

Joel Davis had an older brother, Josh, who is a member of the Watertown City Police Department. Josh cites his brother as one of the most important role models in his life, and the reason he chose a career in law enforcement. Though Joel was considered the more serious of the two brothers, he also loved a good joke and to laugh—he loved to dance to music and have fun.

Trooper Davis also loved sports and grew up playing every sport imaginable with his family and friends. In his spare time, he volunteered as a coach and commissioner of a youth baseball league, and has had a lasting impact on the lives of the many young athletes he worked with.

This past Saturday, thousands of officers attended the services for Trooper Joel Davis. We will not forget Trooper Davis and the ultimate sacrifice he made. Our hearts mourn with his family, friends, and the entire law enforcement community.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANTHONY COLACCHIO

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sincere recognition of Anthony Colacchio and his commendable dedication in starting a wheelchair curling program at the Cape Cod Curling Club, as well as his dedication to serving wheelchair athletes.

Anthony has always been passionate about volunteering his time, money, and efforts to helping those who are differently-abled. He is a nationally-certified wheelchair trainer, has convinced the Grand National Curling Committee to set aside money to assist wheelchair curlers, accompanied the United States Paralympic Team to the Paralympic Games in Sochi, Russia in 2014, and will be accompanying the team again during the 2018 Games in Pyeong Chang, South Korea. Anthony and his wife, Mary, have also been invaluable in the ongoing expansion to make the Cape Cod Curling Club in Falmouth, Massachusetts handicap accessible.

Anthony's renowned work with the wheelchair curling community has roots much closer to home. After seeing his brother, who was in a wheelchair, sidelined from sport, Anthony saw curling as a golden opportunity to bring together all athletes in a common arena as equals. Anthony's work has come with sacrifice—dedicating so much of his time to the sport, he has missed special occasions with family but they have remained supportive throughout his tireless work.

Anthony's volunteerism does not end at the edge of the ice. He is involved in Neighborhood Falmouth, a local chapter of a national movement that promotes community residence for older Americans. Anthony regularly takes seniors to their doctors' appointments, providing vital transportation so they can access the health services they need. Additionally, he is on the board of directors for USS *Donner* Reunion, an organization that provides information and holds reunions for former shipmates of the USS *Donner*, a dock landing ship that served in the U.S. Navy from 1945 to 1970.

Anthony and Mary host an annual banquet in July known as the International Bonspiel. This year marks the 48th year of the banquet, and attendees will include veterans of the wheelchair curling community from South Korea, Slovakia, Canada, and the United States. Anthony's selfless commitment to both wheelchair athletes and the sport of curling has touched innumerable lives in the United States and around the world. For these efforts he is being recognized this year at the Bonspiel dinner.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Anthony Colacchio for his dedication to the sport of curling and creating an equal playing field for people of all abilities. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his work and wishing him all the best as he continues his important efforts.

HONORING NATHAN PAUL RAWSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Paul Rawson. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 692, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Paul Rawson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING DR. WILEY J. DOBBS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Wiley J. Dobbs for 33 years of distinguished service educating Idahoans on the occasion of his retirement from his current position as Superintendent of Twin Falls School District.

Dr. Dobbs' career as an educator is marked by a stalwart commitment to students across Idaho, particularly in Twin Falls. After serving as a high school teacher in Montpelier, Idaho, Dr. Dobbs returned to his hometown of Twin Falls to serve as an educator in both junior high schools and high schools, as well as a stint at the University of Idaho as an education instructor. After years in the classroom, Dr. Dobbs transitioned to the Twin Falls School District as Director of Operations in 2000. By 2003, he had accepted the position that would carry him to retirement: Superintendent of Twin Falls School District.

Throughout his career, Dr. Dobbs has demonstrated a superior dedication to the lives of the students and families he serves. In fact, Dr. Dobbs spent much of his career creating opportunities for students outside the classroom by volunteering as an advisor to the Congressional Award program. With his help, the city of Twin Falls has garnered national recognition for the quality and quantity of students who earn their Congressional Award for an outstanding commitment to setting and achieving their goals.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank Dr. Dobbs for his service and commitment to education in Idaho. On behalf of a grateful state, I wish him well in the next chapter of his life.

HONORING THE ALLIED CLEAN FUELS PLAZA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Allied Clean Fuels Plaza upon the occasion of their Grand Opening Celebration. This fuel service center is the first business in Northern California to specialize in offering clean fuel options for all types of vehicles.

In addition to the traditional three grades of unleaded and diesel gasoline offered by most service stations throughout the country, the Plaza offers a broad range of fuels and energies which address the ecological issues of the twenty-first century. These fuels include E-85 ethanol, diesel exhaust fluid (DEF), renewable hydrocarbon diesel, Propane Autogas and six fast-fill compressed natural gas (CNG) dispensers. The Plaza also features the option to recharge electric cars with a state of the art Tesla Supercharger Station. The Supercharger is capable of charging, eight Tesla vehicles simultaneously in just 20 minutes.

The Allied Clean Fuels Plaza is addressing the serious issue of climate change by making cleaner sources of energy available to our community. The station is already equipped to offer Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Hydrogen to meet the demands of our community as these fuels become more popular. The Plaza represents the first of the types of businesses we will need to protect the vitality of our environment for future generations.

