS FOR RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jessica Caviness, a teacher in my district at Coppell High School of Coppell, Texas. Jessica was recently selected to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), along with 107 other teachers from all 50 states. Each recipient receives an award from the National Science Foundation and is invited to an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. This award is given out annually to outstanding K–12 science and mathematics teachers from across the country. The winners are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators following an initial selection process done at the state level.

Ms. Caviness, a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University, has just completed her 11th year in Coppell, where she teaches Geometry and Algebra II. Jessica routinely creates innovative and transformative learning experiences for her students. Most notably, Jessica excels in utilizing technology in the classroom, where her classes have utilized Skype, Twitter, and the iPads distributed through Coppell Independent School District's 1:1 iPad initiative. Jessica's work has not gone unnoticed, as she has presented at conferences at the local, state, and even national level. Her ability to integrate Twitter into the learning experience has also been featured in an article for November Learning, which profiled specific ways that Ms. Caviness was able to effectively engage students outside the classroom in a way that supplemented classroom material.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Jessica Caviness for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. I wish her and all her stu-

dents continued success in the classroom and beyond.

MITSUBISHI CORPORATION'S APOLOGY TO AMERICAN WWII PRISONERS OF WAR

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, a member of our greatest generation from Santa Maria, California, James T. Murphy. On Sunday, July 19th, 2015, at the age of 94, Mr. Murphy had the historic honor of being offered the first Japanese corporate apology for his forced labor as an American prisoner of war (POW) in Japan during World War II.

During World War II, Mitsubishi Mining Company Ltd. used the labor of over 900 Americans in four of its coal and copper mines on mainland Japan. Mr. Murphy, one of the last surviving American former POWs to have worked as a slave laborer in one of these mines, graciously accepted an apology from the Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, the successor of Mitsubishi Mining Company, on behalf of his fellow veterans.

A Texas native, Mr. Murphy fought in the Philippines with the U.S. Army Air Corps beginning with the bombing of Nichols Field on December 8, 1941 until surrender in Bataan on April 9, 1942. He endured the Bataan Death March and a "Hell ship" to Japan. During the war, Imperial Japan assigned over 13,000 Americans to work in corporate mines, factories, and docks to support the war effort. Mr. Murphy was assigned to POW Camp Sendai #6-B and forced to mine copper at Mitsubishi's Osarizawa mine near the town of Hanawa in Sendai, Japan.

After liberation, he continued to serve with the then-new U.S. Air Force and retired in 1962 after a 23-year career. Captain Murphy later moved to my district in California, working as a civilian contractor with Lockheed Missile & Space Company at Vandenberg Air Force Base and finally retiring in 1986 to Santa Maria.

On July 19th 2015 Mr. Hikaru Kimura, a Senior Corporate Executive of Mitsubishi Materials Corporation and Senior General Manager of Global Business Management at the Paint Finishing System Division of Taikisha Ltd, delivered to him the official apology at a ceremony held at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

Mr. Murphy responded, "it is a glorious day." He continued, "For 70 years, we wanted such action. Today we have it so I'm elated over that, and I hope this historical occasion just spreads out through the world and helps mankind."

And it is with grateful recognition for all our veterans swept up in the Pacific battles of the first months of World War II, many of whom became POWs of Imperial Japan, that I insert both Mitsubishi Materials' historic apology statement and Captain Murphy's acceptance.

Remembering the stories of these POWs both in Japan and in the United States is important for history, for the U.S.-Japan relationship, and for all those who care about peace.

STATEMENT OF JAMES T. MURPHY, IN RESPONSE TO MITSUBISHI APOLOGY TO WWII POWS, DELIVERED AT THE MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE, SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER—LOS ANGELES, CA, JULY 19, 2015

This is a great day to be here at the Museum of Tolerance because at this place and at this time, history will truly be made.

We have just heard Mitsubishi's [Materials Corporation] representative, Mr. [Hikaru] Kimura, present a stirring, heartfelt, warm and sincere apology to former U.S. Prisoners of War who were forced to work for Mitsubishi Mining during World War II.

His apology meets all the criteria necessary to satisfy the elements of an acceptable apology. It admits to wrongdoing, it makes sincere statements showing a deep remorse for the wrongdoing and it assures that the wrongdoing will not recur.

As a former Prisoner of War of the Japanese Imperial Armed Forces who was forced to work at the Mitsubishi [Osarizawa] copper mine near Hanawa, Japan during part of 1944 and part of 1945 and being one of the few surviving workers of that time, I find it to be my duty and responsibility to accept Mr. Kimura's apology!

Hopefully, the acceptance of this sincere apology will bring some closure and relief to the age-old problems confronting the surviving former Prisoners of War and to their family members.

Additionally, even though the Japanese people and the American people have a long-standing friendly relationship, the action that we are taking today will further enhance, expand and assure an enduring trust and friendship benefitting both nations.

Furthermore, I join others in this group who foster the idea of encouraging the dozens of other Japanese companies who used forced labor by the Allied Prisoners of War to offset their workforce shortage to follow Mitsubishi Materials' progressive leadership.

Solving this long overdue problem would permit the companies and their former laborers to look forward to a better future rather than continue to look backward to their differences. Such actions would have positive results for both of our nations by strengthening our trust, confidence and friendship.

Perhaps other nations with similar problems will follow our example here today with similar actions. Such actions would result in the betterment to all mankind.

Mr. Kimura, we thank you and the other members of your team for your hard work and long hours spent formulating and presenting Mitsubishi Materials' apology.

