

More than a half century later, on June 21, 2000, Mr. Sakato and 21 other Asian-American veterans were finally given the recognition they had earned for their actions in combat and were awarded the Medal of Honor by President Clinton.

On Dec. 2nd, 2015, at the age of 94, George Sakato died in Denver, Colorado. George Sakato was one of the trailblazing men and women whose hands have shaped the United States into the great nation it is today. His example of bravery, humility, and love for his country is one to admire and emulate.

My condolences go to his daughter Leslie, and the rest of the Sakato family.

RECOGNITION OF KENTUCKY  
VOLUNTEERS

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize two constituents from my district, Thomas Sullivan and Daniel Disselkamp, who spent three weeks in northern Haiti building and upgrading powerlines to help communities receive affordable, safe, and reliable electricity. The power linemen from Nolin Electric Cooperative were the second group to volunteer their services on this project.

The project is one to commercialize power from the Caracol Industrial Park generation station that is currently serving 8,000 consumers in Caracol and surrounding communities with electricity 24 hours a day. When the project is complete, a total of 10,000 consumers will have access to electricity. One of the major factors contributing to ending poverty and improving the quality of life for people around the world is access to affordable and reliable electricity.

Only about 13 percent of Haitians currently have access to electricity, so the services provided by these linemen will have a positive impact on thousands of lives. Obtaining electricity access is an important step toward achieving improvements in healthcare, education, and economic opportunity.

That is why today I would like to thank and recognize Thomas Sullivan and Daniel Disselkamp for their service.

RECOGNIZING COMMANDER CHAD  
C. SCHUMACHER

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who have served this great Nation with honor, men such as Commander Chad C. Schumacher, United States Navy.

For the past year, Commander Schumacher, a proud naval aviator and graduate of the United States Naval Academy, served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. During his assignment, he served as a senior member of my staff responsible for defense, veterans, foreign affairs

and intelligence matters. Commander Schumacher executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of the First District and the numerous defense installations in the First District with distinction. Furthermore, he provided exceptional support to me as my staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my role as a Subcommittee Chairman and as the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus.

Commander Schumacher directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion and he was able to leverage his personal and operational experience to respond to the most challenging inquiries.

In addition to his efforts on behalf of the First District, Commander Schumacher took on projects with regional, state and national implications, demonstrating his ability to view a challenge from many angles and develop innovative solutions often requiring collaboration across many levels of government.

Commander Schumacher's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership is without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers.

I would also like to thank Commander Schumacher for the service and sacrifice he has made, and continues to make, for our Nation and our great Navy. His keen sense of honor, impeccable integrity, boundless work ethic, humor and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of my staff and the First District of Virginia. As an F-18 Hornet pilot with 2000 flight hours and 400 arrested landings, Commander Schumacher completed multiple deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and served as an instructor at the United States Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN). Commander Schumacher is headed to the Pentagon where he will work in Legislative Affairs for U.S. Northern Command. I have no doubt that Commander Schumacher will continue to serve the Navy honorably and with distinction.

I wish him the best of luck as he continues his Naval career. It was an honor and a pleasure having him serve on my staff. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that men and women like Commander Chad Schumacher are members of our all-volunteer force and they stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies; far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America.

Commander Schumacher, thank you. Best wishes to you and God bless you, your family, and all the men and women in uniform. Fair winds and following seas.—and GO NAVY BEAT ARMY.

TRIBUTE TO LANDMARK INN  
STATE HISTORIC SITE OF  
CASTROVILLE, TEXAS

**HON. WILL HURD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Landmark Inn State

Historic Site of Castroville, Texas, on the completion of its extensive restoration efforts. The Landmark Inn State Historic Site, which is a Texas Historical Commission property, preserves an important part of Texas' history. The Landmark Inn not only protects the cultural and natural value of this area, but also ensures that future generations of Texans will be able to enjoy its rich history.

