

could take control of the gold and silver mines in Colorado. His plan was to eventually arrive at the coast of California in order to replenish the South's depleted funds.

The Battle at Valverde took place on February 20th and 21st, 1862, near Fort Craig in southern New Mexico with the Union Army under the command of Colonel Edward Canby. Union forces blocked the passage of Confederates at the river ford until reinforcements arrived and a fierce battle ensued. During the engagement 68 Union soldiers and 36 Confederate soldiers were killed with over 300 wounded. In the end, the battle was a victory for the South.

Union forces returned to Fort Union and the Confederate forces captured Albuquerque and Santa Fe before also moving on towards Fort Union over Glorieta Pass, where the armies were destined to collide.

The Battle of Glorieta Pass took place March 26th through March 28th, 1862, in Apache Canyon with the bulk of Union forces in head-to-head combat with Confederate troops. During the battle, a group of New Mexico Volunteer scouts under the command of Lt. Colonel Manuel Chavez, and Captain Rafael Chacon, Corporal Albino Garcia, Innocencio Arellanes, and Anastasio Duran detected the Confederate supply train near Johnson's Ranch and destroyed eighty supply wagons and drove off 500 horses and mules.

At the end of the Battle of Glorieta Pass the Union lost 51 soldiers with 78 wounded, and the Confederates lost 50 soldiers with 80 wounded. Although Confederates won the battle on the field, the loss of supplies and livestock completely crippled them and they were forced to make their way back to Texas in defeat.

In 1993, the Congressional Civil War Sites Advisory Commission was tasked with identifying the nation's historically significant battle sites and the Battle of Glorieta Pass received a Priority 1, Class A, as one of the principle strategic operations having a direct impact on the course of the war—Gettysburg and Antietam received the same distinction.

Portions of the Glorieta Pass Battlefield have become a part of the National Park System and it is also designated as a National Historic Landmark. It is fitting and proper to erect a memorial at the site of the Battle of Glorieta, honoring the Hispanic Civil War Veterans who lost their lives and those that fought with courage and honor for their country.

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CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND

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**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on May 16, 2015, students, faculty, and staff will gather in historic St. Mary's City, Maryland, to celebrate the St. Mary's College of Maryland Class of 2015 Commencement. They—along with many others across Maryland and our country—will also be marking the 175th anniversary of the College's founding.

Since its humble beginnings in 1840 as a female seminary, St. Mary's College of Mary-

land has been a center of learning and educational empowerment. Set along the St. Mary's River, where Leonard Calvert and the first English settlers disembarked from the Ark and Dove in 1634 to found the colony of Maryland, it expanded in the early twentieth century to become the State's first junior college and became co-educational. In the 1960's, the school transitioned into a four-year college and granted its first undergraduate degrees in 1971. Recognizing its tradition of excellence in liberal arts education, its high standards, and its unique history, the Maryland General Assembly formalized St. Mary's College of Maryland as the state's only public honors college in 1992. Today, it continues to graduate some of Maryland's best and brightest students from thirty-one academic programs and ranks among the best public liberal arts colleges in the nation.

I am proud to represent the students, faculty, and staff of St. Mary's College of Maryland in Congress as well as to have served as a member of its Board of Trustees since 1995. Alumni of the College run businesses, contribute to the arts and athletics, conduct research in marine biology and the environment, report the news through national outlets, and serve in government—including in my Congressional office. They are continuing their alma mater's tradition of preparing graduates to make a difference wherever they live and work throughout Maryland and across our country.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the entire St. Mary's College of Maryland community, led by its dynamic new President, Tuajuanda Jordan, on reaching its 175th year of serving as a living memorial to those first Maryland colonists' commitment to religious freedom, tolerance, and opportunity.

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RECOGNIZING OPERATION THANK YOU

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**HON. GWEN GRAHAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I'd like to recognize Operation Thank You, an annual event honoring veterans and active-duty service members in Leon County.

As we mark the 65th anniversary of our nation's entry in the Korean War, the 2015 Operation Thank You will honor Korean War veterans and their families at the Florida Korean War Memorial in Tallahassee on Saturday, May 16th.

The event will include a presentation of colors by the Godby High School JROTC Color Guard, a performance of the national anthem by the Lawton Chiles High School Choir, and remarks by Korean War veterans—along with a pancake breakfast.

Leon County has a long tradition of supporting local veterans and making sure they receive the care they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I extend our deepest appreciation to all of those working to make this year's Operation Thank You a success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. RICK W. ALLEN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed a vote on the Motion to Recommit for H.R. 2029 on April 30, 2015. Listed below is how I would have voted if I had been present.

Roll Call Vote 192—Motion to Recommit H.R. 2029—Nay.

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OFFICER LIQUORI TATE

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**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bravery and sacrifice demonstrated by Officer Liquori Tate, a recently commissioned member of the Hattiesburg Police Department, who was tragically slain in the line of duty on Saturday, the ninth day of May in the year two thousand and fifteen.

Officer Liquori Tate was twenty-five years old, a resident of Hattiesburg, and a graduate of South Pike High School near McComb. He was the son of Youlander Ross of Jackson and Ronald Tate of Georgia and brother to thirteen siblings. He had a passion for the Miami Heat, the Atlanta Falcons, and good blues music.

Tate graduated from the Hattiesburg Police Training Academy and became a patrolman with Hattiesburg Police Force in 2014. During his training, Liquori was challenged in every way possible but, according to one of his training officers, he was the only recruit who refused to consider failure or withdrawal as an option.

Tate's lifelong ambition was to serve his community in a policeman's uniform. He was an exceptional young man who chose a life of service, placing himself in danger each day in order to protect the citizens of Hattiesburg.