STATEMENT BY MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORPORATION, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER HIKARU KIMURA IN THE MEETING WITH A FORMER AMERICAN POW AND FAMILIES OF FORMER POWS

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, speaking on behalf of Mitsubishi Materials, thank you very much for this opportunity to meet with you today at the Museum of Tolerance.

Mitsubishi Mining Company Limited, the predecessor of Mitsubishi Materials, was engaged in coal and metal mining during World War II. As the war intensified, prisoners of war were placed in a wide range of industries to offset labor shortages. As part of this, close to 900 American POWs were allocated to four mines operated by Mitsubishi Mining in Japan.

I joined Mitsubishi Materials as a postwar baby-boomer and have worked in the company for 34 years. I have read the memoirs of Mr. James Murphy, who is present here at this ceremony, and those of other former POWs, as well as records of court trials. Through these accounts, I have learned

about the terrible pain that POWs experienced in the mines of Mitsubishi Mining.

The POWs, many of whom were suffering from disease and injury, were subjected to hard labor, including during freezing winters, working without sufficient food, water, medical treatment or sanitation. When we think of their harsh lives in the mines, we cannot help feeling deep remorse.

I would like to express our deepest sense of ethical responsibility for the tragic experiences of all U.S. POWs, including Mr. James Murphy, who were forced to work under harsh conditions in the mines of the former Mitsubishi Mining.

On behalf of Mitsubishi Materials, I offer our sincerest apology.

I also extend our deepest condolence to their fellow U.S. POWs who worked alongside them but have since passed away.

To the bereaved families who are present at this ceremony, I also offer our most remorseful apology.

This cannot happen again, and of course, Mitsubishi Materials intends to never let this happen again.

We now have a clear corporate mission of working for the benefit of all people, all societies and indeed the entire globe. Respecting the basic human rights of all people is a core principle of Mitsubishi Materials, and we will continue to strongly adhere to this principle.

Our management team wishes for the health and happiness of our employees every day, and we ask that all of them work not only diligently, but also with a sense of ethics.

Mitsubishi Materials supplies general materials that enrich people's lives, from cement to cellphone components and auto parts, all of which are closely related to people's lives. We also place a strong emphasis on recycling for more sustainable societies, such as recovering valuable metals from used electrical appliances and other scrapped materials.

Here in the United States, we have plants for cement and ready-mixed concrete, and a sales headquarters for our advanced materials and tools business, all in California, as well as a polysilicon plant in Alabama. We believe that our company provides fulfilling jobs for local employees and contributes to host communities through its business.

The American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor Museum in Wellsburg, West Virginia archives extensive records and memorabilia of POWs. These records and memorabilia will be handed down to future generations for educational purposes.

I will visit the museum the day after tomorrow to view the exhibits and visualize how POWs were forced to work under harsh conditions. For now, however, I am pleased to announce that Mitsubishi Materials has donated 50,000 US dollars to the museum to support its activities.

Finally, I sincerely thank Ms. Kinue Tokudome and the members of the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor Memorial Society for creating this opportunity to meet with you today. I also express my sincere thanks to Rabbi Abraham Cooper for offering the Museum of Tolerance as a venue for the ceremony. And I express my deep gratitude to all others involved in arranging this gathering.

I would also like to thank the family members of a non-U.S. POW [Mr. Stanley Gibson from Scotland, whose father also was a slave laborer in the Mitsubishi Osarizawa mine] who have come from very far away to attend this ceremony.

I truly hope that this gathering marks the starting point of a new relationship between former POWs and Mitsubishi Materials.

Thank you very much.

HONORING CARMEN "DOLLY" VAZQUEZ FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO WORCESTER COUNTY AND CONGRATULATING HER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carmen "Dolly" Vazquez. Next month Dolly will retire from Centro Las Americas after 23 years of service to the Latino community in Worcester County.

Dolly was born and raised in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. She came to Central Massachusetts from San Francisco, California and began her cultural involvement in Worcester by volunteering at WCUW community radio station. At WCUW, she hosted a bi-weekly radio show, Herencia Puertorriqueña for 13 years.

Dolly was first hired in 1993 by Centro Las Americas to help manage their Latin American Festival, and she was later asked to head the organization's new Cultural Department.

Since that Dolly has co-produced the annual Latin American Festival, the annual Latino Film Festival and the biennial Viva El Arte art show, among other endeavors.

Dolly has been an active member of our community through her involvement with Hispanics Achieving and Celebrating Excellence of QCC, and Latino Dollars for Scholars. She is also an incorporator of the Worcester Art Museum, YWCA, the Joy of Music Program, and the Worcester Historical Museum. For eleven years she also served as board member of the Mass Cultural Council and is a former board member of You Inc.

I want to thank Dolly for her years of service to Worcester County and I wish her the best of luck in the future. She is a remarkable person who has done so much for the community. I'm also proud to call her a close and treasured friend.

CELEBRATING THE TENTH
ANNIVERSARY OF MCABW

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the 10th anniversary of The Montgomery County Association of Business Women of Montgomery County, Texas. Founded by my good friend Carol Gooch in 2005, the MCABW not only provides a forum for business women to develop and enhance professional and personal relationships with their peers, the group actively works to improve Montgomery County.

After graduating from Leadership Montgomery County in 2003, Carol decided to form a group so that women could network and grow their businesses. The group was one of the first womens' networking associations in Montgomery County and its success has spurred the creation of many more similar groups.

In addition to providing an invaluable forum for women to network, the group has continued to give back to their community. MCABW