

Pennsylvania. After six weeks of basic training, he was shipped overseas on the North Atlantic Convoy. On December 18, 1944, Staff Sergeant Anderson was captured as a prisoner of war by German forces in Krinklet. During his time as a POW, he endured a forced march of over 105 miles in freezing conditions with little to no rest or food while being moved to different camps.

During his confinement at Stalag VIIA, he was exposed to harsh weather conditions and nutritional deficiencies. Staff Sergeant Anderson was finally freed in April 1945. When asked why many of the POWs of the camp survived, he explained, "we were all young, mentally tough, and in relatively good shape. We had a lot to live for."

After his service in the Army, Staff Sergeant Anderson returned to his home in Wisconsin. Family life was and still is very important to him. He spent time regularly attending church with his wife and two children, going to stock car races, and enjoyed time gardening, fishing, and hunting.

On behalf of the residents of Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, I would like to thank Staff Sergeant Anderson for his time serving our nation during World War II and for the resilience he showed during the most dreadful times.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SARANAC LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 125th Anniversary of the Saranac Lake Fire Department in Franklin County, New York. The Saranac Lake Fire Department prides itself on saving the lives and property of those who it has served since 1891.

Before 1891, two competing hose companies fought the fires of Saranac Lake separately. However, realizing that the community would benefit more from joining forces, the Woodruff and Miller Hose Companies combined to form the Woodruff-Miller Hose Company and formally establish the Saranac Lake Volunteer Fire Department.

Since that day, the Department has worked together with the community to combat fires in both Franklin and Essex counties. This includes community outreach events to raise awareness for fire safety, a dive rescue and recovery team for lake accidents, and the actual volunteer fire fighters who form the base of the department. Their mascot, Smokey the Dalmatian, has served as the symbol for all that the company does for their Adirondack community.

Congratulations to the Saranac Lake Fire Department on the 125th anniversary of your formation. I want to wish the department and the Village of Saranac Lake continued safety and success in the future.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF MARY
SANSONE

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Birthday of Brooklyn's Mary Sansone.

Mary was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, where she became a prominent activist from a young age. Taking part in movements since she was eight years old, advocacy became second nature. Following World War II, she helped the Red Cross provide aid to Italians. In 1964, along with her husband, Mrs. Sansone founded the Congress for Italian-American Organizations (CIAO).

In the 1970s, Mrs. Sansone helped forge alliances between the African-American, Hispanic and Italian communities via the New York Urban Coalition. Mrs. Sansone hosted community leaders at her home serving up her famous meatballs and hoping to find common ground.

At the age of 100, Mary Sansone is still involved in causes that are close to her heart. Her birthday was recently celebrated at Dyker Beach Golf Course in Brooklyn with hundreds of friends and admirers coming to celebrate. Mrs. Sansone currently resides in Borough Park, Brooklyn, living in the same home for the past 70 years. She is a true lifelong Brooklynite.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Sansone's decades of activism and advocacy truly show what America is about, regardless of one's political affiliation. I commend her outstanding life and I am proud to honor this citizen from New York's 11th District on her 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUAN
RIVERA VELAZQUEZ

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Juan Rivera Velazquez of Kissimmee, Florida. Juan was a resident of my district. His life was cut short in the early morning hours of June 12, 2016, during the tragic shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando.

Juan died at the club alongside his life partner of 16 years, Luis Daniel Conde. The two grew up in the same small town in Puerto Rico, and even attended the same school, Jose Campeche High School in San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico.

Juan Rivera Velazquez was 37 years old. Juan and Luis were co-owners of Alta Peluqueria D'Magazine Salon & Spa in Kissimmee where they enjoyed a loyal client base and frequently offered their services to victims of domestic abuse, free of charge. The pair were known to friends as exceptional people and a loving couple. While Juan is remembered as the shy, quieter half, driven and focused on the work, Luis was more the jokester, who was always making people laugh. They valued their clients as friends with their encouraging words, always reminding them that they look 'beautiful' and 'amazing' before leaving the salon.

Juan Rivera Velazquez will never be forgotten in our pursuit of a more just and loving world. His memory and acts of kindness will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

May his family, relatives and friends eventually find solace and comfort, and may he rest in eternal peace.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL
JAMES "JJ" JACKSON

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Lieutenant General James "JJ" Jackson today in honor of his retirement as Chief of the Air Force Reserve and Commander of the Air Force Reserve Command and thank him for his many years of dedicated service to our country.

A 1978 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, Lt Gen Jackson completed fourteen years of active duty, flying tours in Europe and the Pacific before joining the Air Force Reserve in 1992. During his years of service, Lt Gen Jackson held numerous wing leadership and command positions as well as staff assignments at the Eighth Air Force and Headquarters U.S. Strategic Command, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Headquarters U.S. Pacific Command, and Headquarters U.S. Air Force. Lt Gen Jackson also earned major decorations and awards including the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters. As a career instructor pilot and evaluator, Lt Gen Jackson was a command pilot, logging more than 3,600 hours in the F-4 Phantom II, F-16 Fighting Falcon, and KC-135R Stratotanker.

Through his years of service and leadership, Lt Gen Jackson demonstrated his unwavering loyalty and dedication to our country and commitment to protecting our freedom. On behalf of the House Armed Services Committee and the people of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to thank Lt Gen Jackson for his service and wish him the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONALD R.
SMART

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald R. Smart of Haywood County, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Mr. Smart for his service to the farmers in Haywood County and congratulate him on his induction into the Western North Carolina Agriculture Hall of Fame.

