

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PEARL HARBOR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on December 7, 1941, our nation was attacked. Today marks the 75th anniversary of the day that will live in infamy of the surprise attack.

Today is a time to honor the courage and sacrifice of those two thousand service members that lost their lives in this devastating attack. President Franklin Roosevelt stated that "no matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people, in their righteous might, will win through to absolute victory."

As the son of a World War II Flying Tiger of the U.S. Army Air Corps, 14th Air Force, who served in India and China, I am inspired by the service from this time. They are stories of how the American people met this unspeakable tragedy head on with remarkable determination. I believe that it is this same strength that has carried our great nation through trials since World War II and will be a firm foundation for our future, learning the importance of peace through strength.

As a grateful 31-year veteran and the father of four sons who have all served overseas in the Global War on Terrorism, I believe in the power of our armed forces and the righteous might they demonstrate in the face of conflicts around the world promoting peace through strength while liberating dozens of countries.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War of Terrorism. September 11th was the Pearl Harbor of our era with a surprise attack to destroy our civilization.

COMMEMORATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGE'S SHOESHINE IN PEORIA, ILLINOIS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize George Manias of Peoria, Illinois on the 70th anniversary of his Peoria business, George's Shoeshine and Hatters World Headquarters, a fixture in the Peoria community since George began his shoeshine business 70 years ago.

As a small child, George moved from America to Crete, a Greek isle, before World War II. George, his family, and their community worked tirelessly to fight off Nazi invasions, often having to shoot Nazi paratroopers before they could land on the island. Despite their gallant efforts, however, the Nazis did eventually invade the island. George's father, a U.S. citizen, was imprisoned numerous times throughout Nazi occupation during World War II. During this difficult time, young George went four years without a pair of shoes.

In 1946, as a teenager, George returned to Peoria, Illinois, where he would become an integral member of our community. He started

his shoeshine business with one seat, charging 25 cents a shine. A model of the American entrepreneur, George steadily grew his business, making it the national landmark it is today.

During his 70 years of business in Peoria, countless public figures have walked through George's doors in hopes of meeting this industrious man and having the opportunity to place a signed photo in his place of business. Over the past 70 years, George has met various public figures, including four U.S. Presidents, numerous U.S. Vice Presidents, Governors, U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, White House Chiefs of Staff, Mayors, world champion athletes, CEOs, and local leaders.

George's Shoeshine business is known throughout Central Illinois for the personal service, craftsmanship, and incredible attention to detail he puts into every shoe he shines. I am honored to share the same hometown as George, where a humble man can achieve the American dream through dedication, commitment, and hard work. I extend my sincere congratulations to George Manias on a successful 70 years and I look forward to seeing his legacy carry on in downtown Peoria.

PAMELA NISSLER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Pamela Nissler for being recognized by the West Chamber as a 2016 Celebrate Women Honoree. Celebrate Women Honorees are known for their perseverance, accomplishments, generosity, and dedication to their passions and their community.

Pamela has been working to support and advance education in Colorado for more than 45 years. Currently, she serves as the Executive Director of Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL). Prior to that role, she has served as the Library Manager, Substitute Librarian, Director of Community Services, and Director of Library Programs. Pam's seven years at the JCPL have elevated the institution to new levels in terms of historical importance and educational value in the community.

Pam is a member of both the American and Public Library Associations, as well as a past president of the Colorado Library Association. Pam's involvement in Jefferson County expands outside of the library as a member of the West Chamber Board of Directors and the Child and Youth Leadership Commission of Jefferson County. She has also served on community leadership associations throughout Douglas County and Highlands Ranch. Pam has a Bachelor's degree in Education and a Master's degree in Library Science.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Pamela Nissler for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. DAWN DICKERSON FOR RECEIVING THE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY'S SIGMA MU MU CHAPTER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Dawn Dickerson of Broadlands, Virginia, for being named the Educator of the Year by the Sigma Mu Mu chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Ms. Dickerson is the Assistant Principal at Rock Ridge High School located in Ashburn. This award was granted to Ms. Dickerson for her work to improve inclusion and acceptance within the student body at Rock Ridge High School.

