

credited with more than 40 life size and larger bronze figure and monuments in the United States and United Kingdom. Whyte's work includes memorials for fallen first responders and soldiers, tributes to beloved cultural figures, and public art installations. One of his most prominent pieces on the Central Coast is the Cannery Row Monument located in Monterey. This piece features nine life-size figures, including author John Steinbeck, recipient of the Nobel Prize, and other figures prominent in Central Coast history.

Whyte's bronze bust of Congressman JOHN J. CONYERS, Jr. is one of the first busts sculpted of a sitting Member of Congress. His work captures Congressman CONYERS' significance as the Dean of the U.S. House of Representatives and a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus.

On behalf of California's 20th Congressional District, I thank Steven Whyte for the rich tribute that his bronze sculpture affords our Congressional colleague, JOHN J. CONYERS, Jr. I also appreciate the recognition that Steven Whyte has brought to the Central Coast's artistic community through the acclaim of his art by the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution.

CONGRATULATING RYAN DARBY

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, honor and thank a truly impressive young constituent from my district, 14-year old Ryan Darby, who is completing two years of exemplary service as a National Youth Ambassador for the Hyundai Hope On Wheels Foundation to fight pediatric cancer.

Ryan lives in Bethesda, Maryland and is himself a cancer survivor. He was selected to serve as a Hyundai Hope On Wheels National Youth Ambassador in March 2016.

Since then, Ryan has traveled across America to share his story of illness, resiliency, courage and hope and to inspire others to participate in the fight against cancer.

Ryan joined Hyundai Hope On Wheels in its continuing mission to educate people about pediatric cancer and to raise money—over \$130 million since 1998—to find a cure.

Over the last two years, Ryan visited many children's hospitals and attended events to stand in solidarity with children and families who are battling cancer or who have been affected by the disease. He has spoken at numerous schools and even shared his story on TV and radio.

Ryan was only six years old when he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, and he became one tough cancer survivor.

He is an inspiring example of physical courage, mental toughness and devotion to the well-being of others. I am especially proud of him for giving others hope. We encourage and applaud the kind of selfless contributions this young man has made.

I wish Ryan Darby the best of luck with all his future endeavors, and I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating him on a job well done as he completes his service as a 2016–

2017 Hyundai Hope On Wheels National Youth Ambassador.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CITY OF DENTON'S 9/11 FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL BELL TOWER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Denton, Texas as they dedicate a 9/11 Firefighters Memorial Bell Tower featuring an I-beam from the World Trade Center and Denton's original bronze fire bell. The Memorial was dedicated on the 16th anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and rural Pennsylvania.

An I-beam from the World Trade Center stands at the bottom of the 30-foot bell tower structure, which protects the I-beam below and frames the entrance to the Denton Firefighters Museum and Central Fire Station. The monument provides a visual representation of New York's landmark Twin Towers and displays the number 343 in remembrance of the firefighters who were killed at Ground Zero, as well as the words courage, dedication, and service, in honor of all firefighters.

The bell tower structure also features Denton's original bronze fire bell from City Hall West, which hangs at the top of the monument. The bell once sounded three times a day and was used to alert residents of fires. Cast originally in 1884, the bell was recently refurbished and made fully operational to make the same sounds as heard in historic Denton.

The dedication of the monument occurred as part of a special memorial event featuring retired New York City firefighter Bill Spade, who was at Ground Zero on September 11, 2001. Mr. Spade is the only survivor of the twelve responding firefighters on FDNY Rescue 5, a unit of the Special Operations Command. He shared his experiences from that unforgettable day, and put into perspective the debt of gratitude each of us owes to first responders that serve their communities each day.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the City of Denton as they honor the firefighters lost while responding to the attacks on our country in 2001, as well as the men and women currently serving Denton under the direction of Chief Paulsgrove and other leaders like him across Denton County. This recognition is well-deserved, and I am honored to represent these professionals and their families in the 26th District of Texas.