A lifelong resident of Haywood County and fifth-generation farmer, Mr. Smart was an

honor student in high school and president of the Tuscola FFA chapter. He graduated cum laude from North Carolina State University and participated in the Philip Morris Leadership Program at the University of Kentucky. Starting his farm in 1974 with one acre each of burley tobacco and trellised tomatoes, Mr. Smart and his brother have since expanded the farm to encompass 1,500 acres of corn, soybeans, vegetables, tobacco, hay, and cattle.

While building his own successful business, Mr. Smart served as President of the Haywood County Farm Bureau Federation, as a State Executive Board Member of the N.C. Farm Bureau Federation, as Chairman of the N.C. Farm Bureau Burley Tobacco Committee, as Chairman of the Haywood County Farmland Preservation Organization, as a Board Member of the N.C. Tobacco Growers Association, and as an advocate for farmers at our state and national capitals. In the mid-2000s, Mr. Smart's leadership stopped the sale of the Mountain Research Station and secured additional acreage for this hub of agricultural research. He helped Haywood County establish a fairground and served on its board and volunteer advisory council. He has been recognized as a Philip Morris Outstanding Burley Tobacco Grower, a N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Farmer of the Year, a Haywood County Outstanding Farmer, a N.C. Tomato Growers Association Outstanding Producer, and has received an FFA Appreciation Award for working to keep agriculture in high school curricula.

Donald R. Smart has been an invaluable proponent of the agriculture industry in Haywood County and across our state. Mr. Smart deserves the highest recognition and I am honored to express the sincere congratulations and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his induction into the Western North Carolina Agriculture Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING OUR NATION'S COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONALS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nation's community corrections professionals and the vital role they play in enhancing public safety throughout the United States. In honor of the invaluable contributions of these dedicated public servants, the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) and its associated members have designated the week of July 17–23 Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2016. I thank the thousands of men and women who perform these important public safety duties, and urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in support of the APPA's week-long recognition efforts this year.

Here in my congressional district, the nation's capital, thousands of women and men serve as pretrial, probation and parole officers

or administrators. As public servants, these constituents, along with many other Americans, commit themselves on a daily basis to helping improve the lives of those involved in the criminal justice system. Mr. Speaker, the work of these professionals ultimately results in stronger and safer communities for all.

Community corrections professionals are responsible for the supervision of adult and juvenile offenders in communities throughout our nation. These trained professionals go above and beyond the call of duty by connecting their clients to supportive services, community based resources, employment opportunities, housing programs and other evidence based practices that help individuals successfully complete supervision and reenter society. Community corrections professionals strive to provide these services and support, while simultaneously providing client surveillance, crime prevention and restorative justice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in acknowledging the impact community corrections professionals have on the quality of life of so many Americans, and recognizing July 17–23 as Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2016.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Monday, July 11, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 401 and 402 and "nay" on roll call vote 403.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, on the day of April 11th, I am wrongly recorded on H.R. 5606, the Anti-terrorism Information Sharing Is Strength Act. I intended to oppose this legislation.

FINDING MEANING IN THE DALLAS TRAGEDY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, one week ago today in the Dallas Central Business District, a lone gunman, motivated by anger and rage, terrorized a peaceful assembly of my fellow Texans protesting injustice by unleashing a hail of bullets from an automatic rifle that

took the lives of five officers of the Dallas Police Department and Dallas Area Rapid Transit and wounded twelve others. Today I joined my fellow Texans and others at the memorial in Dallas.

Earlier today, a memorial in honor of the fallen was held at Dallas' Meyerson Symphony Center, attended by several hundreds, including the President of the United States and the First Lady; Vice-President Biden and Dr. Jill Biden; former President George W. Bush and Mrs. Laura Bush; members of the Texas congressional delegation, representatives of law enforcement agencies from across the nation.

President Obama reminded us that in the aftermath of one of the most tumultuous weeks in memory that the nation is not as divided as it seems and urged the nation to find meaning in the midst of sorrow by working together so that we can "preserve those institutions of family and community, rights and responsibilities, law and self-government that is the hallmark of this nation."

I especially appreciate the remarks of former President George W. Bush who reminded us that "to renew our unity, we only need to remember our values" and that we "are bound by things of the spirit, by shared commitments to common ideals, and that we are at our best when we practice empathy, which is the strongest "bridge across our nation's deepest divisions."

Mr. Speaker, there is much wisdom in President Bush's admonition that we avoid judging other groups by their worst examples, while judging ourselves by our best intentions.

We are one country with a common future and a single destiny, and, deep down, we know that President Obama was right when he said that we all must aspire and strive for an open heart, where we "worry less about which side has been wronged, and worry more about joining sides to do right."

Due to an injury sustained the week before, Texas Governor Greg Abbott was not able to attend the moving tribute to the fallen Dallas officers so I want to extend to him my best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery and to commend and associate myself with the following statements from his Open Letter to the People of Texas:

"Though anguish and sorrow may darken the days ahead, we will not be overcome by evil—we will overcome evil with good. Texas is an exceptional state with exceptional people. We've faced tough challenges in the past, but we have come together to overcome those challenges. In the coming days, there will be those who foment distrust and fan the flames of dissension.

"To come together—that would be the greatest rebuke to those who seek to tear us apart."

Mr. Speaker, what is called for in sorrowful times like this is unity and healing and the faith that a righteous cause can only be advanced by righteous words and actions.

Let us remember and honor the fallen and wounded in Dallas by rededicating ourselves to the spirit of empathy and love and respect for human dignity that has made and will keep our country the wonder of the world.