Ms. Dickerson has been instrumental in organizing special events to help her students become introduced to new topics as our country's next generation of leaders. One such instance of her devotion was when she put together a visit from Freedom Rider Joan Trumpauer Mulholland to speak with students during Black History Month last year. Ms. Dickerson was also a key component in the Loudoun International Youth Leadership Summit. This Summit enables students to engage in discussion with, and learn from, a number of international delegations who attended the event.

Ms. Dickerson's role as Assistant Principal at Rock Ridge High places her in a position where she can have a positive impact on the lives of countless young minds. This recognition from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity comes as a result of her dedication to the students of Loudoun County, and it is a reflection of the wonderful and civic-minded citizens we have throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Dawn Dickerson from Rock Ridge High School for receiving this Educator of the Year Award from the Sigma Mu Mu chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax County Alcohol Service Action Program (ASAP) on the occasion of the 25th Annual Excellence in Community Service and Public Safety Awards. This year's awards are being jointly sponsored with Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

ASAP is a criminal justice program which uses community and state services to reduce the problem of driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. It identifies and provides appropriate services to offenders convicted of driving under the influence or other substance abuse-related charges as referred

by the local courts. The goal of ASAP is to improve transportation safety by decreasing the incidence of driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs and thereby reducing the number of alcohol or other drug-related crash-es.

According to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, in 2014 nearly 36 percent of all traffic fatalities in the Commonwealth were alcohol-related. Tragically, more than 40 percent of those killed in alcohol related deaths were ages 21–35. While alcohol-related traffic deaths in Virginia have been on the decline, we are still averaging a crash nearly every hour as a result of drunk driving. Sadly, national statistics reflect an 8 percent increase in alcohol related traffic deaths in the first 6 months of 2015 when compared to 2014. We can only hope that, thanks to the work of organizations like ASAP and MADD, that trend begins to reverse.

Every year, ASAP honors those in the law-enforcement community who have been instrumental in fighting impaired driving. I am pleased to include the names of this year's recipients.

City of Alexandria: Officer Anthony LaRusso.

Arlington County: Officer Brett Kooharian.

Fairfax County: APO Donald Brodie, PFC James Burleson, PFC Hyun Chang, Ms. Annette Dodson, Officer Harrison R. Gamble, OFC Sameer A. Kahn, APO William Ridge-way, APO Richard Zhu.

City of Fairfax: Officer Bryan P. Nelson.

City of Falls Church: Officer Kevin Hedden, PFC Dimitri Issaev.

George Mason University: Sergeant Michael F. Lighthiser, MPO Edward T. Gannon.

Town of Herndon: PFC Eliezer A. Cabo, PFC Charles W. Findley.

City of Leesburg: Officer Bradley Schultz.

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Ruben Cardenas, Deputy Glenn P. Keough.

City of Manassas Park: Officer Christopher Koglin.

Prince William County: Officer Simon Chu, Officer Christopher LaFarree, Officer Jeremy Schenck, Officer Brett Tillett.

Town of Purcellville: Officer Kristopher Fraley, Corporal Clark McDaniel.

United States Park Police: Sergeant Jonathan Daniels, Officer Pentti Gillespie, Officer Christopher Gogarty, Officer Greg Harper, Officer David Lamond, Officer Lisa Marie Weisbaum, Officer Charles Whiteman, Sergeant Adam Zielinski.

Town of Vienna: Officer Ara Post, Officer Brad Reedy.

Virginia State Police, Division Seven: Trooper Nicholas Casey, Trooper Diego A. Espinosa, Trooper Lorenzo Goode, Trooper Kevin Fleenor, Trooper Adam Hassan, Trooper Andre D. Jones, Trooper Tomasz Karbowski, Trooper Zachary Koon, Trooper Wesley Paul, Trooper Michael Walton, Trooper John Yacek.

Town of Warrenton: Sergeant Arthur Leeper, Officer Matthew McGuirk.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2016 award recipients, and thank each of the men and women listed above for their service to our community. Their efforts are selfless acts of heroism that save innocent lives and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending this extraordinary group of law enforcement professionals.

REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR—75 YEARS LATER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the sun was lazily rising on the horizon over the islands of Hawaii. It was around breakfast time on a stunning Sunday morning. It was quiet, peaceful, calm. People felt secure. There was a small tropical breeze as the American flag was being raised on a nearby flagpole. On December 7, 1941, America was at peace and unprepared for war.

