

the St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue station. He has served for 20 years with Clearwater Fire and Rescue. I thank him for the decades of service he has already given to us. Mr. Williams will be becoming the Assistant Chief of Suppression.

Mr. Graham became a firefighter in 1998 and at the time was one of three minority firefighters in the department. He has worked for 17 years with Clearwater Fire and Rescue in various capacities including as a member of the dive team, technical rescue team, and as a lieutenant for 12 years. He will serve as Assistant Chief of Health and Safety.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank and acknowledge Mr. Graham and Mr. Williams for their dedication to our community and to Clearwater Fire and Rescue. They are role models for Pinellas County. I ask that this body join me in thanking them for their service and wishing them success in their new roles as Assistant Chiefs of Clearwater Fire and Rescue.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MR. MCBURNETT JAMES
KNOX, JR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. McBurnett James Knox, Jr., better known as "Coach Mac," who passed away on May 29, 2016, at the age of 89.

Coach Mac served his country in the United States Navy, and was a retired United States postal worker and longtime employee of the New Orleans Recreation Development Commission (NORD). He was best known as the longtime supervisor at the Pontchartrain Park in New Orleans and legendary coach of the Pontchartrain Park Patriots.

Coach Mac coached every sport and activity possible. His teams won city championships in baseball, football, basketball, softball and track. Coach Mac coached all-star teams in Babe Ruth Baseball, Biddy Basketball, and the National Youth Games. He was able to win both a state and a national championship in his career. Also, during Coach Mac's four plus decades at the Pontchartrain Park, he ran a softball league for postal workers and other adult leagues.

Mr. Speaker, as a beneficiary of Coach Mac's commitment and sacrifice, I celebrate his life and legacy, because he has touched the lives of many children and citizens in New Orleans, Louisiana. His wife preceded him in death; however, my thoughts and prayers are with his five children and the other members of his family.

VVA SUPPORT OUR TROOPS
RALLY

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, 2016, Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 862 will sponsor its 15th annual Support Our

Troops Rally to honor the courageous individuals serving in our armed forces as well as our veterans. It is an opportunity to pay our respects to our troops stationed both here at home and overseas.

We should never fail to recognize the irreplaceable contributions of our service members, and we should never take their service for granted. As civilians, it is often easy to go about our daily lives, enjoying our freedoms, without remembering the sacrifices that purchased them.

Robert Gwin organized the first Support Our Troops Rally 15 years ago, and the tradition has only grown stronger, with the rally drawing larger crowds every year. This is a testament to the value of institutions like Vietnam Veterans of America in demonstrating gratitude to our troops who need to know how much their service means to the rest of us.

The Support Our Troops Rally fosters a strong sense of patriotism and appreciation in our community. Most important, it helps us convey our gratitude to our veterans and troops, particularly those overseas in dangerous areas of the world.

HONORING TOMMY L.
MCCULLOUGH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Tommy L. McCullough, who was born in Pickens, Madison County, Mississippi to the late parents of W.E.L. and Classie McCullough. He was the youngest of twenty siblings where ten (10) were added by marriage.

Mr. Tommy L. McCullough was raised in Valley View, Mississippi and attended Nichols School until the eighth grade. Later he went to Cameron Street High School and left to go to the Army while he was in the 12th grade.

Mr. McCullough entered the Army on December 13, 1954, he was in the 25th Division at Scofield Barracks in Hawaii. While there an Honor Guard was formed after a few months and height requirements were 5 feet 10 inches tall, but because he was sharp and intelligent he was chosen to be a Guard, although he was 5 feet 8 inches tall. They later changed the title from Guard to Drill Platoon. No one could handle a rifle the way Mr. McCullough handled it and he was recognized with many letters of congratulations for his performance in the Drill Platoon, he also went to the Non-Commission Officer Academy and received a diploma. Within two years he went from a Private to SP3 (Specialist 3rd class). There he stayed until his discharge on November 27, 1956 and went back to Jackson, Mississippi.

He had many friends who were Civil Rights Activist, one of them was a Freedom Rider, Mr. Jake Freeze, who was one of the leaders in the Freedom Riders Movement that lived in his house in 1963, which was later called the Freedom House in Madison County. Pictures are on the wall of the Civil Rights Museum in Canton, Mississippi, today.