Officer Tate had a passion for the siren, and could often be heard sounding his own while on patrol. He was excited about being a policeman and loved going to work each day. Those who served with him knew he was 'all smiles,' and he was a valuable member of the Hattiesburg Police Force.

The City of Hattiesburg and the Great State of Mississippi have suffered the loss of one of our own: a family member and a protector and defender of our constitution and laws. Every citizen deeply and sincerely feels the loss of Officer Liquori Tate, and his service, heroism, and sacrifice will not be forgotten.

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HONORING THE BI-NATIONAL HEALTH ALLIANCE OF NAPA COUNTY

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**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County's dedication to improving the health and well-being

of our underserved Latino community. Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County strives to improve the quality of life, promote positive physical and mental health, provide opportunities to access resources in a culturally sensitive environment, and encourage empowerment and growth.

Ten years ago, Catalina Chavez-Tapia and Queen of the Valley Medical Center founded the Napa County Bi-National Health Week Task Force, which transitioned into a year-round effort: the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County. By increasing awareness of risk factors affecting health and providing information on available health services and resources, the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County brings together existing community resources to empower local Latinos to live healthier lifestyles.

The Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County also organizes a number of events to encourage the Latino community to become more engaged locally. This includes the Napa Valley Latina Women's Conference, which is held to empower Latina women to engage in their community through cultural, mental health, and educational workshops along with free health screenings, educational information, and follow-up care. Since the conference's inception, over 1,120 professional and newly immigrated, low-income, and disenfranchised Latina women have attended and been provided a forum to identify and address the cultural barriers to the advancement of Latina women locally.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we recognize the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County's dedication to the best ideals of public service as they host their 11th Annual Napa Valley Latina Women's Conference on May 14th, 2015. On behalf of a grateful community, we honor and thank the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County for their many years of service, and hope for many more.

**HONORING FAATIN KHALEELAH MUHAMMAD**

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student, Faatin Khaleelah Muhammad.

Faatin Khaleelah Muhammad is the 17 year old daughter of James and Latonya Muhammad and is a member of Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church located in Natchez, Mississippi.

Faatin has managed to maintain a 3.5 GPA for 4 years, at Jefferson County High School and throughout her life, excelled in school and sports: she has been a member of the Jefferson County High School Track team since 2012; she has received multiple plaques, ribbons, and metals for her performances; and she has served 2 years as a high school cheerleader. Faatin is currently president of FCCLA where she completed many community services and projects. She is also a member of FBLA, TSA, TATU and the Senior Transition Program. She has been in the Jefferson County High School Marching Band since the 9th grade.

Upon graduation, Faatin will attend Alcorn State University located in Lorman, Mis-

sissippi. She will major in Animal Science with hopes to become an Animal doctor in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Faatin Khaleelah Muhammad, as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

**TRIBUTE TO RALPH WIRTZ**

**HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ralph Wirtz in recognition of his many contributions to Michigan's 4th District as the editor of the Midland Daily News.

Ralph Wirtz dedicated over forty years of his life to the Midland Daily News starting as a sports writer and, because of his outstanding journalistic abilities, accepted increased responsibility until his appointment as managing editor in 1989.

Ralph did not originally plan on a career in journalism but discovered a passion for sports writing while serving in the United States Navy in the 1970's. He has won numerous awards over the course of his career, including Agriculture Communicator of the Year in 1998, first place in editorial writing by the Associated Press in 2008, the 2008 Journalist of the Year award by the Press Association Society of America and the Midland Community Voices Rosemary Byers Award in 2009. Ralph has been the person that the community has turned to whenever they needed a trusted voice for their news and information.

Ralph Wirtz has set the standard for journalistic excellence in Michigan and his tireless work on behalf of his community is worthy of recognition from this Congress. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Ralph Wirtz in gratitude for his forty years of service to the Midland Daily News and the Midland Community.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, I missed a Roll Call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on #221.

**IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL POLICE WEEK**

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week, which was first established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962. National Police Week was initially created to coincide with the National Peace Officer Memorial Day established by President Kennedy in the same

year. This week, we give special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

I want to express my personal gratitude for the hard work and dedication that law enforcement officers selflessly give to their communities all over the country. I also wish to thank the family members of those officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and protection of others. They deserve our nation's highest respect and admiration.

On behalf of the residents in the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I want to thank every officer in the Balch Springs, Cedar Hill, Dallas, Desoto, Duncanville, Glenn Heights, Grand Prairie, Hutchins, Lancaster, Mesquite, Ovilla and Wilmer Police Departments. I am thankful for the leadership of our capable police chiefs and sheriffs, who are working hard to implement major reforms within their departments to decrease the instances of police related violence. I look forward to continuing our positive working relationship.

Now more than ever, there is a great need to build trust in our communities between police and the people that they pledge to serve and protect. I understand that what we ask of our police officers is a dangerous, difficult, and sometimes thankless job. Far too frequently, the actions of a few individuals overshadow the dedication and service of the hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers who perform their duty with the utmost courtesy and integrity. I am thankful for their courage, their professionalism, and their daily sacrifice to protect and serve our communities across the country.

**NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016**

SPEECH OF

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chair, I ask that the following exchange of letters be submitted during consideration of H.R. 1735:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,  
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016, which contains substantial matter that falls within the Rule X legislative jurisdiction of the Foreign Affairs Committee. I appreciate the cooperation that allowed us to work out mutually agreeable text on numerous matters prior to your markup.

Based on that cooperation and our associated understandings, the Foreign Affairs Committee will not seek a sequential referral or object to floor consideration of the bill text approved at your Committee markup. This decision in no way diminishes or alters