Suddenly, large formations of aircraft swarmed the blue Hawaii sky. The rising sun was darkened by hundreds of Japanese planes as they strafed and bombed Pearl Harbor. The Japanese unleashed a fury of deadly, devastating bombs and torpedoes on the small island. The first attack of the Second World War on American soil was underway. It was 75 years ago today when Luke Trahin, a 22-year-old sailor from Beaumont, in southeast Texas and his fellow sailors, soldiers, and marines saw war unleashed upon America.

Until that moment World War two was a far-off conflict. America watched silently, abstaining from the violence. But the days of innocence were over. America was under attack.

The Japanese had caught America by surprise and took advantage of an unprepared nation. And after the smoke cleared on that morning of madness, 98 Navy planes and 64 Army aircraft were destroyed. Luke's unit, Patrol Wing One, lost all but three of its 36 aircraft. 2,471 Americans, servicemen, and civilians were killed by this unwarranted invasion of terror from the skies.

The pride of the United States Navy, the battleships—*West Virginia, California, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah, Maryland, Nevada, and Arizona*—were trapped in the harbor. They made easy targets for the Japanese pilots. The sailors onboard these battle wagons fought with the courage of entire legions of warriors when they were attacked by a skillful, fanatical, and tyrannical enemy. All of these fierce U.S. Navy battleships were sunk or damaged. Their guns, Mr. Speaker, are now silent.

The hull of the USS *Arizona* became the sacred graveyard in the peaceful Pacific for more than 1,177 American sailors and marines. Luke Trahan and his Navy buddies in Patrol Wing One quickly got organized, prepared, and waited for two days for the expected land invasion of the Japanese. It never came. But America was at war.

World War II had long been raging before America officially entered into the conflict. Spreading from the Pacific to Europe all the way to Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

The Japanese, then the Nazis; seemed undefeatable. But even the Japanese were concerned about the spirit of America. The Japanese commander of the Pearl Harbor invasion remarked that what Japan had done was wake a sleeping giant. Millions served in uniform overseas; millions served on the home front; all sacrificed for the cause of America. The nation woke from a somber sleep of neutrality and, with our allies, defeated the tyrants that would rule over the world. That was a time when Americans put aside all differences

and united to defend freedom in our Nation. When the war was won, over 400,000 Americans had given their lives for this nation.

Until September 11th, this was the deadliest attack on U.S. soil. "December 7, 1941, a date that will live in infamy," were words spoken by President Franklin D. Roosevelt that became forever embedded in the minds of patriots across our land, igniting and launching a nation into the fiery trenches of battle throughout the world.

Those of that Greatest Generation proved that when the peace of this nation is threatened, our people will stand up and fight back, bringing the thunder of God upon our enemies. Defending freedom and liberty was the battle cry of the sailors and soldiers that died 75 years ago at Pearl Harbor. We must continue to remember December 7th, 1941 and the Americans who stood tall and kept the flame of America glowing brightly.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BRUCE RICKER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Bruce Ricker, of Mount Ayr, Iowa, for being inducted into the Mount Ayr Community Schools Hall of Fame.

Dr. Ricker graduated from Mount Ayr Community Schools in 1975, where he played on two state tournament basketball teams in 1973 and 1975. He earned his degrees from the University of Iowa and the Iowa College of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences. After interning and practicing medicine in Phoenix, Arizona, Dr. Ricker returned to Mount Ayr in 1997. He practices medicine at the Mount Ayr Medical Clinic and serves as the Medical Examiner for Ringgold County, Medical Director for HCI Hospice Care Services, as well as for Clearview Home and Mount Ayr Health Care Center. In 2003, Dr. Ricker was named Physician of the Year by the Iowa Osteopathic Medical Association and was presented the Spirit of Hospice Award by the Iowa Hospice Association.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Ricker's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Dr. Ricker for his achievements and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING GARY ELLIS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Gary Ellis. Mr. Ellis is retiring from medical technology leader Medtronic this month after 27 years of service, including 11 years as the company's chief financial officer.

Mr. Ellis's leadership and vision dramatically contributed to Medtronic's financial well-being