

Relations Director. Her hard work and dedication to excellence has helped our city grow exponentially. Through her position she was able to bring members of Brentwood, Tennessee, around special causes and efforts.

Linda Lynch was born in Leipers Fork, Tennessee, and was raised in Franklin, Tennessee. She taught in Memphis, Tennessee, and Oklahoma. She also supported her husband who ran a transportation company before she took on her role in Brentwood.

As a liaison, she was instrumental in building bridges between residents and government. This was accomplished by how she planned events for the city. By doing so, government officials could hear the needs and concerns of the people and the community was heard by their leaders. Linda also played a major role in the education of historical sites and advocated for preservation of historic places. Outside of her regular duties she took the initiative and founded the Brentwood Historic Commission. Linda was also involved with the Brentwood Tree Board, the Adopt a Mile Program, and the Brentwood Library. She is also a lifetime member of the Williamson County Heritage Foundation.

Linda Lynch has left the city of Brentwood, Tennessee, a better place than when she first started in her role. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her service and commitment to the city of Brentwood, Tennessee.

#### TRIBUTE TO FRIEDA PORTER

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mrs. Frieda Porter on the occasion of her 100th birthday on March 23, 2016.

Frieda was born near Fontanelle, Iowa and attended Fontanelle schools. She married Max Porter in 1938 and they had three children, Becky, Randy and Pat. Frieda was active in the community and was an Avon representative for many years. She also taught Sunday school at the Greenfield Lutheran Church. Frieda attributes a healthy life, attendance at church and her belief in God to her long and happy life.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Frieda in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 100th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Frieda on reaching this incredible milestone and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

WILLIAM "BILL" SHERRILL—  
TEXAN

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this month William "Bill" Sherrill turns 90 years young. This energetic veteran still has the same passion for our country and our military that he had the day he enlisted into the Marines at 15

years of age in 1941. As a young teenager, Bill served during World War Two and participated in the island hopping campaign until he was wounded in Iwo Jima.

Born in the 1920s, Bill grew up in the Depression of the 1930s poor, in Houston, Texas. At the age of 15, two weeks after Pearl Harbor, Bill dropped out of Lanier Middle School and answered his country's call of duty to serve by joining the U.S. Marines. Bill said "he didn't lie about his age; I'm from Texas, I exaggerated my age."

During this time, the United States' major strategy was launched against Japan in a strategy called island hopping. This tactic was employed by the United States to gain military bases and secure small islands in the Pacific. Our military took control of the islands and quickly constructed landing strips and military bases. Then they proceeded to attack other islands from the bases they had established. Bill belonged to the 3rd Marines, 9th Battalion, and they participated in several campaigns along Bougainville, Guam and Iwo Jima.

In February 1945, his troop invaded Iwo Jima on the seventh day. It was a month long bloody battle against Imperial Japan that resulted in 7,000 Marines who were killed and over 20,000 were injured; mostly young Marines. Bill lasted seven days, before being shot through the left arm; he went out on the fourteenth day of the battle. Bill recalls seeing the flag "Old Glory" that was famously waved over Mount Suribachi. From that experience, Bill knew that the Marines go where others fear to tread, and the timid are not found. For his injuries, Bill was treated at Oakland Naval Hospital. The bullet severed the nerve in his left arm, leaving his arm paralyzed and causing Bill to spiral into depression. But, Bill's story is not over. For his service and bravery, Bill received the Purple Heart, American Campaign Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. While recovering at the Naval Hospital, Bill also earned his GED (General Education Diploma). This would set him on a new course of training—from the battlefield to the classroom.

After his discharge in 1946, he moved back to Texas and enrolled at the University of Houston. Four years later, he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and then his Master's at the Harvard School of Business. Bill never gave up. He was wounded, uneducated and paralyzed but he continued to press forward.

With his determination to never give in, Bill has had many successes. He has owned several businesses and even helped develop Tiki and Jamaica Island in Galveston. Banking and real estate were his main interests. He was employed by the City of Houston, served as president of a local bank, owned a financial consulting firm, and even served on the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors. With this diverse and fascinating career, it wasn't until 1990, that Bill discovered his true passion—teaching. He returned to his alma mater, the University of Houston, to teach at the Bauer College of Business Administration. Three years later, he founded the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at University of Houston.

Ronald Reagan best summed it up when he said, "Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem." That's certainly true for Bill, a remarkable man who has cer-

tainly made a difference in our community and in the lives of many. Happy 90th, Oooh Rah. Semper Fi.

And that's just the way it is.

GEORGIA AMBASSADOR ARCHIL  
GEGESHIDZE

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Georgia Caucus, I would like to take a moment to thank Ambassador Archil Gegeshidze for his dedication to developing a deep and meaningful U.S.-Georgia partnership. His Excellency Gegeshidze was appointed as the Ambassador of Georgia to the United States in March 2013. Since that time, he has served his country faithfully and worked tirelessly to improve Tbilisi's relationship with Washington.

Georgia sits in a region full of dictators, but it remains a stalwart beacon of democracy. It is on the basis of democracy and freedom for all that Ambassador Gegeshidze has worked to strengthen Georgia's ties with the United States. While there is still work to be done, with the Ambassador's help, Georgia has made significant strides ensuring freedom of the press, preventing corruption, and pursuing a free market system.

Throughout Ambassador Gegeshidze's appointment in the U.S., he has shown time and time again that Georgians share the same values as Americans. Georgian soldiers forged a strong bond with American soldiers as they fought alongside each other on the battlefield in Afghanistan. Georgians have also helped facilitate the growth of American law firms, colleges, energy and IT companies in their country. Our peoples' mutual dedication to being forces for good in the international community shines through in all aspects of our relationship. I am proud of the way Ambassador Gegeshidze has represented the Georgian people here in America and worked to achieve our shared strategic goals.

