

Since 1977, McDade Park has offered services and recreational amenities for everyone. The park's 180 acres include several sports fields utilized by athletes of all ages while nature lovers enjoy the park's hiking trail and ponds for fishing. Programs such as youth soccer, women's golf, children's fishing derbies, and many others bring people together for some friendly competition. More recently, McDade Park has taken great strides to become more accessible to people of all needs. The Boundless Playground is a special structure added in 2009 which contains wheelchair-accessible slides and special sensory areas that allows children of all needs and abilities to have fun.

McDade Park has also helped bring past and present together by commemorating Lackawanna County's history. The Lackawanna Coal Mine tour, Pennsylvania Anthracite Museum, and Miner's Memorial are located at the park to preserve Lackawanna County's rich industrial past. The coal mine tour allows visitors to descend 300 feet underground via a mine car to explore a restored anthracite coal mine. In addition to the mine tour, McDade Park is home to memorials dedicated to honor Cancer Survivors and to commemorate the September 11, 2001 attacks on our country.

It is an honor to recognize McDade Park as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary. May the people of Lackawanna County continue to enjoy the beauty and history that McDade Park offers for many, many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FLORENTINO DURAN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Florentino "Tino" Duran.

Born and raised in San Antonio, Florentino Duran was an accomplished man. He persevered and managed to become Student Corps President, an ROTC Colonel, and editor of his high school newspaper. After high school, he served four years in the United States Air Force. Once he finished his service, Mr. Duran attended St. Mary's University and received a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration.

Mr. Duran worked in a variety of capacities after graduating college. He served as executive assistant to both Mayor John Gatti and the Lyndon B. Johnson Administration. He also worked as executive director of the Bexar County Department of Housing, President of the National Association of Hispanic Publications of the United States (NAHP) and Vice President of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of San Antonio.

Later in Mr. Duran's career, he became general manager of a Dallas newspaper known as "El Sol de Tejas". He then became CEO and president of the "Hispanic Informer". In 1989, Duran and his loving wife Millie reintroduced the newspaper "La Prensa" as a bilingual publication reporting on San Antonio and the Hispanic community.

Mr. Duran's successful career brought numerous recognitions, including the 2002 Media

Award, presented by the San Antonio Police Association; the 2006 Community Service Award from the San Antonio-Norte Chamber of Commerce; and the 2005 Henry B. Gonzalez Public Service and Integrity award, presented by the Department of Public Administration of San Antonio College.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize and honor the life of Florentino Duran of San Antonio.

HONORING MILJENKO "MIKE" GRGICH, RECIPIENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM AWARD

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Miljenko "Mike" Grgich, whom I have selected to receive the American Dream Award for California's 5th Congressional District. This award recognizes the achievements of immigrants in my district who have made remarkable contributions to our communities in the areas of Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service. Mr. Grgich is very deserving of this award and recognition.

Mike Grgich was born in Desne, Croatia and studied winemaking and viticulture at the University of Zagreb before leaving to escape communism. He came to Napa Valley in 1958 where he has become a successful vintner and an innovator in the wine community.

After arriving in Napa, Mike learned from some of the best vintners in the region. He became a winemaker for Chateau Montelena and made the Chardonnay that won the 1976 Paris Tasting, forever changing the way the world views American Wine. George Taber documented this consequential decision in a TIME magazine article, "Modern Living: Judgment of Paris." The resulting coverage of the Judgment of Paris created an immediate positive impact on the world of wine, and inspired among experts, consumers, and the trade a new appreciation for California wines.

In 1995, Mike returned to the University of Zagreb at the age of 72 and finally received the degree in enology and viticulture that he earned as a young man. In 2002, he helped prove that the Zinfandel vine originated in Croatia. His work led to his induction into the Vintners Hall of Fame and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the California State Fair. His 366-acre property, Grgich Hills, is completely organic, solar powered and strongly supports community organizations. Mike is an active member of Roots of Peace, an organization that works to replace land mines with grape vines all over the world. In 2007, Roots of Peace presented Mike with their Global Citizen Award for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize Mr. Miljenko "Mike" Grgich for his achievements and for enriching our community. It is fitting and proper that we honor him here today with the American Dream Award.

