

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

RECOGNIZING MARGARET BARGER ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish a Happy 100th Birthday to Margaret Barger of New Richmond, OH.

Throughout her 100 years of life, Margaret has been an incredible member of our community here in Ohio's Second District. It's people like her who set the example of how life should be lived to its fullest.

A retired school teacher, Margaret has spent her life dedicated to the life and improvement of her community and those around her.

Her public service and spirit is an example to others is admired.

Margaret has made New Richmond a better place throughout her lifetime, through her kindness and dedication to all.

Happy Birthday Margaret.

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE PAUL GRUDZINSKI

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Paul Grudzinski, 76th Precinct Community Affairs Officer who is retiring after 30 years of service to the people of New York City.

A model of successful police and community relations, Detective Grudzinski has always put the needs and safety of New Yorkers above all else. A fixture in the Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Red Hook and Gowanus communities, he is known and valued by many.

First appointed to the New York City Transit Police Department on April 28, 1987, Detective Grudzinski joined the NYPD shortly after in 1989. Throughout his career, Detective Grudzinski has reached many milestones. Since 2001, he has served as the Precinct Community Affairs Officer, and was promoted to Detective Specialist in 2007 and Detective 2nd Grade in 2016.

It was always the mission of Detective Grudzinski to get to know the neighborhoods and residents that he served. An expert local problem solver, he has always been aware of the often too common gap between police and residents, and he has worked tirelessly to close it.

I send my best wishes to Detective Grudzinski and his family, as he's recognized at his last 76th Precinct Community Council meeting on October 4, 2017. A life of dedication and honor, I wish Detective Grudzinski a happy retirement and thank him for his service.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MATTHEW PARKER

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Matthew Parker of Rock Island, Illinois, who devoted his life to serving his country and community, and who sadly passed away in August of last year.

Matthew served in the Navy during World War II. After his service in the Navy, he worked at IH Farnall in Rock Island for 39 years and also operated his own business, Parker Janitorial Services, with his wife, Katherine, for 33 years. He served as a trustee for Rock Island Township for more than 35 years. He was also a member of the Rock Island County NAACP and the Martin Luther King Center Active Club, among several other organizations. Matthew was civically engaged as a precinct committeeman for 23 years, and was a longtime community activist.

During his life, Matthew was honored numerous times for his dedication to service. In 2005, Matthew Parker was awarded the John Williams Community Award for his contributions in making the region a better place to live. In 2008 he received the Excellence in Public Service Award from Township Officials of Illinois for his work in the Rock Island Township. Most recently, in September 2017 the Matthew Parker Gardens were dedicated at Rock Island Township's 2nd Annual Township Days to honor Matthew for his decades of service as a trustee.

It is because of dedicated and selfless leaders such as Matthew Parker that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize the late Matthew Parker on his extraordinary work and service in our community.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL GARY L. SAYLER, USAF (RET.), ADJUTANT GENERAL—IDAHO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Gary L. Sayler, an extraordinary leader with 45 years of selfless service, appreciative leadership, constructive mentorship, and exceptional meritorious service.

Born and raised in North Dakota, Major General Sayler entered the ROTC program at North Dakota State University, graduating in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree in history and a commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

He entered undergraduate navigator training at Mather Air Force Base, California, in June 1971. As a second lieutenant, he received F-4 weapons system formal training at George Air Force Base, California, graduating in December 1972. He immediately deployed to Vietnam as a squadron weapons systems officer at Udon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. In November 1973, he was assigned as

a squadron weapons systems officer at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. While assigned at Holloman, he met his future wife, Shari, who was also serving at Holloman as a Nurse.

Major General Sayler joined the Idaho Air National Guard in 1977 where he has served in numerous positions of increasing responsibility and command until he was designated the Fighter Wing Commander. Upon promotion to Brigadier General in 2004, he was assigned as the Assistant Adjutant General and Commander of the Idaho Air National Guard. In January 2010, Governor Otter appointed him to serve as the Adjutant General and Commanding General of the Idaho National Guard.

Major General Sayler's service to Idaho as the Adjutant General has been extraordinary. The forceful guidance, as well as outstanding and dedicated efforts of General Sayler are significantly displayed by the strategic direction of all National Guard forces and emergency managers in the State of Idaho. He led the organization through weapons platform changes, unit conversions, and disaster assistance, always posturing the Idaho Military Division for continued viable, relevant future missions that fit both our nation and Idaho's needs.

