

in honoring Sarkis Tatigian, the longest serving federal civilian employee on record.

Currently, Sarkis Tatigian serves as the Associate Director of Small Business Programs for the Naval Sea Systems Command, the largest component of the U.S. Navy. While he was initially eligible for retirement in 1973, Mr. Tatigian has continued to provide decades of selfless service to our country. Mr. Tatigian began his naval career in 1942, when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a Junior Inspector of Radio at the Naval Aircraft Factory. Throughout his time with the U.S. Navy, Mr. Tatigian has served multiple tours; served in various units within the U.S. Navy, such as the Navy Bureau of Ordnance Experimental Unit and the Bureau of Naval Weapons; and worked as a Small Business Analyst for the Bureau of Ordnance. In addition, Mr. Tatigian has received numerous awards, including the U.S. Navy Meritorious Civilian Award, and has also had an award named after him for his role in small business, the Sarkis Tatigian Small Business Award.

On September 26, 2017, Mr. Tatigian will have served a total of 75 years of federal service.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Sarkis Tatigian.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLIPPARD WILSON TAYLOR VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 3838

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Clippard Wilson Taylor Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3838 of Cape Girardeau, Missouri on celebrating their 75th anniversary of serving veterans and their families as well as the community.

The Post was chartered on the 20th day of September, 1942 with 44 members. Since then, it has grown to be one of the largest VFW Posts in the state with a current membership of 590, a strong part of the 1.7 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary nationally.

Post 3838 has been instrumental throughout the years fostering patriotism in many ways which include teaching flag etiquette at local schools and supplying American flags to schools, churches, and parks. The Post shows great comradery amongst their war veterans and strives to assist fellow veterans in need. The members have lobbied successfully for legislation to provide care to veterans and funding for the military.

Throughout their years of service, the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3838 have remained loyal and dedicated to their organization, their country, their members, and the community. Therefore, it is my privilege and honor to recognize the Clippard Wilson Taylor VFW Post 3838 on celebrating their 75th anniversary before the U.S. House of Representatives.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARLAN WALDROP

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor a beloved public servant, Marlan Waldrop. After a long and valiant battle with cancer, she is now at peace. Ms. Waldrop served for the last three years as the Director of the Veterans Benefits Administration, Houston Regional Office. As Director of the Houston Regional Office, Marlan was responsible for administering approximately two hundred nineteen million dollars each month in federal benefits to nearly eight hundred thousand veterans and their families living in ninety South Texas Counties, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

Ms. Waldrop began her VA service in December 1990 as a Veterans Service Representative in the Education Division of the Atlanta Regional Processing Office. During her twenty-seven years of VA service, Marlan served in numerous leadership roles including: Instructor for the Challenge 2001 veteran service representative training, Assistant Deputy Director of the Tiger Team in Cleveland, Ohio (2004–2005), Louisville Veterans Service Center Manager (2005–2007), Assistant Director of the Montgomery VA Regional Office (2007–2011), and as Director of the San Juan VA Regional Office (2011–2014).

Ms. Waldrop came to work for the VA because she needed a job, but found a career that allowed her to help improve the lives of our nation's veterans. She empowered her staff "to do what is right for the veteran" and to make the VA a welcoming place. She ensured that her outreach team was accessible to veterans beyond the walls of a VA facility. Marlan is survived by her son, Josh, six hundred sixty dedicated employees at the Houston VA Regional Office, and family and friends.

On behalf of a grateful nation and the tens of thousands of veterans whose lives were better because of her work on their behalf, I rise to remember Ms. Waldrop and her many years of devoted service to our nation's veterans.

JANYA RAM EARNS GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Janya Ram of Sugar Land, TX, for earning her Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest achievement a Girl Scout can earn. To earn this distinguished award, Janya had to spend at least 80 hours developing and executing a project that would benefit the community and have a long-term impact on girls as well. For her Gold award project, she taught self-defense workshops at the Boys and Girls Club in Stafford. Janya wanted to take the skills she learned in her karate classes and help girls in her community protect themselves in unsafe situations.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Janya Ram for earning her Girl Scout Gold Award. We are confident she will have continued success in her future endeavors. We are very proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, due to my need to be back in my district to help my community prepare for Hurricane Irma, I was unable to be present for Roll Call Votes 467 through 484.

Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 467; YEA on Roll Call No. 468; NAY on Roll Call No. 469; NAY on Roll Call No. 470; NAY on Roll Call No. 471; YEA on Roll Call No. 472; NAY on Roll Call No. 473; YEA on Roll Call No. 474; NAY on Roll Call No. 475; NAY on Roll Call No. 476; NAY on Roll Call No. 477; YEA on Roll Call No. 478; YEA on Roll Call No. 479; YEA on Roll Call No. 480; NAY on Roll Call No. 481; NAY on Roll Call No. 482; NAY on Roll Call No. 483; and YEA on Roll Call No. 484.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed one vote during a vote series on September 8, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted: No on Roll Call No. 484, on the Pearce amendment (H. Amdt. 361) to the Make American Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act of 2018 (H.R. 3354).

SEPTEMBER 11TH

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001 was on a Tuesday.

I remember watching the horrible destruction unfold, and thinking that the world would change for all of us. In those days and weeks after 9/11, Americans from the South Asian, Muslim, and Arab American community were subjected to hate crimes simply because of how they looked. Muslim students were pulled out of school because of fear for their safety, Sikh men were shot at for their turbans, and many of us were told to go home, back to our own country—even though America is our home.

But in the wake of that destruction, I was part of forming powerful coalitions to fight against hate of all kinds and to protect our civil rights and civil liberties.

As we reflect on the events of that day and honor first responders and those who lost their lives, let us also remember that America's true

values are about equal rights for all, inclusivity, resilience, generosity and abundance.

**HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
IRENE TROWELL-HARRIS**

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 the achievements of Major General Irene Trowell-Harris, who is currently the assistant to the director of the Air National Guard (ANG) for human resources readiness in the District of Columbia.

General Trowell-Harris began her career in public service in 1963 when she was commissioned to the New York National Guard. In this role, she served in a number of positions, including chief nurse, nurse administrator, flight nurse instructor and flight nurse examiner. In 1986, she was appointed commander of the 105th U.S. Air Force Clinic in New York, which made her the first nurse in ANG history to command a medical clinic. She then went on to serve as ANG advisor to the chief of the Air Force Nurse Corps and as ANG assistant to the director of medical readiness and nursing services in the Office of the Surgeon General at the United States Air Force headquarters in D.C.

General Trowell-Harris grew up in South Carolina as one of 11 children, working on a cotton field alongside members of her family. However, she always had big dreams and knew that she was destined to achieve something great. As a result, once she graduated from high school, General Trowell-Harris went on to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Health Education from Jersey City State College in 1971. In 1973, she obtained her Master of Public Health from Yale University. But, General Trowell-Harris did not stop there—she went on to obtain a Doctor of Education in Health Education from Columbia University in 1983.

While General Trowell-Harris has completed her formal education, she continues to receive numerous degrees and honors for various achievements, including the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award and an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, from the Medical University of South Carolina. In addition, she is a member of multiple organizations, including the American Nurses Association and the Aerospace Medical Association, and was also the first woman in history to have a Tuskegee Airman, Inc. chapter named in her honor, the Major General Trowell-Harris Chapter, located in New York.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Major General Irene Trowell-Harris.

**IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF KEITH BADGETT**

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the

retirement of Keith Badgett from the Anniston Army Depot on September 30, 2017 after over 39 years of service.

Keith has made contributions to four different installations/agencies throughout his 39 year career. He served as Voucher Examiner Vendor Pay at Fort McClellan, Alabama, Voucher Examiner and Accounting Technician at the 81st Regional Support Command, as well as Accounting Technician, Management Accounting Analyst and Budget Analyst at Anniston Army Depot.