HONORING YEHIA "JOHN" SHOUSER ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Toledo area legend as he celebrates his 90th birthday, Yehia "John" Shouser. An American of Lebanese heritage, a proud U.S. citizen and indefatigable Ambassador of Goodwill, Mr. Shouser has been a one-of-a-kind Arab American leader in Greater Toledo since he adopted the community as an immigrant to our nation.

Yehia, who with his brother ran a real estate investment company and J-S Vending, has been a leader in the Toledo community for decades as a civic-minded businessman as well as a Multi-Faith and Multi-Cultural Ambassador.

Yehia has served as an administrator, public relations representative, and fund-raiser in the Muslim community for many years. His generosity has been felt in many homes and organizations in our community. At the same time, he has also focused his efforts on building back hope in his ancestral land of Lebanon. He worked to establish student exchanges, village development and medical education throughout Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Yehia was one of the founders of the first mosque in Toledo, which was established in 1954 on East Bancroft Street. After the membership of the Mosque on East Bancroft Street outgrew the location, Yehia helped secure and plan the 48-acre campus that has become one of the icons of Perrysburg Township: the mosque and Islamic Center of Greater Toledo, which opened in 1983.

The Center has been a fulcrum of the Muslim and Interfaith communities, working to promote freedom and tolerance of religion and, together with his cherished wife Emney, Yehia has been an integral part of its inner workings and work in the larger community.

Always involved in events which promote cooperation among the faith and ethnic traditions in our community, Yehia's dedication to cultural diversity was recognized when he became a 2013 inductee into the Heroes of Compassion Gallery for Toledo.

Yehia's commitment to the Toledo community has been passed on to his children, Hussein, Lila, Mona and Mariam, his 10 grandchildren and his six great-grandchildren.

When I think of John, I see him carrying the flag of Lebanon at the annual Multi Faith Council's parade of nations at the University of Toledo on Martin Luther King holiday. I see him hospitably greeting guests with his wife Emney at events throughout our community welcoming new citizens. He has been instrumental in inviting religious leaders and public officials from throughout the world to visit Toledo and built our community into a place of gracious welcome.

I see him setting up exchange programs for students from Arab speaking countries to transmit the learning and values of a free society. He graciously took the time to include me on unforgettable travels with his family through the village of his ancestors and adjoining territories. The memories of that journey greatly inform my work.

Yehia with Emney at his side, and their bright smiles, have been indefatigable forces

for good in our community for nearly a century. We wish them well in the coming years and consider our community fortunate to have them among us.

The Quran 7:199 teaches, "Show Forgiveness, Enjoin Kindness, Avoid Ignorance." Yehia "John" Shousher has spent his life on this earth demonstrating this message through word and deed. His legacy is writ large in his faith community, his family, the land of his birth and our region.

We celebrate with Yehia as he reaches this milestone birthday of his 90th year. We take this moment to thank him for all he has done for so many in our community, for his leadership, for his efforts to promote mutual understanding and tolerance of diverse cultures and foster acceptance of our differences. Best wishes to both John and Emney as he celebrates this special milestone.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MAJ. CHARLES APPLEBERRY

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the military service of Major Charles Appleberry of Flat River, Missouri. Major Appleberry was a medical doctor who enlisted in the Army on May 26, 1942 and served until his discharge on January 29, 1946.

As a member of the Army Medical Corps, he served in the South Pacific during World War II. He saved many lives, but one particular surgery is recounted in the Chillicothe Constitution-Tribune on November 1, 1944. It tells of how Dr. Appleberry removed a live Japanese 20 millimeter shell from the chest of Private Jackie Miles on the island of Leyte in The Philippines. The newspaper account explains how the doughboy clung to life, "unaware that the group of tense medics were risking their lives to save him." The article states how Major Appleberry firmly grasped the shell, removed it and safely lifted it to a tray for careful disposal.

After the war, Dr. Appleberry returned to St. Francois County to resume his medical career at the Farmington State Hospital and Bonne Terre Hospital until his death in 1984.

Those who knew the doctor join with VFW Post No. 5741 in Leadington today to honor him for his 55-year career as a physician both at home and at war. I join them in recognizing Dr. Appleberry today before the United States House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO WARREN B. ROLAND

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Warren B. Roland for his 50 years of service as a Funeral Director in Atlantic, Iowa. Warren was recently honored at the 137th Annual Iowa Funeral Directors Association Convention.

