

town's history. As a union member for the Teamsters local 377, Ron always felt he was representing the middle class and working families. He was most proud when he could vote in favor of projects that would put union members to work and make the City of Struthers a better place to live and raise a family. Public servants like Ronald are what makes the civic fabric of the United States so strong. He will be missed in public life, but can enjoy retirement knowing he contributed greatly to Struthers. Ron loves Struthers, he loves his family, and has earned the respect of the citizens of our region. We were lucky to have him as a leader in our community, and I wish him a wonderful retirement with his wife, Pat, and 6 children.

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE FIRST GRADE DENNIS C. DERIENZO

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Detective First Grade Dennis DeRienzo of the New York City Police Department, Aviation Unit, for his dedication to the citizens of New York City and this Nation.

After 22½ years of service in the NYPD—the last ten years as Chief Pilot for the Aviation Unit—he retired on November 30th, 2015. He was appointed to the NYPD in August 1993 and subsequently entered Military Extended Leave from the NYPD. He served with distinction in the United States Marine Corps. Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in June 1993, he graduated Naval Flight School in August 1996 and served as an AH-1W Super Cobra Pilot. In February 1999, while serving with Marine Light Attack Squadron 269 (HMLA-269), then-Captain DeRienzo suffered serious injuries in a crash. After the mishap, he was medically retired from the Marines as a result of his injuries after the Class A Mishap. Following extensive medical treatment and rehabilitation, he returned to active service with the New York City Police Department.

Detective DeRienzo was transferred to the NYPD Aviation Unit on September 10th, 2001, and was appointed Chief Pilot in July 2005. He has served as Chief Pilot for 10 years. During his years of service in the Aviation Unit, he guided and executed countless rescues of civilians and mariners. He likewise conducted countless support operations for his NYPD brothers and sisters on the ground. Additionally, Det. DeRienzo carried out multiple support operations for the President of the United States and distinguished visitors to the City of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Detective DeRienzo on his retirement from the NYPD and thank him for his dedication and service to this Nation and the People of the City of New York. I wish him and his family well in all future endeavors.

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of my personal heroes, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, who posthumously received the Presidential Medal of Freedom last week.

Congresswoman Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to the U.S. Congress and the first woman (and African American) to run for a major party's presidential nomination. The Congresswoman was also one of the 12 founders of the Congressional Black Caucus. She was a catalyst for change.

To quote Congresswoman Chisholm, "You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas."

Let us remember her words during the remainder of our legislative session. The Members of this House have the opportunity to implement ideas that can transform this nation.

Just yesterday, we approved the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and address some of our nation's most pressing public education issues. The bill protects Title I funding, ensures equitable allocation of resources to schools, recognizes the importance of after-school education, and maintains subgroup disaggregation of data for reporting. The ESSA also gives states and local school districts more flexibility, while preserving the federal role in education and ensuring that states and districts honor the civil rights legacy of ESEA.

I am pleased my colleagues came together to pass this important bill. While not perfect, the ESSA is a step forward for public education in this country.

As Congresswoman Chisholm also said, "I don't measure America by its achievement but by its potential." Yesterday's actions showed the nation this Congress has great potential to put politics aside and serve the best interests of the American people.

May we continue in this spirit, and let us honor Congresswoman Chisholm by working together to improve the lives of all Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PAUL T. O'DOWD, JR.

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lieutenant Colonel Paul T. O'Dowd, Jr.

Colonel O'Dowd was a father, husband, teacher, and American hero whose life was dedicated to service. After graduating high school in San Francisco, he joined the Marine Corps, fighting for his country in the Pacific Theater of World War II as a tail gunner on B-52 aircraft. Upon his return, he attended the University of San Francisco and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve.

In 1949, Paul volunteered for active duty and was stationed in Washington. When fighting in Korea broke out, he was assigned as forward observer in the 2nd Infantry Division. In 1951, Paul was captured by North Korean forces. Declared killed in action, he was held and tortured for 938 days. After nearly three years, he was released. For his meritorious conduct in captivity, Paul was awarded the Bronze Star.

