

In fourteen years of serving as a county-wide elected member of our School Board, never once in any campaign material did Howard Hill ever brag about his military service, his and Libby's sacrifices. But we knew.

Libby volunteered to help with everything, including founding and leading the Silver Sands Republican Women. When I asked the community leaders who had meant the most to me in my growing up to serve on the Academy Selection Board to choose the best young women and young men to be appointed to our military academies, I chose Libby Hill, a mentor and model to a generation of young people.

Mr. Speaker, I told you this is a love story. Two young people who love their country and gave themselves to it for their whole lives. A woman and a man who love each other and have given themselves to their children and to their community and to each other for fifty years.

Happy anniversary, Howard and Libby. We love you.

RECOGNIZING THE KILMARNOCK  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FOR HOSTING THE 82ND  
KILMARNOCK VOLUNTEER FIRE  
DEPARTMENT CARNIVAL

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department and their efforts in the community in hosting the Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department Carnival.

This year marks the 82 year anniversary of what some Virginians recognize as the longest continually operating summer carnival in the state. For generations, the Carnival has represented the premier event of the summer in the Northern Neck for children of all ages. Whether it is riding "Big Eli" or enjoying some of the famous hot dogs, this community jewel provides for many throughout the Northern Neck a chance to come together and celebrate time with family and friends.

I want to thank the Kilmarnock Fire Department for their tireless work in keeping this event running since 1935. I also, would like to thank the over 200 volunteers it takes each night to run the Carnival.

CELEBRATING THE 82ND AIR-  
BORNE DIVISION ON NATIONAL  
AIRBORNE DAY

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the airborne forces as they celebrate National Airborne Day.

El Paso, Texas—on August 16, 1940, the Army conducted their first test platoon jump. The idea of dropping paratroopers in combat zones behind enemy lines was first conceived by Brigadier General William Mitchell. With his

guidance and leadership the first combat jump was conducted by members of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment in 1942 during WWII in North Africa. Since this successful drop, our airborne forces have become a critical component of our military.

Our airborne forces have dropped into the most intense combat the world has ever seen. Some of their most notable engagements have been the D-Day invasion at Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge, the invasion of Southern France. Without the invention of the airborne, our armed forces would have been at a disadvantage during many of our major conflicts.

The 82nd Airborne Division is headquartered right here in North Carolina at Fort Bragg. The Division was incorporated in the National Army on August 5, 1917, to support the entry of the United States into World War I. The 82nd Airborne Division was nicknamed the "All American Division" as a result of the spirit and diverse group of soldiers from all across the United States. The 82nd Airborne was the first division to be designated as an Airborne Division.

Part of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division is the Nation's Global Response Force and can mobilize, load, and land anywhere in the world in less than 36 hours to perform combat operations, assist United States allies, and provide humanitarian aid. The 82nd Airborne has participated in nearly every major United States conflict around the world since its inception. Some of the most notable engagements have been the Battle of Lorraine in World War I, Operation Overlord in Normandy, France in World War II, responding to the Tet Offensive during the Vietnam War, liberating Kuwait as one of the first units to engage in Operation Desert Storm, and supporting relief efforts after the devastating Hurricane Katrina.

The continued success of our airborne forces has allowed the United States to become the global fighting force it is today. Our men and women in uniform represent the best our nation has to offer and I am proud to represent a district that has a strong military presence and is home to some of the bravest patriots in the country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring the soldiers of our airborne forces for their service and commitment to protecting the United States.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LAPD  
DETECTIVE SHA'QUANA HALL-  
POUNDERS

**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the accomplishments and service of Los Angeles Police Department Detective Sha'Quana Hall-Pounders.

One of the few Black women to reach the rank of Chief Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Sha'Quana Hall-Pounders delivered security and threat assessment briefings to senior Pentagon officials. As a law-enforcement officer, then-Special Agent Hall-Pounders served to protect senior White House officials

at important events in our nation's capital and abroad. On returning to Los Angeles after her military service, Ms. Hall-Pounders joined the Los Angeles Police Department, where she has served on the LAPD Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Residing in the Baldwin Vista neighborhood of my district, Ms. Hall-Pounders has sought out opportunities to make a difference in the lives of her fellow Angelenos. She has assisted senior citizens and first time voters with both registration and voter education. Along with her daughter, she regularly hosts tennis clinics for young men and women in the Crenshaw District. The pair also organize educational and recreational excursions for underserved and special-needs youth in Watts, aiming to help them see a world beyond the borders of their own neighborhoods.