While the Plaza is looking toward the future, they are firmly rooted in the history and values of our community. They are affiliated with Allied Propane Service, which has been operating in Northern California for 50 years. Their emphasis on clean fuel reflects the desires of members of our community to be responsible consumers. Their full service Circle K convenience store sells sandwiches, soups and regional cheeses from local vendors, and they offer premium wines from Napa and Sonoma, the best wine in the world.

Mr. Speaker, the Allied Clean Fuels Plaza is an innovative, responsible and impressive new service station in my community. Stan Teaderman is the driving force behind the Plaza and is an important member of our community who works hard to benefit the environment and support many charitable causes. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today and wish them the best of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 392.

HONORING PARKER SWAGGERTY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Parker Swaggerty. Parker is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1360, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Parker has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Parker has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Parker has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Parker built a wheelchair accessible sidewalk for the Chapel of Family Promise in Kansas City, Missouri, which provides transitional housing for homeless families.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Parker Swaggerty for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SEVEN LAKES SENIOR SELECTED FOR INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Xiong of Katy, TX, for being chosen to join Team USA at the International Biology Olympiad.

Thomas, a Seven Lakes High senior, was selected as a gold medalist in the 15th annual USA Biology Olympiad (USABO), qualifying him to represent the U.S. at the International Biology Olympiad this July in the U.K. He was picked out of 20 USABO National Finalists. To be chosen, he had to take practical and theoretical tests that followed 10 days of intensive biology instruction at Marymount University in Arlington, VA. The finalists studied with U.S. experts in the fields of cellular and molecular biology, plant anatomy and physiology, animal anatomy and physiology, genetics and evolution, ecology, ethology, and biosystematics. Thomas will represent the U.S. with Edward Lee of Austin, TX, Alexander Tsao of Fullerton, CA and Catherine Wang of Lexington, MA.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Thomas for being one of four to represent

the U.S. at the International Biology Olympiad. We know he will be a great asset to Team USA and will make TX proud. Good luck.

RECOGNIZING LT. COLONEL TED BALLARD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to honor a true American hero who has continued to make a difference in the lives of many throughout his life. Lt. Colonel Arthur “Ted” Ballard Jr. was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina in 1932. He is a graduate of Spartanburg Senior High School, Spartanburg Junior College, and attended Clemson University.

In 1954, Ted joined the U.S. Air Force as an Aviation Cadet and received his silver pilot’s wings and commission the following year. In 1955, he married the love of his life, Ruth. Their son, Kevin, was born in 1959.

In June of 1966, Ted was deployed to the Korat Air Force Base in Thailand to begin flying combat missions over Vietnam. On September 26, 1966, during his 68th mission, Ted’s F-105 was shot down by ground fire, forcing Ted to eject the aircraft over enemy territory just north of Hanoi. He suffered a broken left leg and was captured and interned by the North Vietnamese. Ted remained as a prisoner of war for six years, spending time in the infamous “Hanoi Hilton.”

Upon his release in March of 1973, Ted returned to the United States and underwent medical treatment and recovery until August of that year. He and his wife decided to finish their undergraduate degrees after his return. Ted went on to earn a master’s degree and serve on the faculty of the USAF War College before retiring in 1975. He and his wife moved back to Spartanburg, South Carolina, where Ted became the instructor for the Air Force Junior ROTC program at Gaffney High School. He retired in 1997 after teaching for 22 years.

Sadly, Ted lost his son in 2009 and his wife in 2015. Upon his wife’s death, Ted established the Dr. Kevin Dale Ballard 1980 Endowed Scholarship Fund at Wofford College, in South Carolina, in memory of both his brilliant son and loving wife. The scholarship will be awarded to a deserving Wofford College student studying science, technology, or medicine for the first time this fall.

On May 7, 2017, Ted was presented the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina’s highest civilian honor, by Governor Henry McMaster for his admirable service to the citizens of South Carolina.

A truly remarkable man, Ted continues to share the extraordinary story of his life, his time as a POW, and his time in the armed forces. He has made South Carolina and our nation proud.

HONORING KEITH ANDREW WILLIAMSON, II

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Keith Andrew Williamson, II. Keith is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Keith has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Keith has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Keith has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Keith refurbished a council ring and fire pit at Immacolata Manor in Liberty, Missouri, rebuilding the trail to the ring, repairing the fire pit and constructing benches around the fire pit.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Keith Andrew Williamson, II, for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR PATRICK W. MILLER

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Patrick W. Miller for his outstanding acts of heroism and his dedicated military service.

Major Miller received his commission into the Medical Service Corps in 2003 from St. Bonaventure University and continued his service as Medical Platoon Leader for the 1st Cavalry Division in Texas. His battalion was soon deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, where he served for 13 months. Major Miller was promoted to Battalion Assistant Operations Officer and spent another 15 months in Iraq before returning home.

In 2011, Major Miller was assigned as Chief of Resource Management for U.S. Army Medical Activity at Fort Drum. He remained there until moving back to Fort Hood to act as Brigade Comptroller for the 1st Medical Brigade. It was there that on April 2nd, 2014, Major Miller heard gunfire outside his office. Miller faced the attacker and was injured while trying to impede the rampage.

Major Miller was able to get to safety and call 911, sounding the alarm on the attack. Despite the horrific circumstances, Major Miller continued to maintain his composure and conduct himself professionally, all the while remaining cognizant of the well-being of those around him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Major Patrick W. Miller for his heroic actions and the dedication and honor with which he serves our country.