HONORING PETTY OFFICER CHARLES NATHAN FINDLEY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of United States Navy Petty Officer Charles Nathan Findley and his service to our

nation. On August 20th of this year, Petty Officer Findley was killed after a collision between the USS *John S. McCain* and a merchant vessel in waters near Singapore and Malaysia.

Respected by his fellow officers, Findley served as an electronics technician first class in the Navy. His friends and family will remember his love of rebuilding cars, Japanese culture, and foreign travel. Findley was a father and husband, leaving behind an 8-year-old daughter, 6-year-old son, and his beloved wife Riho.

His contributions as a Petty Officer for the United States Navy and his sacrifice to our nation serves as a reminder to us all that our freedom exists because of the dedication of brave individuals such as Charles. Our country is at a loss without his loyal service.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Petty Officer Charles Nathan Findley and his distinguished service to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN BAKER

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lauren Baker who has served as a mentor, teacher, labor leader, college instructor, consultant, and administrator. Lauren is retiring from her current position as Executive Director of the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association (MTEA) comprised of educators, educational assistants, substitutes and bookkeepers who work on behalf of the students attending Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). She officially retired on August 31, 2017.

Lauren has enjoyed a distinguished career. She spent over 25 years in the printing industry working as a journeyperson lithographer and then served as Education Director for the Graphic Communications International Union Local 577M (now GCC/IBT and Director of the Milwaukee Graphic Arts Institute (MGAI). Lauren taught at MGAI and Milwaukee Area Technical College. Highlights of her work during this period of her career include: leading the successful part-time teachers organizing campaign at MATC, founding the GCIU Women's Caucus and developing and implementing sexual harassment training for union members and employers. For 10 years, Lauren served as the Coordinator Career and Technical Education (CTE) for MPS. She led the district wide efforts in trade technical and other career educational disciplines. Further, she revitalized the career programming, advocated for publicly funded career education at the state and federal level and also coordinated the work for teachers in schools for the CTE programs.

Lauren has served on numerous boards; she has served on the MATC Board for 19 years. She co-chairs the statewide District Boards Association's Legislation Committee and represented the Midwest Region on the National Board of Directors for the Association of Community College Trustees. Further, Lauren served on the National Council for Skills Standards in Graphic Communications, the State Superintendent's Council of Technical and Engineering Education and Milwaukee County Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships and other committees in relation to workforce preparation and education.

Lauren Baker has been recognized for her work including Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) award for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) where she earned a Master of Science Degree in Administrative Leadership and Educational Supervision. She was honored by Business Journal as a Woman of Influence. In 2010, Lauren was invited to the White House as a part of a small group advising the Obama Administration on equity in technical education for the National Educate to Innovate Initiative.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Lauren, her husband John Drew, a UAW labor leader and adult son, Nick, my friends. She has left a legacy of advocacy and compassion and is a true trailblazer. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin and the nation have benefited tremendously from her dedicated service. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Lauren Baker, and wish her the best as she transitions into a new phase of her life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, D.C. on September 5, 2017 because my flight from Oregon was delayed due to weather. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2864, the Improving Access to Capital Act, and H.R. 3110, the Financial Stability Oversight Council Insurance Member Continuity Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVE NORTON AND HIS SERVICE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Norton as he moves on after twelve years from his role as Executive Director of the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies.

As Executive Director of the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies, and previously as director of Medicaid Service for the N.H. Department of Health and Human Services, Steve made invaluable contributions to our community and our state. Through his commitment and compassion, he helped improve the lives of countless families and communities in need, and his vision has helped to create a better future for the Granite State and its residents.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have benefitted from Steve's work, I thank him for all he has done for our state, and I wish him the best of luck in his next step. I look forward to our continued work together to make New Hampshire be an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RON ARMSTEAD

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ron Armstead, the Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust.