During his years of service, Keith has served as a role model for his co-workers. He has consistently demonstrated loyalty to his command and the Army during his employment. Keith is dedicated to the mission and displays a sense of duty in all accomplishments.

The retirement ceremony will take place on September 26th.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Keith on his retirement.

**REMEMBERING JUDGE DICKSON
PHILLIPS**

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of North Carolina's finest and most distinguished citizens, James Dickson Phillips, Jr., former Dean of the Law School of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and former judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Judge Phillips died at home in Chapel Hill on August 27, at the age of 94.

A native of Scotland County, North Carolina, Dickson Phillips attended the public schools of Laurinburg and then Davidson College, where his athletic, academic, and leadership abilities became evident. He joined the army upon graduation in 1943. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the 17th Airborne Division and led his platoon as part of Operation Varsity, the largest single-day airborne assault in history. He was badly wounded in a firefight with retreating Germans and was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his service.

Phillips enrolled in the UNC-Chapel Hill Law School after the war. He excelled as a student and in the practice of law and was invited to join the faculty in 1960. He was named Dean in 1964 and served for ten years. The present Dean, Martin Brinkley, describes him as one of the school's greatest deans and a "trail-blazer".

By the fall of his second year as dean, total enrollment at the law school had more than doubled. The faculty also nearly doubled in size during his deanship. Dean Phillips hired Carolina Law's first African-American visiting faculty member, Harry Groves, and its first full-time African-American member, Charles Daye. There was only one African-American student at the law school when Phillips became dean; by 1973, there were 23, along with two Native American and one Latino students. The ten women students who enrolled during his first year had swelled to 121 by the time he left.

During his 10 years as dean, Phillips inaugurated the Holderness Moot court program and the McCall Teaching Award. Small section

classes were instituted for first-year students, and the upper-class curriculum greatly expanded. The first-ever clinical classes were sponsored. By far the largest fundraising effort in the law school's history up to the time was successfully executed, while the 10-year North Carolina bar passage rate among Carolina Law graduates averaged 95.8 Percent.

President Jimmy Carter in 1978 appointed Dickson Phillips to a seat on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, where he served until 1994—the "greatest judge produced in North Carolina", in the judgment of former UNC Law School Dean Gene Nichol "since (eighteenth-century US Supreme Court Justice James) Iredell."

As was recalled in his obituary, "His role as an appellate judge brought together his great personal attributes of precision, clarity and wisdom along with a love of justice and mercy and a generous but realistic understanding of human nature and foibles . . . He brought both a long view of history and the particular experience of life in North Carolina of the Depression and post-war years to his decisions."

Judge Phillips' major cases involved some of the most contentious issues of the day—minority voting rights, gerrymandering, and sex discrimination. In a series of decisions beginning in 1982 with the Gingles case and continuing into the 1990s with the Shaw decisions, he led three-judge federal panels in rejecting state legislative districting that diluted minority voting strength, and upholding as constitutional majority-minority congressional districting. These cases remain important in enabling African-Americans to achieve representation in state legislatures and Congress. In the sex discrimination area, he dissented from the Fourth Circuit panel's finding that the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) could constitutionally provide a "separate but equal" program for women, a position that the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately adopted.

Over the years, Dickson Phillips served on many other fronts—as a trustee of Davidson College, a founding trustee of the NC Nature Conservancy, and first chairman of the state Ethics Commission. He and his wife Jean were faithful members of the University Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill, where they both served in many leadership roles.

I consider myself fortunate to have known Dickson Phillips late in his career—a man of great dignity, a source of wise counsel, always generous with words of encouragement and support. Stories abound of his great kindness, never too busy to relate to aspiring students, law clerks, and citizens of all walks of life. We grieve his loss with his family and friends, even as we express our gratitude for a life of great integrity and accomplishment, with positive consequences for those he touched, and for even more who may never know his name.

A TRIBUTE TO DONALD SYKES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Donald "Don" Sykes. He was a sociologist and civil rights champion. He passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family on August 13, 2017. He was 80 years old.