The Landmark Inn gives unique insight into the lives of Texas' earliest settlers. The city of Castroville was established on September 3, 1844, by entrepreneur Henri Castro and a group of settlers from the Alsace region of France. One of its earliest inhabitants was a man named César Monod, who was elected Mayor of Castroville in 1852 and built a combined home and store to serve travelers along the San Antonio-El Paso road. In 1853, a merchant named John Vance bought the property and built living quarters for his visitors onto the existing store, including galleries, a family residence, and even a multistory bathroom. This became the Vance Hotel. Several other entrepreneurs, including George L. Haass and Laurent Quintle, built a dam on the property that diverted water from the Medina River to power a gristmill. Finally, in 1925, Jordan T. Lawler converted the gristmill into Castroville's very first electric power plant. It is over a hundred years later in 1981 that the Landmark Inn was dedicated as a historically designated site.

The 23rd Congressional District of Texas stretches from San Antonio to El Paso, along over 820 miles of the border, and includes Castroville, a gem that is home to over 2,600 residents. The Landmark Inn provides an opportunity for today's Texans to deepen their understanding of Castroville's early pioneers. Those dedicated to the Landmark Inn's restoration emulate the hard work and values evident in this great city's founders. The level of excellence shown in preserving the rich history of this site is a reflection of the residents of Castroville and their values, and their devotion to tradition serves as a source of pride for the entire city and the 23rd Congressional District of Texas. It is my honor to represent Castroville, and I wish continued success to the Landmark Inn in its future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE FATIMA  
HIGH SCHOOL COMETS FOR  
THEIR 2015 MISSOURI CLASS 2  
GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY STATE  
CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Fatima High School Comets for their first place win in the 2015 Class 2 State Girls Cross Country Championship.

This team and their coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Fatima Comets for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF  
THE BETTY DEVANE COVINGTON  
LIBRARY AT DUMFRIES ELE-  
MENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the dedication of the "Betty DeVane Covington Library" at Dumfries Elementary School in Dumfries, Virginia. This year marks Mrs. Covington's 54th year in education and her 53rd year with the Prince William County Schools, having served as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, and now School Board member. Mrs. Covington's tireless work has helped shape the minds and hearts of thousands of students, both young and old.

Mrs. Covington's longevity in the community is noted by many firsts. She served as the principal of the Saunders Kindergarten Center, the first public kindergarten in Prince William County; in 1995, she became the first elected School Board member in Dumfries, now Potomac Magisterial District; and she received the inaugural Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington/Prince William-Manassas, Educator of the Year Award, which was later renamed in her honor.

With a career dating back to 1961, Mrs. Covington has worked in numerous elementary schools within the county. Nine of her 11 years as a classroom teacher were spent at Dumfries Elementary School. Three years were spent as an assistant principal of Dale City Elementary School. During her tenure, the school participated in a pilot program for year-round education. From 1974 to 1976, Mrs. Covington served as principal of the Saunders Kindergarten Center. She ended her career after 19 years as principal of Kilby Elementary School. That same year, she was elected to the Prince William County School Board. Mrs. Covington served as the Dumfries School Board member for one year before returning to Dumfries Elementary School as the appointed principal for six years. Upon her final retirement from education administration in 2005, Mrs. Covington was again elected to the Prince William County School Board to serve three consecutive terms.

Over the course of her career, Mrs. Covington has been recognized for her commitment to educating the students of Prince William County. She has been nominated for The Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award and Prince William County Principal of the Year. Her accolades also include receiving the Service Award from the School Board, Women of the Year from the Soroptimist Club, the Zontas Club, and Commission for Women, Minerva Award for Public Service by the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the Human Rights Award from the Prince William County Human Rights Commission, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Betty Covington for her unwavering dedication to serving the children of Prince William County, first in the classroom and more recently as a member of the School Board representing the Potomac Magisterial District. Mrs. Covington has been an integral

and essential part of Prince William Public Schools through her commitment to public service for the betterment of our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
SERGEANT MICHAEL JOE NAYLOR

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sgt. Michael Joe Naylor of the Midland County Sheriff's Department. Sadly, Sgt. Naylor was taken from us in the line of duty on October 9, 2014.