Mr. Armstead began his career in public service as the Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust, a role he has served in since the program's inception. Since then, he has served under various members, including former Representative Charles Rangel and Representative EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Currently, Mr. Armstead serves under Representative SANFORD BISHOP Jr. In addition, Mr. Armstead also served as a consultant to the late Secretary Jerry Brown's Veterans Affairs' Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans.

Mr. Armstead holds a Master's in City Planning with a concentration in Affordable Housing and Community Development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is also a licensed social worker in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ron Armstead for his hard work with the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust.

HONORING SCOTT FRANZGROTE FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS FIRE CHIEF OF THE ROLLING MEADOWS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in recognition of the long and distinguished service of Scott Franzgrote on the occasion of his retirement. On September 29th of this year, Mr. Franzgrote will conclude his loyal service as Fire Chief of the Rolling Meadows Fire Department.

Chief Franzgrote has served the community for a total of 27 years, including the last six years as Fire Chief of the Rolling Meadows Fire Department. Since joining the department in 1990, his extraordinary leadership has earned him great respect among colleagues and members of the community.

During his tenure, Chief Franzgrote led a consolidation effort for services with the Palatine and Palatine Rural fire departments. The "Rural Palatine Meadows" initiative has led to shared equipment, standardized training, streamlined responses to incidents, and has already saved the city of Rolling Meadows hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in celebrating this special occasion and wishing Chief Franzgrote every happiness in the well-deserved respite of his retirement.

DISCUSSION ABOUT REMOVING A PLAQUE ON THE JEFFERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following remarks by Peter Onoszko, President of the Jefferson County Commission:

"With malice toward none and charity for all" thus said President Abraham Lincoln in his Second Inaugural Address in 1865. Even though the Civil War would continue for several more months before the final victory over the Confederate States, President Lincoln was already setting the country on the path of reconciliation. Regardless of the military victory, the President knew that unless there was a reconciliation the military victory would be meaningless.

The path of reconciliation has been slow and tortuous. However, in the decades following the Civil War all but the most senior of the former Confederate military and civilian leadership had their United States citizenship restored by Congress. The post-War careers of Confederate general officers is illustrative of the reconciliation. Depending on how one counts, there were between 425 and 562 Confederate general officers. Of these numbers, 3 were recalled to active duty during the Spanish-American War and served in the United States Army. 51 were appointed to various federal civilian positions ranging from US ambassadors to foreign governments to US marshals to membership on various federal commissions to postmasters and so forth. 45 were elected to the US Congress as senators and representatives and at least one was appointed to a federal judgeship.

What of the ordinary soldiers and how they felt? In 1905 on the 40th anniversary of the Civil War, Congress authorized the first campaign medal ever awarded to members of the Armed Forces and this was the Civil War Campaign Medal awarded to all who had served honorably in BOTH the Union and Confederate armies. Perhaps the most poignant demonstration of reconciliation was the Battle of Gettysburg Reunion of 1913 marking the fiftieth anniversary of that great battle. Thousands of surviving veterans from both the North and the South gathered at the site of the battle. During several days of the reunion, Confederate and Union veterans toured the battlefield walking arm in arm as they revisited the site and reminisced with each other, recognizing that there was an unbreakable bond that had risen among all who had participated.

By 1978 the United States Congress had restored US citizenship to all of the senior leadership of the Confederacy, in some cases posthumously. The last was Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, who posthumously had his US citizenship restored by an act of Congress in 1978. In signing this act President Jimmy Carter observed that this was the final act of reconciliation.

Paralleling the reconciliation of "the Boys in Blue and the Boys in Gray" was the reconciliation between white and black Americans. This also followed a tortuous path. Starting with the Emancipation Proclamation promulgated in 1863 and continuing with the ratification of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution between 1864 and 1870, slavery was abolished and black Americans were recognized as full citizens of the United States with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

Unfortunately the full acceptance of black Americans was legally obstructed in many