I appreciate her service to our country and to the communities of the 37th Congressional District of California, and I wish her continued success in her career as an LAPD officer and a leader in our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF CRAIG  
WRIGHT, RECIPIENT OF THE  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE  
PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 2016 Emergency Medical Services Provider of the Year, Craig Wright.

Mr. Wright currently works at the Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay Fire Department, where he exhibits his heroism and humility on a daily basis. His individual actions have had positive and substantial impacts on the residents of Kings Bay.

Mr. Wright attributes his success to the unity experienced among him and his co-workers in the fire department, stating that nothing he "did individually can't be contributed to the whole team." The resulting feeling of family between the Kings Bay fire fighters yielded a Fire Department of the Year award, for the fifth year in a row. Again, Mr. Wright and all of the fire fighters emphasized their camaraderie and loyalty as the keys to their success.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Craig Wright for his service to the Kings Bay Fire Department and to his fellow fire fighters. His commitment has strengthened the community and all of its members.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGE T.  
FARRELL

**HON. BRIAN J. MAST**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a member of our 18th District community, Mr. George T. Farrell, who has been working diligently to engage minority voices in the electoral process through education, communication and active involvement in community events.

I met Mr. Farrell at his organization's Juneteenth Celebration in Palm Beach, Florida, during the summer of 2015. Since then, I have witnessed his steadfast commitment to developing the highest standards and best practices for increasing civic engagement among minority communities.

Mr. Farrell's organization was also recently approved by the Florida Department of State to serve as a Third-Party Voter Registration Organization. With increased grassroots activity, active social media and daily communication with thousands of citizens, I have no doubt that Mr. Farrell will continue to be successful.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud his hard work and wish him the best in the future.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JAMES  
CALVIN (BILL) ROBERTSON  
BRIDGE DEDICATION

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today we honor lifelong Wayne County resident, Private First Class James Calvin (Bill) Robertson, decorated combat veteran, farmer, friend, and family man.

Born on the 4th of July, 1923, PFC Robertson trained as an Army Cannoneer and shipped to the Asiatic Pacific Theater of Operations in 1945 to protect American ground forces from enemy aircraft at Iwo Jima. His Anti-Aircraft Artillery unit's mission: To keep the airstrips open and safe for refueling B29 bombers on their way to targets on the Japanese mainland.

For this critical service, PFC Robertson was awarded the World War II Victory Medal, The Good Conduct Medal, The American Theater Ribbon, and the Asian-Pacific Theater Ribbon with two Bronze Service Stars. His battalion enabled American forces to invade Japan and change the trajectory of the war in favor of the Allies. But he rarely spoke of his military sacrifice, seared into our minds by the iconic U.S. Marine Corp monument of soldiers raising the American flag high above the Iwo Jima battlefield in February 1945. PFC Robertson simply acknowledged that he was there.

He returned to Wayne County in December 1945, married, and purchased farmland through which the Middle Butler Creek flows. Many family memories were made with his eight children, on this land, in this creek, and throughout his 90 years.

We dedicate the Butler Creek Bridge to the memory of Private First Class James Calvin (Bill) Robertson, World War II hero, who not only ensured the lives lost at Iwo Jima were not lost in vain, but who left a legacy of service and sacrifice.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.  
EDWARD D. BERGIN, JR.

### HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Edward Bergin,

Jr., who passed away on August 12, 2017 at the age of 74. Mr. Bergin served an impressive five terms as mayor of Waterbury, Connecticut, and his strong and dedicated leadership guided the city through substantial economic change. Those of us in Connecticut will remember Mayor Bergin as a devoted public servant who exemplified what an elected official strives to be. He wanted to improve his community and help every person he represented.