Together Georgians and Americans alike must continue the good work of the Ambassador. Given Russia's aggression in the region, we must continue to press for Georgia's membership in NATO. Also, in light of the increased trade between our two countries, it would be a smart move to start negotiations on a U.S.-Georgia free trade agreement.

Thanks to the efforts of Ambassador Gegeshidze, the bond between Georgia and the United States is strong. He will be greatly missed, but he leaves Washington with a robust U.S.-Georgia partnership in place for his successor.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TRIBUTE TO RICHARD BROOKS

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Richard Brooks, a High School teacher at Johnston

Community School District in Johnston, Iowa. On Thursday, September 8, 2016, Richard Brooks was a recipient of The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are the highest honors bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers by the federal government. Established by Congress in 1983, the PAEMST program has been a benchmark that all teachers strive to achieve. Richard Brooks' dedication to his students and steadfastness in his commitment to excellence has not gone unnoticed. I am honored to recognize him as one of this year's recipients.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Richard Brooks for receiving this award and for providing the youth in Iowa's 3rd Congressional District the education that they will need to be successful in the future. I am proud to represent him, his fellow teachers and students in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Richard Brooks and wishing him well and continued success in the future.

#### COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF CITRUS RIDGE: A CIVICS ACADEMY

#### HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the opening of Citrus Ridge: A Civics Academy, a new charter school for Kindergarten through eighth grade students, located in Florida's 15th Congressional District.

Citrus Ridge integrates Civics content and skills throughout all its students' curriculum. There, students will learn the skills and responsibilities associated with good citizenship by contributing to their school community.

Middle School students have the special opportunity to participate in the Civics Leadership Academy with a variety of civics electives, including Speech and Debate, Engaged Citizenship through Service Learning, and Law Studies.

By engaging in these courses, along with their regular curriculum, students will learn the importance of civic engagement and the valuable principles of self-government.

This great nation has a system of self-government in place, thoughtfully set forth by our Founding Fathers.

Self-government is the ability to govern one's self. Without this ability, individuals and politicians cease to vote for and promote policies contributing to the sustaining of our Republic.

We need to teach our children the principles of self-government at an early age and throughout their lives, so they may become well-informed and contributing citizens in our society.

I congratulate and thank all those who have been engaged in and helped with this amazing effort, and I offer my continued support to Citrus Ridge moving forward. It is my hope Citrus Ridge will be an example of civic learning and

engagement throughout the 15th District, the entire State of Florida, and the United States of America.

#### RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER IS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH AND THE LIFE OF AMAN- DA CONROW

#### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. This year over 16,000 children and adolescents will be diagnosed with cancer. This horrifying disease does not know race, nationality, religion, gender, or socio-economic status. As a mother and a grandmother, one of my greatest hopes is that one day every person can live a healthy, long life without the fear of cancer. I'm especially proud that a bill I wrote, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), is now playing a leading role in much of the cancer research being done across the country today, after a 14 year fight to get it signed into law.

Eliminating childhood cancer is one issue that I am grateful to see is bipartisan. As a member of the Congressional Childhood Cancer Caucus, I am proud to work with my friends on both sides of the aisle to advocate and support robust funding for research to prevent the suffering and long-term effects of childhood cancer.

With significant advances in medicine in the past 40 years, the mortality rate for childhood cancer has declined by more than 50 percent. Still, 1,250 children may lose their battle with cancer by the end of this year. We must continue to push for robust funding for institutions such as the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute. We must work to increase awareness for early detection and support those in our community who face this reality with our compassion and support.

Further, Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to the extraordinary life of Rochester's own Amanda Conrow. In 2012, when she was just three years old, Amanda was diagnosed with ependymoma, a cancer of the brain and central nervous system. Doctors told Amanda's parents she would maybe live another year. Amanda, like so many other courageous children, proved the doctors wrong. With the support and love of her mother Liz, her father Paul, and her amazing siblings Samantha, Michael, Jessica and Emily, Amanda lived to see her sixth birthday. Her determination and tenaciousness inspired many in the community and helped to bring awareness to childhood cancer in the Rochester area. Sadly, Amanda lost her battle in the early hours of February 8, 2015.

Mr. Speaker, let us all be inspired by Amanda's life and the courage and bravery of every child facing this disease. It is my deepest hope that we can support the work of doctors and researchers that are committed to working tirelessly so that one day we will achieve the ultimate goal of eliminating cancer as a threat to all.

#### TRIBUTE TO KAREN AND DONALD TYE

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Karen and Donald Tye of Macedonia, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on July 9, 2016.

Karen and Donald's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

#### IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF JAMES G. PATTERSON

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the life of James G. Patterson.

August 22nd marks the birthday of Mr. Patterson who served his country in Korea until the conflict ended on July 27, 1953. Mr. Patterson returned to Alabama in the late 1950s and joined the Alabama National Guard. He served at the integration of the University of Alabama in June of 1963 and during the third Civil Rights march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965.

His Army and National Guard experience were important to him and he shared his admiration and respect for Korea, education, religion and Civil Rights with his son, James E. Patterson, an Auburn University graduate, an Associate Member of the Korean War Veterans Association and a life member of the America Foreign Service Association.

Mr. Patterson's son honored his father, who passed away in 2003, by appearing as a reporter in the 2015 film "Selma." His son had his late father's military photo in his pocket as his scenes were filmed in Atlanta the week of Father's Day in 2014. James also wrote an article in the April 2015 issue of the National Guard Magazine titled, "Proud of My Father."

On August 22, the Patterson family remembers and celebrates the life of James G. Patterson by volunteering at libraries, churches and schools.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016*

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes on Monday,