Mr. McCullough afterwards moved to Louisville, KY in 1965. He worked at Harshaws Chemical Company for about five years. He

missed Mississippi so much that he came back and opened up a night club, Billa Farro, for five years in Jackson and later opened a Car Dealership, TC and III, and then he retired.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Tommy L. McCullough for his dedication to serving others.

THE GIFT, RUNNING ON THE WIND,
THE BREEZE—IN HONOR OF
MIDFIELDER FRANK URSO

HON. MARKWAYNE MULLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of The University of Maryland Midfielder Frank Urso, who received the prestigious Teewaarton Legend Award on June 2nd at the Native American Museum in Washington, DC. Frank was a four-year 1st Team All American, leading The Terps to two National Championships, and Two National Championship finals in his four years at Maryland. He joins the likes of Jim Brown, Gary Gate, and Eamon McEnneny. I would like to submit this poem in honor of him and the Native Americans who created the magnificent game of lacrosse, penned by fellow teammate Albert Carey Caswell.

Long before Basket and Baseball or Football
ever came to be
All out across this great land this sweet
Country tis a thee
Came on the wind, came running on the
breeze
All out there upon those fields of green as so
to be
But came The Native Americans so all at
speed.
All in this their game of such intensity
Of such power and might, grace and speed
As the fastest game on foot you'll ever see
Ah' poetry in motion
as is this sport of beauty and combat all
interweaved.
As is Lacrosse their great gift to you and
me.
A gift to Mankind which one day would in-
tercede
Capturing little boys and girls hearts all at
speed
With stick in hand as they become one to
compete
While, into the night against a wall chasing
their dreams.
To Be The Best on fields of green.
Bagattaway, as it all began with the mag-
nificent Native Americans you see
Who are The Very Heart of what it all so
means to be an America indeed.
A people of such character and courage,
strength and speed
Who to Nature so respect and heed.
A race of people who were the antifascist of
living free.
Running on the wind, the breeze.
Training mighty warriors for the rigors of
combat, as they would bleed
Turning boys to men, giving them the
strength, training, and confidence they
would need.
Running on the wind, the breeze, as all
across this Nation their great game
came to be
As why to this day with such high regard the
world envies
As they'd pass this game down through the
generations to their families, from

dream time of their great ancestors in history
 This gift we now know as LACROSSE, so much achieves.
 Building character and strength, and such teamwork to cement all who intervene
 Now, growing far and wide all throughout our country sides
 For no greater game has yet to be devised
 As it reaches deep down into ones very soul
 As does their fine gift to America to behold.
 Running on the wind.
 To them so much we owe.
 Ode to The Native American, who've given us this great game we all love and know
 Of stamina and courage, and of grace, which put smiles upon our face
 Of skill and such grit, and the teamwork so all in it
 With such might and speed she gives us all we need.
 Ah' running on the wind, the breeze, Lacrosse
 All in this Native American's Game of Speed.

TRIBUTE TO ROB VAN TASSEL,
 FLORIDA BIG BROTHER OF THE
 YEAR

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a member of our community, Rob Van Tassel, for being named Florida's Big Brother of the Year.

Mr. Van Tassel is a logistics manager with Southwire, a manufacturing company based in Clearwater, Florida. He graduated from Dunedin High School in 1975 and has been a Pinellas County resident for many years now. Inspired by the way his father had raised him and encouraged by his own daughter, Mr. Van Tassel decided to join Big Brothers and Big Sisters and give back to the community that had given him and his family so much. In 2008, Mr. Van Tassel was matched with his current little brother Seth. For Seth, Rob is a supportive shoulder to lean on and a thoughtful advisor who keeps him focused on his education and making decisions that are beneficial for the rest of his life. Rob's work with Seth is truly exceptional.