Mayor Bergin was a fierce advocate for Waterbury, and his roots in a blue-collar Irish family made him keenly conscious of the challenges facing the city. He grew up with a strong appreciation for public service, as his father, Edward Bergin, Sr., was elected to four terms as mayor of the city. The community knew Mayor Bergin for his commitment to Waterbury and his willingness to meet with and listen to people from all political perspectives.

As mayor, Bergin led a number of critical initiatives to preserve important parts of Waterbury's history, while also championing the city's revitalization. Mayor Bergin successfully fought to stop the demolition of the Palace Theater, which would later be restored, preserving an important part of the city's past. He also launched a large economic development project to tear down the Scovill manufacturing plant in the core of Waterbury to make room for the Brass Mill Center Mall. Mayor Bergin has a well-deserved reputation for astute management and organization of the government.

Mr. Speaker, Mayor Edward Bergin was a dedicated public servant who spent his career making Waterbury a better city. It is fitting and proper that we honor his legacy here today. All those who knew him will cherish his memory, and the citizens of Waterbury will long remember his contributions to the city.

### TRIBUTE TO JOE HERRING

### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joe Herring for 31 years of distinguished economic development service to the citizens of South-Central Idaho and on the occasion of his retirement from his current position as President of Region IV Development Association, Inc.

In 1980, Mr. Herring came to Idaho to pursue a graduate degree in geography and land use planning after completing his undergraduate studies at New Mexico State University. Like other transplants to Idaho, Mr. Herring was drawn to the state's wild places and exceptional natural beauty.

Mr. Herring's career in economic development began in 1980 as a land use planner in Moscow, Idaho—taking a part-time job that soon turned into a passion for assisting Idaho's rural communities. In 1986, he joined Region IV Development Association, Inc. as its Executive Director and set in motion a decades' long career working to improve the lives and livelihoods of Idaho residents. Under his leadership, the small regional planning organization grew from offering only work force training into supporting a wide variety of programs to promote job creation, economic development, community development, downtown re-

vitalization, business financing, and many others.

During Mr. Herring's tenure, Region IV Development has been able to facilitate more than \$1.2 billion in public and private sector investment in the eight counties of South-Central Idaho. These public improvement and business projects have supported the creation of more than 5,000 new employment opportunities for Idahoans. From the development of new drinking water systems to the construction of small rural clinics, from industrial park development to building new technical education facilities, Mr. Herring's impact on communities throughout rural Idaho has been significant.

With a focus on expanding community and economic development in South-Central Idaho, Mr. Herring has founded, incorporated, and led a number of organizations that have contributed to the growth and sustainability of rural communities throughout Idaho. Looking to bring state, federal and private sector resources to bear on local issues, Mr. Herring has served Idahoans in many capacities including as chairman of the Idaho Public Transportation Advisory Council, the Idaho Rural Partnership, Rural Community Assistance Corporation, Idaho-Nevada Community Development Financial Institution, and the South-Central Community Action Partnership. Mr. Herring has shown exceptional commitment to strengthening support networks available to foster small businesses and to help rural communities attract economic investments. To that end, Mr. Herring was responsible for bringing the Small Business Development Center to the region. He was also instrumental to the incorporation of the Southern Idaho Tourism and the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization. Mr. Herring has led an amazing career dedicated to serving the people of Idaho.

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

### RECOGNIZING RODNEY R. LEWIS

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 18, 2017*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Rodney R. Lewis, who has been proudly serving as the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Lewis Energy Group for more than 35 years.

Rodney R. Lewis was born in St. Louis, Missouri on July 13, 1954, but grew up in the city of Laredo, where he spent his summers working on his grandparents' ranch. He graduated from United High School in Laredo, Texas in 1972, and then from Texas A&M International University with a degree in criminal justice.

Rodney Lewis started his career in the oil industry in 1978 by working for Stampede Energy and the R.L. Burns Corporation. Eventually, through hard work and support from his family, Lewis became the proud owner of his own well, and in January of 1983, Lewis Petro Properties was created. Over its 35 years, Lewis Petro Properties grew into Lewis Energy Group, a fully integrated E&P company with its