His service in the Army did not end after his ordeal. Paul continued to work for his country throughout the Cold War. He was stationed in Germany for three years and advised the Republic of China and the Chinese National Army, earning the recognitions of "Good Man of Good Deeds" and the Medal of Army Brilliance. For his service to his country, Paul O'Dowd was awarded two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the UN Service Medal, the Air Medal, and the Legion of Merit.

Paul was a dad, a teacher, a husband, and an inspiration to many. He was a man who served his country and his family faithfully and fearlessly, and he will be missed.

"AMERICAN HERO, FORMER POW, REMEMBERED"

[From the Seoul Times]

For those who knew him he was Paul, "Digger," "The Old Man," "Dad," and "Friend" but others have said "he was an inspiration to keep the faith between brothers in arms." A True American Hero.

Dateline: Arlington National Cemetery. Dec. 3, 3:00 p.m. Full Military Honors. An honor guard marches, the band plays, as the caisson passes with flag-draped coffin to grave side.

Laid to rest and Flag folded, the volley fired, that let all present know that a hero has died, Taps plays the last time. He will receive the Medal of Army Brilliance, A Class from the Republic of China (Taiwan) for service to their defense.

His life was one of service to his country and community. As an educator with two master's degrees," he said. "He and Judy broke the norm with a marriage lasting 67 years." A Vets Veteran always helping others who had served. Making sure they received the benefits of their service both in the United States and overseas.

Paul T. O'Dowd Jr. was born in San Francisco Oct. 18, 1924, the son of Paul O'Dowd Sr. and Charlotta Belle Boudreux O'Dowd. Grew up there and graduated from Lowell High School.

After graduation Paul enlisted in the Marine Corps for the duration, plus six months, during WWII and as a heavy machine gunner in the Marine Air Wing as tail gunner on B25's, he participated in four combat operations in the Pacific (Solomons, Leyte, Bismarck Archipelago, and Treasury Bougainville).

After the war, he attended the University of San Francisco under the G.I. Bill. In June of 1948 he was commissioned as an Army Reserve Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery.

When the Soviets denied Americans access to Berlin in early 1949, Paul volunteered for active duty and was assigned to the 37th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division (ID), at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Shortly after the Korean War started, the 2nd Division was alerted for movement to Korea. Paul was transferred to "C" Battery, 15th Field Artillery as a forward observer.

From Pusan parameter to the breakout and all the way north and back south again supporting the Division and the units they supported.

In mid-February 1951 he was captured and held POW for 938 days. All the while the US Army had him declared KIA without a body. Over and over again he was isolated and beaten and put in solitary confinement for defying them.

The last to cross the bridge of no return, officially repatriated on 6 September 1953 two days after they closed down the POW reception station from operation "Big Switch."

At 5'10" and only 89 lbs. he was truly at death's door. Arrested, as he was not on any POW rosters, Paul was taken to Tokyo for interrogation, he proved himself and was recognized by Officers.

He went to school with other POW's having stood up against the torture and indoctrination of the Red Chinese and North Korean communist propaganda.

He was released, transferred stateside and spent more than six months at Letterman Army Hospital as a patient recuperating. He was then assigned as an assistant professor of military science in a ROTC program at the University of San Francisco.

While in this position, 1st Lt. O'Dowd was decorated by Major General William F. Dean with the Bronze Star for his meritorious achievements and conduct while a prisoner of war. Very rarely are POWS decorated for their actions while a prisoner.

On the Speakers Bureau; Paul would speak to groups about the brainwashing that occurred in the communistic POW camps.

During the Cold War Captain O'Dowd was stationed in Germany for three and a half years as a Nuclear Weapons Employment Officer, working in an Honest John Missile Battalion and later with a 280mm Gun Battalion.

He also spent three years as an advisor to the Chinese National Army on the island of Taiwan. (MAAG) While in Taiwan in 1966, Major O'Dowd also received an award from the Republic of China for "Good Man of Good Deeds," the highest honor in that country.

He stopped and rescued victims trapped in a burning building without considering his own safety and assisted in putting out the fire.

LTC O'Dowd received many medals and commendations for his military and civilian service; some are: two Bronze Stars with V device for Valor, a Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, UN Service Medal (Korea), The Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and The Legion of Merit. Chinese: Good Man of Good Deeds.