Warren grew up in Atlantic where his father was a Funeral Director who served as a Presi-

dent of the Iowa Funeral Directors Association. He admired his father's dedication to his profession and to his community, which helped influence his decision to pursue a career as a funeral director. Warren is a 1966 graduate of the University of Minnesota and is co-owner of Roland Funeral Home in Atlantic.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Warren for his many years of dedicated and devoted service to Atlantic, Iowa and the surrounding area. Warren and his staff make a difference by helping and serving others in a time of need. It is with great honor that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him for his outstanding service in the funeral industry and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal year 2018 on July 13, 2017, my good friend and colleague Mr. NADLER of New York introduced an amendment to strike section 1022 of the bill prohibiting the use of funds for transfer or release of individuals detained at Guantanamo Bay to the United States. Though I supported the amendment, I erroneously casted a NO vote (Roll Call Vote No. 359); I intended to vote AYE.

I want to make it clear that I support my colleague from New York's amendment and any other measure that leads to closing the detention centers at Guantanamo Bay. Guantanamo Bay is a stain on American values of justice and due process. Since joining Congress, I have signed onto many pieces of legislation to close the facility. In a previous defense appropriation, I voted for an amendment by Mr. NADLER to prohibit funds to be used to renovate and expand the facility at Guantanamo Bay along with supporting an amendment to close the detention facility that was introduced by Representative Mr. SMITH of Washington. Yesterday, I voted for another amendment introduced by Mr. NADLER to close the facility.

I appreciate the opportunity to clarify my record and to reassure my constituents that I maintain my opposition to the continuing operations of the detention centers at Guantanamo Bay.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MR. CHARLES WILSON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding individual, Mr. Charles E. "Charlie" Wilson, of Carlisle, Kentucky, for his distinguished military service during World War II. Mr. Wilson, a part of the greatest generation, served our nation in the United States Army.

Mr. Wilson was just eighteen years old when he registered for the draft and became

a member of the United States Army in 1943, where he served until the end of the war. He was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division just five days before the D-Day invasion of Normandy.

After clearing Utah Beach, the 4th Infantry Division was sent to liberate Cherbourg. Mr. Wilson served as a forward observer, keeping the infantry safe. During his second rotation to the front, he was injured badly by German shells. The injury left him paralyzed for fifteen days. To this day, Mr. Wilson suffers from pain from this injury.

Mr. Wilson returned to his unit and became a tank driver for the rest of the war. On August 25, 1944, Wilson's 19th birthday, he helped liberate the city of Paris. During the battle of Hurtgen Forest, Mr. Wilson was injured again. He was found half-buried, unconscious, and bleeding. He was treated and rejoined the effort. The Army went on to free all of France and kept pushing the Germans until the war was won. As the end of the war neared, in April 1945, Mr. Wilson helped to identify the Dachau Concentration Camp, saving the lives of many Jewish people.

After the war, Mr. Wilson returned home and became an educator. He served as Principal of Nicholas County Elementary School. He has spoken to numerous school classes about his war experiences.

Mr. Wilson was invited by the French Government to Normandy in 2014 for the 70th Anniversary of D-Day. He returned in 2015 for his third trip to France, where he was awarded the Legion of Honor. Mr. Wilson spoke at the event and his words are recorded in the French archives.

The bravery of Mr. Wilson and his fellow men and women of the United States Army is heroic. Because of the courage of individuals from Nicholas County and from all across our great nation, our freedoms have been saved for our generation and for future generations. He is truly an outstanding American, a patriot, and a hero to us all.

RUSSIAN ENERGY SECURITY THREATS

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2017

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the growing national security risk to our overseas military facilities posed by the Russian Federation.

For the last three years, we have watched with alarm as Putin's Russia has adopted an aggressive and adversarial posture towards the U.S. and our allies. Putin armed the so-called separatists in eastern Ukraine. He aggressively annexed Crimea. He is intervening in the Syrian Civil War on the side of a brutal dictator. He blatantly threatens allied nations in Europe and close to home we know he used cyber weapons to destabilize our democratic process. Moscow's hostility to our interests grows stronger and more apparent by the day.

The military dimension of Russia's strategy is obvious and you can see it covered in the nightly news. What is less obvious however is the non-military aspect of Russia's national strategy. Today one of the most serious