Sgt. Naylor's life was dedicated to the service of his community and our county. After graduating from high school, Mike enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served 26 honorable years and earning the rank of Senior Master Sergeant before retiring.

After retiring from the military in 1999, Mike joined the Midland County Sheriff's Department. Through the years, Mike rose through the ranks and served as a leader on the police force. He was actively involved in many initiatives within the department, most notably serving as Commander of the Midland County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard. In addition to serving as a Deputy Sheriff, Mike was also an emergency medical technician. Mike's noble duty to always protect others is one of the many reasons that made him special to Midland County.

Anybody who knew Mike would say that he was a compassionate and selfless professional that went above and beyond to serve his fellow man. His lifetime of service was recently recognized by the state of Texas with the renaming of State Highway 191 as the "Sergeant Michael Naylor Memorial Highway". I had the privilege to be a part of this dedication ceremony and am grateful for that opportunity.

On December 27th, we will be celebrating Mike's 48th birthday. Although the wounds of his loss are still fresh in the hearts of many back home, we must all come together and remember all of the good that Mike offered to the world. We are blessed to have individuals like Mike that serve our communities. His service exemplifies every aspect of the American spirit and makes our communities stronger and safer. His life is an example of how one's service can make their home a better place. His legacy will forever be carried on by his wife Denise, the rest of his immediate family, and his family of first responders.

HONORING THE FIRST BROADCAST  
AND GRAND OPENING OF KEXP'S  
NEW HOME AT SEATTLE CENTER

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the first broadcast from KEXP's New Home in Seattle, and to salute the station as it prepares for the Grand Opening of its new home for music discovery in April of 2016.

Since its founding in 1972, KEXP has always been a champion for music discovery.

With a radio broadcast and online stream that reaches over 200,000 people per week as well as a video channel that reaches 750,000 more, KEXP has provided music lovers with decades of trusted, curated music discovery experiences, and introduced a global audience to new artists from the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

As a public radio station with vibrant community support, KEXP empowers its DJs to make bold choices and push themselves creatively, introducing audiences to new artists, and putting music in context by sharing stories, connecting musical threads, and juxtaposing today's emerging artists with the seminal artists that inspire them.

KEXP provides bands from the Pacific Northwest a stage from which they launch their music careers. KEXP connects thousands of artists to millions of music lovers. KEXP connects talent to record labels, promoters, and the music industry. The result is powerful; a thriving population of artists and bands who have the opportunity to successfully perform and present their art. KEXP is invigorating the community by helping arts and culture thrive in the Pacific Northwest.

With the opening of its new home at Seattle Center, KEXP will be able to serve the community in exciting new ways. It will host free live performances, create new educational partnerships, create public engagement spaces, and house cutting-edge broadcast and production technology.

As we tune in and celebrate the first broadcast from this state-of-the-art facility, I would like to convey my congratulations to KEXP on the opening of its new home as well as the growing number of opportunities it will create to bring great music into the lives of those in the 7th Congressional District and around the world.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 22,  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RE-  
AUTHORIZATION AND REFORM  
ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. GARRET GRAVES**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, while I support the policy merits of this bill, I have strong concern about some of the funding mechanisms used to help pay for it. The concerns include provisions for drawdown and sale of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), selling 66 million barrels of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in order to provide \$6.2 billion in offsets over 10 years.

As is often the case, what we have accomplished here is nothing more than an unsustainable budget gimmick. As adjusted for inflation, the average price per barrel of oil currently stored in the SPR is \$74. At a time when the global price of oil hovers at less than \$40 a barrel, and as OPEC continues to produce and flood the global market at historic rates, with no end in sight, I simply do not see how we can budget the sale of SPR oil at \$94 per barrel on average over the next 10 years to total \$6.2 billion in revenue. Our SPR was never intended as a budget gimmick, it is