Teacher and educator, a scholar, a soldier, a good representative of the American way of life, and a family man; Paul was the real deal, a straight shooter and a True American Hero.

Having lived a long life, most of it in service to our country, to his fellow service members, and veterans, Paul O'Dowd died July 27, 2015 in his home in California at the age of 90.

The Defense Attaché: RADM Yang from the Republic of China (Taiwan) will present Paul at the funeral the Medal of Army Brilliance, A Class, signed by their Minister of National Defense to honor LTC O'Dowd's contribution to their defense.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED F.M. "BUBBA" FISHER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of

Northwest Florida's beloved F.M. "Bubba" Fisher. A native son of Northwest Florida, Bubba's contributions to his community are unparalleled, and all of Northwest Florida mourns his passing.

Bubba was born and raised in Santa Rosa County, Florida. The youngest of nine children, he learned the value of hard work from his parents and siblings, while developing a lifelong love of the outdoors. After graduating from Milton High School in 1941, Bubba went to work in the family business until the tragic attack on Pearl Harbor, when he answered the call of duty, enlisting to serve in the U.S. Navy. During World War II, Bubba served with honor and distinction in the Pacific Theatre until the end of the war, when he returned home to Northwest Florida. Back home, Bubba took over the family business from his father and married his wife of nearly 70 years, Mildred.

Bubba's commitment to service and his dedication to his community were exemplified by his many years of public service, including two terms on the Milton City Council, two terms on the Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners, four and a half terms as the Santa Rosa County Property Appraiser, and two terms as Chairman of the Florida Property Appraiser's Association. In addition to his public service and business success, Bubba was deeply committed to serving the Lord and his church community. A life-long member of First Baptist Church of Milton, Bubba taught Sunday School for 25 years, and he and Mildred raised their children in a strong faith-based home.

Throughout his life, Bubba worked tirelessly to serve his Nation and community, to carry on the family business, and to help raise a family. To some Bubba will be remembered as a veteran, who joined with so many in the Greatest Generation to defeat fascism; to others he will be remembered as a long-time public servant, who went above and beyond to help better the community that he loved; to his friends and family, he will be most fondly remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life and legacy of my friend, Bubba Fisher. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Mildred; son, F.M. "Dusty"; grandchildren, Jason, Brandon, and Candice; great-grandchildren, Sarah, Ben, Grayson, Macey and Noah; and the entire Fisher family.

HONORING NAZARETH ACADEMY ON WINNING THEIR SECOND CONSECUTIVE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nazareth Academy and the Roadrunners football team. On November 26, the Nazareth Academy Roadrunners won their second consecutive Illinois High School Association football championship with an impressive 42-21 victory over Lincoln-Way West. I want to congratulate Coach Tim Racki, the

faculty and staff of Nazareth Academy, and the young men on this team whose dedication led to this achievement.

The Nazareth Academy varsity football team finished the season with a distinguished 12-2 record. In the championship game, Nazareth held an extraordinary 35-0 lead at halftime. Football is a demanding sport that requires teamwork, enthusiasm and perseverance. The Roadrunners demonstrated these qualities with true distinction.

But Nazareth is about more than football for the players. As Nazareth's principal Deborah Tracy said following the championship game, "More important than any one victory, Nazareth strives to develop more respectful, kind, faith-filled and service-oriented student-athletes." That was clear to me when I visited Nazareth after last year's championship.

This impressive victory was the sixth state championship win for Coach Tim Racki. Coach Racki's strong leadership and dedication propelled the Nazareth football team to success. The talents of Coach Racki have been evident throughout his career, and his commitment to sportsmanship is recognized throughout the state of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this truly impressive achievement made by the Nazareth Academy Roadrunners football team and to congratulate them on their state championship. Additionally, I wish each player continued success as he moves forward.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 657, I voted no but I intended to vote yes.

HONORING JOSHUA KEITH DUTCHER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua Keith Dutcher. Joshua 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 714, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joshua has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joshua 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, Joshua has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Joshua replaced the old wooden street signs with new metal signs in his hometown of Camden Point, Missouri. Thirty-four years prior, his father's Eagle Service Project was to build and install the wooden street signs that Joshua updated.