

Station Jacksonville, one of the United States Navy's pivotal bases. For Jacksonville citizens, this anniversary brings back a flood of memories. Many began their journeys here as young sailors ready to go to sea. They enlisted and scattered far and wide. Now, years later, many of these same sailors will commemorate this important base. For these sailors their sea anchor is right here in this military friendly town.

In 1938, before there was an NAS Jax—as we lovingly call the base—there were citizens who lobbied the Hepburn Board as it searched for a new naval base in the Southeast. The citizens voted to support bonds to purchase the property and construction began in 1939.

The base was commissioned on Oct. 15, 1940, with Captain Charles P. Mason serving as its first commanding officer. Walt Disney drew a logo for the new base depicting Donald Duck in flight gear and sporting gold wings emerging from an egg as NAS Jacksonville was given birth.

As America entered World War II, construction and the pace of training increased at NAS Jax. Soon, there were three runways operating as well as seaplane ramps. An overhaul and repair facility was begun to rework the station's planes. Today, that facility is called the Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, and they still inhabit some of the original buildings from the 1940's.

By 1949, NAS Jacksonville was the plane capital of the East Coast and handled 60 percent of the fleet's air striking force in the Atlantic area from pole to pole. As the Navy led the dawning of the jet age, the first jet carrier air groups and squadrons came to Jacksonville. So it was only natural that the Navy's first Flight Demonstration Team—later known as the Blue Angels—got its start at NAS Jacksonville. Fleet Air Wing 11, now the Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 11, relocated to the station followed in the 1970s by Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing, U.S. Atlantic, and its squadrons.

Over the ensuing decades, NAS Jacksonville supported the Navy's efforts during wartime and peace. Its pilots and planes flew in combat and training. Planes and other airframes were retired and new ones put into the inventory. As with other bases, buildings were added, old buildings were renovated, and personnel came and went.

Today, the runways are being totally rebuilt. The new airframe is heavier and larger than its predecessor and after 75 years of service, those original runways are being recycled. In a way, today's pilots will still be taking off and landing on the history of those who went before them.

NAS Jacksonville is a recent two-time winner of the Commander's in Chief, Naval Installations Command Excellence Award and is home to the newest manned and unmanned systems that Naval Aviation has in its inventory.

The Navy has led in advancing innovation because the Navy must ensure our maritime supremacy and national security. NAS Jacksonville has for 75 years been the face of that strength in Northeast Florida. Our citizens hear the sounds of freedom in support of our Nation's defense. NAS Jax has been a constant in my life and in the lives of all in Jacksonville. The greatness of this premier base is woven into the memories of all who have shared in the pride of having NAS Jacksonville within our city limits.

I salute the 75th Anniversary of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, which continues to be a major employer and economic stimulator, but more importantly, its personnel continues to contribute through their hard work and dedication to the important missions of our Nation's defense.

#### HONORING CALEB PRETTYMAN

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Caleb Prettyman. Caleb is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 75, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Caleb has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Caleb has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Caleb has earned the rank of Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Caleb has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Caleb sanded and repainted all 24 of the fire hydrants in Barnard, Missouri, and installed locator antennas on them so that they may easily be located in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Caleb Prettyman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING JACK COGHILL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

##### HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a great Alaskan and someone I am honored and privileged to call my friend, Mr. Jack Coghill. Without Jack, I would not be here today as the Congressman for all Alaska; I might very well be retired or even buried near the banks of the Yukon River.

Jack's commitment to public service goes back long before Alaska statehood. He served as the Mayor of Nenana for 22 years, served in the Territorial House from 1952 to 1956 and was a State Senator for the first three Legislatures. He rounded out his time in elected office as Alaska's sixth Lieutenant Governor from 1990 to 1994.

Beyond his elected political career, Jack—dubbed “Mr. Republican”—has had a profound impact upon all of Alaska as one of the 55 framers of the state constitution.

On a very personal note, in 1972 Jack was one of the few people who believed in me enough to encourage me to run for Congress. Jack not only encouraged my run but worked tirelessly in his support of my candidacy. None

of us knew at that time there would be a horrific accident in which Congressman Nick Begich and House Majority Leader Hal Boggs would be lost in a flight from Anchorage to Juneau. Due to this loss, it was up to the Republican State Central Committee to appoint a Republican candidate for the Special election rather than go through a formal primary process. Despite many other qualified candidates, Jack stood by me and convinced his colleagues on the Central Committee to vote in my favor. I am forever thankful for his role in shaping the path that has led me to serve as the Congressman for all Alaska these past 42 years.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, on the Legislative Day of September 17, 2015, a vote was held. Had I been present for this roll call vote, I would have cast the following vote:

Roll Call 497—I vote “NAY.”

#### HONORING DONALD F. HARRISON

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Donald F. Harrison, a teacher at Parkview Elementary in Cameron, Missouri, who was recently named America's Top Teacher by Live with Kelly and Michael.

Donn is more than just a teacher in Cameron. He also serves as a crossing guard, a volunteer firefighter, and an EMT for Cameron. He also serves as the unofficial voice of Cameron, announcing track meets, basketball games and any other church and school events he can make. Known for his affinity towards bowties and Chuck Taylors, Donn's nomination created an instant sensation in Cameron. Every business in town changed their signs to encourage folks to vote for Donn, ‘Vote for Donn’ yard signs sprung up across town, and social media posts drove the vote for Donn. Winning this award not only earned him a well-deserved vacation and new car, it also provided the Cameron R-I School District with computers to facilitate the classroom experience.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, his wife, Lynette, and their family and friends in commanding Donald F. Harrison for his accomplishments in and out of the classroom and for his efforts put forth in achieving this high distinction.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. JON WOODS

##### HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Jon Woods,

the long-time director of The Ohio State University Marching Band. He passed away on Saturday, September 12th fittingly on a day when so many of his former students were gathered together for the alumni game to perform with the current band during pre-game and half-time shows. I was privileged to be one of his students when I was a member of The Best Damn Band In The Land (TBDBITL).

