

of his time as a drill instructor at Camp Pendleton.

After returning to Dallas, he married his sweetheart, Mina, in 1954. They were blessed with four boys, Gregory, Vickers, William, and Michael. He is survived by Mina, his four sons, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson. It was rare to see Bulldog or Mina separately. Their marriage of over 60 years was an example of a life-long love. The Cunninghams are a very close-knit family.

Bulldog made a life-long passion out of his chosen profession of insurance. He based his insurance company in East Dallas. He was a member of the Million Dollar Round Table. In the last year of his life, he was still a national top 10 percent producer for Safeco Insurance.

Bulldog was an active political volunteer, along with his wife, Mina. He was very active in the Dallas community, including the Greater East Dallas Chamber of Commerce, in which he was instrumental in their annual Economic Summit, investing a lot of time in building the event, Habitat for Humanity, City of Dallas Planning & Zoning Commission, and numerous other organizations and city boards and commissions. He was inducted into the Woodrow Wilson High School Hall of Fame in 2004.

Mr. Cunningham will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and the East Dallas community. We have lost a patriotic, hard-working businessman who was the example of who we should all strive to be. My condolences to Mina and the rest of the Cunningham family. Melissa and I are praying for God's comfort on you during this time of loss.

#### HONORING WEST VIRGINIA'S ALWAYS FREE HONOR FLIGHT AND VETERANS

#### HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed so much for the freedoms we hold so dear. Those who serve this great country deserve not only our respect but our deepest gratitude. I stand here today to honor West Virginia's veterans who are visiting Washington, D.C., with the Always Free Honor Flight on May 18, 2016. These veterans served honorably in times of war and times of peace, and they deserve to be recognized and thanked for their service to our nation and their efforts to secure the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

As a country we must never forget the costs of war, the costs to the families of our service men and women, and the costs of protecting our freedom, especially when there are so many in this world who seek to destroy our way of life. I want to thank all those who came with this Honor Flight, and I extend my sincerest appreciation for what they have done for West Virginia and for this country.

#### SACRAMENTO CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT IS SELECTED TO RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S E-STAR AWARD

#### HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to the Sacramento Center for International Trade Development and the Los Rios Community College District for being awarded the "E-Star" award from the United States Department of Commerce, which recognizes excellence in export assistance.

The Sacramento Center for International Trade Development is a prominent part of the drive to increase exports from the Sacramento region. The program, which is administered through the Los Rios Community College District, is a longstanding force for global competitiveness in our area.

For more than two decades, the Center has provided export services and programs that serve to enhance the effectiveness and profitability of Northern California businesses. The Center's relationship with the Department of Commerce provides Sacramento area businesses with a unique edge, helping to contribute to the growing economy in our region. The Center provides critical support to our local businesses, and deserves this important recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the Sacramento Center for International Trade Development and the Los Rios Community College District for their work to support Northern California. Please join me in congratulating them on this significant achievement.

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN J. LINDSAY

#### HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Colonel John J. Lindsay for dedicating 28 years of honorable service to the United States Army. John and his family's devotion, sacrifice, and commitment to the Nation is worthy of praise and recognition.

A native of New York, John was commissioned into the United States Army as a second lieutenant after graduating from the United States Military Academy in 1988. He is a combat proven leader and a highly skilled AH-64D Apache attack helicopter pilot. John is a true professional and scholar, earning a Bachelor of Science in National Security from the United States Military Academy and a Master of Science in Human Resources from Central Michigan University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Joint Forces Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College Fellowship Program.

Upon entrance into the Armed Forces, Colonel Lindsay attended the aviation officer basic course and initial entry rotary wing flight training at Fort Rucker in the 2nd Congressional District of Alabama that I proudly represent. Throughout John's career in Army aviation, he served in a range of assignments from the

platoon level to the Department of the Army headquarters staff. His initial assignment was as an aeroscout platoon leader in the Republic of Korea with the 5-501st Attack Helicopter Battalion, 17th Aviation Brigade. He continued to his second overseas assignment in Wiesbaden, Germany with 5-6 Cavalry Squadron, 12th Aviation Brigade. During his tenure with the 12th Aviation Brigade, he served as squadron liaison officer and squadron adjutant. He later served as the assistant squadron operations officer and headquarters troop Commander in 6-6 Cavalry Squadron, based in Illesheim, Germany.