Rob believes that children need strong mentors for guidance, and that it is our responsibility to help guide children and young adults who need help finding their way. In addition to being named Florida's Big Brother of the Year, Mr. Van Tassel is also being considered for the national Big Brother of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Rob Van Tassel for dedicating his time and efforts to our community. He has a strong desire to give back and, in turn, has inspired others to do so as well. I thank Rob for what he has done and I ask that this body join me in honoring and acknowledging Rob for his award and dedication to Pinellas County.

CELEBRATING DÍA DE PORTUGAL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Mr. NUNES of California, Mr. VALADAO of California, Mr. CICILLINE of Rhode Island, Mr. DENHAM of California, Mr. ZELDIN of New York, Ms. LOFGREN of California, Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, and Mr. HONDA of California to recognize Día de Portugal. On June 10 each year, Día de Portugal celebrates the Portuguese people, their strong heritage, and their beautiful country and culture.

Día de Portugal honors the death of the revered Portuguese poet Luís Vaz de Camões in 1580. While his mastery of verse has been compared to both Shakespeare and Dante, Camões is famously known for his epic "Os Lusíadas," one of Portugal's most treasured literary works. The poem pays tribute to Portugal's golden age of exploration and celebrates the many world-changing discoveries made by its seafaring explorers in the 15th century.

In his poem, Camões speaks of the Portuguese as destined to accomplish great deeds, and they have. This rings especially true of the more than one million Portuguese-Americans who have been contributing to and enriching culture in the United States for generations. Americans of Portuguese descent are responsible for tremendous growth and innovation, whether it be in the arts, agriculture, sports, or the highest levels of American government. The unbreakable bond between Portugal and the United States goes back many years—to the very founding of our nation.

After the Revolutionary War, Portugal was one of our first allies and one of the first countries to officially recognize the United States. In 1791, President George Washington formalized diplomatic relations with Portugal, and our relationship is stronger than ever more than 200 years later.

Today, Portugal is not just our friend and ally, but an important strategic partner for the United States. We must never forget the role of Portugal and Lajes Field during World War II, when the Portuguese helped us protect supply ships, identify U-boats, and win the war against fascism. As home to the U.S. Air Force's 65th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field was instrumental in our efforts during the Cold War and the Yom Kippur War and continues to be a critical asset in the Atlantic.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I join hands with the people of Portugal to reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the many ties between us, and we vow to ensure our relationship remains strong and robust. Along with the people of Portugal and Portuguese-Americans throughout the United States, we wish everyone a happy and joyous Día de Portugal.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 283 on Consideration of the Resolu-

tion for H. Res. 771 which took place Thursday, June 9, 2016, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on Roll Call Number 283 on Consideration of the Resolution for H. Res. 771.

HONORING PATRICIA D. WISE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Judge Patricia D. Wise. Elected in 1989, she is one of four Chancellors of the Fifth Chancery Court District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

Formerly, Mrs. Wise was managing attorney and partner in the law firm of Dockins & Wise, Attorneys at Law, Jackson, Mississippi. Her private practice was in the area of Domestic Relations-Family Law, Personal Injury and General Civil practice. She served as Family Law Resource Attorney for Central Mississippi Legal Services.

An Oxford, Mississippi native, she has lived in Jackson, Mississippi for the past thirty-five years. She received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education, her Master's of Communicative Disorders and her Juris Doctorate degree all from the University of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Judge Patricia D. Wise for her dedication to serving others.

TRIBUTE TO KEN DEKA

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Ken Deka, a veteran and member of our community, for his work to honor our troops on a nightly routine.

Mr. Deka moved to Indian Rocks Beach after retiring. He would occasionally play "Taps" on his bugle for his neighbors, and it soon became a nightly tradition. Now, Mr. Deka's rendition of "Taps" has become a community staple, and he can be heard playing it every night for his neighbors on Indian Rocks Beach.

Mr. Deka says he does it for the men and women currently serving, veterans, those military personnel who have already passed, and family members of his who have served, like his brother, a veteran who passed away five years ago. He wants to continue to honor those who, like Mr. Deka and his brother, have given so much to our country and remind all of his neighbors to be grateful for our military.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank and acknowledge Mr. Ken Deka for his service to our country, and for his continued efforts to remember and recognize our men and women in uniform. I ask that this body join me in thanking Mr. Ken Deka for his continued support for our veterans.