Dr. Woods grew up in Pennsylvania, studied music education, and received a bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a master's degree from Penn State University, and a doctorate from "that school up North"—the University of Michigan. After serving 10 years as an associate director he became the director in 1983.

For 28 years he led TBDBITL. He was an innovator, creating computer-designed halftime shows that are now one of the band's trademarks. He led by example, quiet but firm, encouraging comradery and promoting a tradition of excellence. Notably, he always strove to improve the band's performances and inspired that drive in his students. Unusual among his peers, Dr. Woods was also a professor and an advisor. In fact, he felt his greatest legacy was his students.

During his career his name became synonymous with the band as he directed shows at 35 bowl games and three presidential inaugurations. It was my honor to work with him to secure the band's ability to march in the 1989 inaugural parade for President George Bush, the 2001 inaugural parade for President George W. Bush and the 2009 inaugural parade for President Barack Obama. He said his favorite game was the 2002 National Championship overtime win against The University of Miami. Dr. Woods' greatest honor was dotting the "I" during his final season.

A trombone player himself, Dr. Woods looked forward to retiring so he could be more involved in his own musical group, Trombones Plus. He was also looking forward to travelling with his wife, Donna and spending time with his children and granddaughter, Reese. While his family will deeply feel his loss, Dr. Woods touched countless people's lives. He will be missed by his students, the university, and the TBDBITL community.

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HONORING MARY BINKLEY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

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**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an Alaskan Pioneer—a woman who helped shape our great State and a dear friend of mine—Mary Binkley. From her humble beginnings with Jim on the Chena and Tanana Rivers to her dedication to public service, Mary has been a solid foundation to her family, Fairbanks and the state of Alaska.

Mary arrived to Alaska in 1944. As the matriarch of the Binkley family, Mary was crucial to the growth of their family business—from the Godspeed, a 25-passenger vessel, to what would become the Binkley enterprise. She has been the backbone of the Discover Riverboat Touring Company since its founding in 1950;

a business which still operates today. When her husband, Jim, entered the Alaska State Legislature, Mary stepped up to successfully manage the family business. The company played a vital role in helping grow and modernize the entire region. When I traveled in Fairbanks, I traveled on the Riverboats Discovery.

Mary has been a leading Alaskan woman her entire life. She has always had a big heart and deep respect for the rich history and culture of the Alaska Native people. She consistently went out of her way to hire Alaska Natives, learning everything she could about their culture and graciously sharing hers in return. Those relationships echo her tireless efforts to build community.

Her dedication to improving the economy and her resilience to the unforgiving Alaskan frontier make her the definition of determination. I will always consider Mary a dear friend and pivotal stalwart in moving Alaska into the future. I could not be more honored to recognize her lifelong efforts as an Alaskan and one who sets the standard for others to follow.

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HONORING TRENTON YATES CALTON

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Trenton Yates Calton. Trenton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Trenton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Trenton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Trenton has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Trenton Yates Calton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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HONORING KATHLEEN "MIKE" DALTON FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

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**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an Alaskan pioneer, a lifelong dedicated civil servant and volunteer, Mrs. Kathleen "Mike" Dalton. Life was not easy in any way for the pioneers of Alaska; only the strong in heart and mind would thrive in such an unforgiving environment. Mike's life epitomizes the spirit of resilience and strength which advanced an early Alaskan frontier.

As a young girl, Mike moved to Alaska in 1949. She began her lifelong involvement in

politics and public service in 1962, and quickly became the backbone of the Fairbanks Republican Women. She has proudly served in numerous political positions throughout her life, and played an integral role in the office of Senator Ted Stevens.

Civic service was only one effort of the Dalton family. Mike's husband, Jim was instrumental to advancing U.S. energy and defense as a pioneer engineer of the early oil exploration efforts in the Arctic and the Distant Early Warning radar line (DEW line). Both of which made a great impact to the nation.

On a personal note, the Daltons have always treated me as one of their own. I will never forget the many times they opened their house off Dalton Trail to my late wife Lu, my daughters and me. I will always cherish the memories, friendship and unwavering support we've shared over the years. Alaska would be a different place without Mike, and it is only fitting that she be recognized for all her efforts.

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HONORING JACOB I. HUTTON

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob I. Hutton. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 87, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has earned the rank of Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jacob has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob planted landscaping around the sign for the First Christian Church of Cameron, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Jacob I. Hutton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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HONORING THE USS SIMPSON

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**HON. ANDER CRENshaw**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 18, 2015*

Mr. CRENshaw. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the fine Sailors who have served on the USS Simpson (FFG 56). On September 30, 2015, the *Simpson*, which is the last active Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate, will be decommissioned and leave the active United States Navy fleet.

The *Simpson* is named for Rear Admiral Rodger W. Simpson (1898–1964), who was a distinguished officer during World War II. RADM Simpson was awarded the Navy Cross, Silver Star and Legion of Merit for rescuing and evacuating more than 7,500 Allied prisoners of war and civilians interned in Japanese concentration camps. The USS *Simpson* was commissioned on November 9, 1985.