Upon completion of his overseas tour in Germany, he returned to the U.S. and served in multiple duty assignments from the National Training Center (NTC) at Ft. Irwin, CA to the U.S. Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, VA. Later in his career, John returned to the 11th Aviation Regiment and served during the initial invasion of Iraq. The Army selected John to command 1-14th Aviation Battalion at Ft. Rucker, AL, where he completed the AH-64D Instructor Pilot course and assumed responsibility of all attack and reconnaissance flight training for the Army. After command, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command where he served as the aviation branch chief and later as the chief of maneuver, fires and effects division.

Upon promotion to Colonel, Colonel Lindsay attended the U.S. Army War College Fellowship at the Institute for Defense Analyses in Washington, D.C., and subsequently deployed as the director of the Joint Operations Center (JOC) to U.S. Forces Iraq. In his most recent assignments, he served as a senior advisor to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army and also as the director of army aviation for the Army's G 3/5/7. John was instrumental in the formulation of the Army's Aviation Restructure Initiative (ARI), which optimizes the operational capability, deployment and lethality, and deployment in Army Aviation.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a sincere pleasure to have worked with Colonel John J. Lindsay over the last three years. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues in recognizing and commending John for his service to the United States of America. We wish him, his lovely wife Virginia, and their three children, Ian, Emma, and Kevin all the best as they depart the United States Army and continue on their wonderful journey.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

#### HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week occurring last week and to graciously thank all the hardworking educators in the First District of Iowa.

Every day, teachers rise and face the challenge of preparing today's youth to be the leaders of tomorrow. Our teachers are at the forefront of shaping young minds, recognizing potential, and encouraging their success.

Across the country, teachers are empowering students with the necessary skills to achieve their dreams and become the next generation of leaders of the United States.

As Members of Congress, we must do our part to equip our teachers with the best tools and resources possible to educate our children—who are our most precious resource and deserve every effort we can make to give them the opportunity to succeed.

I thank all the dedicated teachers in the First District of Iowa during National Teacher Appreciation Week for continuing to provide their best to our children and empowering them to reach their full potential.

IN RECOGNITION OF MUSTANG  
SUD'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a milestone for the Mustang Special Utility District (SUD). On May 13, 2016, this local government entity will celebrate fifty years of utility service to residents and businesses in northeast Denton County.

The organization started as a small water supply corporation in 1966 with less than 50 connections. The Mustang SUD now covers 100 square miles and 11,000 connections as a provider of retail water and sewer utilities within its designated boundaries, encompassing cities and communities between Pilot Point to the north and Oak Point to the south.

The Mustang SUD is governed by an elected board of directors. The nine directors are elected to three year terms and must be retail customers of the organization and reside within the district's boundaries. Since 2011, the organization has been deemed a "Superior Public Water System" by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

To be designated "Superior," the system must meet the TCEQ's stringent criteria for overall excellence in the operation of a public water system. These standards include excellent efforts in protecting public health, ensuring reliable operations and water supply for the system's customers, compliance with regulatory requirements and environmental stewardship.

It is my privilege to represent the customers of the Mustang SUD in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING MR. HAL RICHARDS

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate a dear friend, Mayor Hal Richards of Terrell, Texas. Hal is an outstanding community leader and servant for the people of Kaufman County.

Hal was born in 1953 in El Paso while his father served in the Army at Fort Bliss. After the military, his father's job as a petroleum engineer took him across Texas to wherever the next oil boom struck. The Richards family even lived in Venezuela for a period of time. Ultimately, the family settled in Garland, Texas where he was an active musician in the Garland High School band and even played in a

slightly lesser known garage band, The Monotones.

After graduating high school, Hal took his talents to Texas A&M where he served as the drum major in the Fighting Texas Aggie Band. He graduated in 1975 with a degree in political science, and later he earned his MBA.

Hal met his wife Christi while at A&M and they married in 1976. They found their way to Terrell in 1981 where he opened a tractor distributorship and raised his family. The folks of Terrell are glad they did. In 2001, Hal sold the tractor dealership and took over his father's manufacturing company, Catco, where he continues to oversee operations.

Hal decided to give back to his adopted town and ran for city council, and served for one term before being elected Mayor of Terrell in 2007. As mayor, he has been instrumental in the growth of "Terrell America," the adopted slogan. Hal has served his community in a number of other capacities including: Chairman of the Terrell Chamber of Commerce, Assistant Scout Master, member and past president of the Rotary Club, and his church's vestry. Not surprisingly, Hal was also recently named Citizen of the Year. And if he wasn't busy enough, Hal finally realized a lifelong dream of becoming a pilot in 2003.

Hal and Christi have three sons, Jason, Travis and Chad. Like their dad, they are all proud Texas A&M graduates as well. It is truly an honor to represent Hal Richards in the United States House of Representatives. On behalf of the Fifth District of Texas I would like to congratulate Hal for a job well done as Mayor, and thank him for his tireless commitment to his family and community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE "FROGMEN" OF THE U.S. NAVAL COMBAT DEMOLITION UNITS IN WORLD WAR II

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of meeting on March 30 with William "Bill," Dawson of Waldorf, Maryland, in the Fifth Congressional District. Bill is the last living member of the first class of Naval Special Warfare Operators to train for duty with the U.S. Naval Combat Demolition Units that were the precursor to today's Navy SEAL teams. He is ninety-one years old and a retired Washington, D.C. firefighter who remains deeply proud of his service to our nation and to his community. I was honored to receive from him a copy of his book *Before They Were SEALs They Were Frogs*, which recounts the story of the Naval Combat Demolition Units during the Second World War and his own service in the Pacific.

First created in 1943 and led by Lt. Draper L. Kauffman, the first Naval Combat Demolition Units were tasked with the reconnaissance of amphibious landing sites and the demolition of enemy obstacles that would hinder the advance of invading Allied forces. After their specialized training at Fort Pierce in Florida, including the series of grueling tests that is now considered to have been the first-ever "Hell Week," the first Navy "Frogmen" deployed to the European and Pacific theaters of operation in support of combat operations.

Navy Frogmen were instrumental in clearing obstacles on Omaha Beach and Utah Beach during the Normandy invasion on D-Day in 1944, and many were killed or wounded performing their dangerous missions. In the Pacific, Frogmen demonstrated similar gallantry during the operations to liberate the Philippines, Guam, Borneo, and many other places that had been occupied by Japanese forces and that were instrumental in the advance toward victory. Frogmen were training for cold-water operations in preparation for an anticipated invasion of the Japanese home islands when the war ended.

The Underwater Demolition Teams that succeeded the initial Naval Combat Demolition Units saw action in Korea and Vietnam, and it was in the early 1960's that the Navy decided to transition them into the Navy SEAL teams we know today, in a reflection of their broadening role beyond the water's edge. Americans are grateful for the extraordinary service and sacrifices of our Navy SEALs, among the most skilled, experienced, and courageous to serve in defense of our nation. I'm proud to represent many Navy personnel and veterans in Maryland's Fifth District, which is home to Pax River Naval Air Station, the Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Division, and Webster Field. I join in thanking Bill Dawson and all of those who were our nation's first Navy Frogmen for their gallant service in defense of freedom and for their crucial role in the history of U.S. Naval Special Operations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES A. HIMES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, 2016, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on roll call No. 190, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule (H. Res. 725). Had I been present for roll call No. 190, I would have voted "NAY."

I was unable to be present to cast my vote on roll call No. 191, the rule providing for consideration of the House Amendment S. 524—Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (H. Res. 725). Had I been present for roll call No. 191, I would have voted "NAY."

I was unable to be present to cast my vote on roll call No. 192, on approving the Journal. Had I been present for roll call No. 192, I would have voted "AYE."

CONGRATULATING BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PLUMBING FOR BEING RECOGNIZED AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2016 SECRETARY OF DEFENSE EMPLOYER SUPPORT FREEDOM AWARD

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2016*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Benjamin Franklin Plumbing, of Springfield, Missouri, for being recognized as a finalist for the 2016 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.