Under his leadership, the Idaho National Guard has provided outstanding support during recent state activations in support of wildland firefighting and statewide flood operations. He provided the same remarkable support when the Idaho troops deployed in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, NEW DAWN, and Combined Joint Task Force—Horn of Africa. Additionally, his leadership during the 116th National Training Center (NTC) rotation facilitated superior operational results. He was the driving force behind formulating and implementing National Guard Youth Challenge and STARBAS programs for the State of Idaho. He worked tirelessly promoting programs for Idaho youth providing alternative paths to success. Furthermore, the overall readiness of the 124th Fighter Wing gave credence to the outstanding mission results and professionalism they showed in their recent Southwest Asia deployment.

General Sayler has placed command emphasis on preparing and taking care of deployed Idaho Guard members. His unparalleled support of Family Support, Yellow Ribbon, and Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve programs has greatly benefitted the individuals who have recently returned from deployment and the families who welcomed them home.

General Sayler authored the first joint consultation agreement with the sovereign tribes of Idaho, recognized at the national level by both the Army and Air National Guard as the baseline for Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation.

General Sayler is an outstanding and highly respected officer recognized nationally for his many contributions to mission accomplishment during 45 years of dedicated service to our nation, the United States Air Force, and the great State of Idaho.

It is a great honor to congratulate General Sayler on his remarkable career of achievement that will leave a lasting legacy to the State of Idaho. General Sayler represents the best of the many talented people in the Idaho National Guard whose knowledge and skill

have been essential to keeping our nation and the State of Idaho strong and secure. I thank General Saylor for his service to our nation, and congratulate him on his many accomplishments and retirement.

HONORING BROCK ROHLFS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brock Rohlf. Brock 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brock has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brock 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, Brock has led his troop as the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and become a Brotherhood Member of the Order of the Arrow. Brock has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Brock designed and completed a concrete sidewalk and a ramp from the Life Unlimited Facility to the Immacolata Manor's north room gathering space in Liberty, Missouri.

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

RECOGNIZING JOHN WHITEHURST

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine, John Whitehurst, who is on a trip to Japan this week in honor of his father, U.S. Army Major Collin Whitehurst, Jr., who died as a prisoner of war (POW) during World War II. John Whitehurst is in Japan as a guest of the Japanese government, along with a delegation of former POWs and their families.

Major Whitehurst was born in Richmond, Virginia in 1914 and grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1934, he received an appointment to the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point where he was a pistol marksman and a member of the Chapel Choir and Glee Club. After graduation, Major Whitehurst was assigned to Fort Thomas, Kentucky, with Headquarters Company, 10th Infantry Regiment. It was there, in December 1939, that he married Rose Eva Knuebel, an officer's daughter.

In June 1940, Major Whitehurst sailed to the Philippines, where he was first stationed near Manila, then on the island province of Bohol, and later on the island of Leyte. After the United States entered the war in December, 1941, Major Whitehurst was assigned to the

staff of the Commanding General of the Visayan-Mindanao Force, Major General William F. Sharp on Mindanao. On May 10, 1942, under the threat of a massacre of all the POWs on the Philippine island of Corregidor, General Sharp reluctantly surrendered his forces on Mindanao.

After being held at Camp Casisang, Major Whitehurst and the other POWs on Mindanao were moved to the Davao Penal Colony No. 502. During his 21 months of imprisonment at Davao, Major Whitehurst and the acting Episcopalian chaplain sought to lift the spirits of the camp, organizing and training a choir for religious services.

Following a brief period of agricultural labor at a Cabanatuan, Philippines work site, Major Whitehurst and nearly 1,800 other prisoners were loaded onto the Japanese *Arisan Maru*, known as a "hell ship." While in transit to Japan, the convoy was attacked by American submarines and the *Arisan Maru* was torpedoed and sunk. Only nine of the POWs survived—Major Whitehurst was among those who tragically died.

In a letter to Major Whitehurst's parents following his death, General Sharp wrote: "Your son was a fine, loyal officer who did excellent work while serving with my Command. He was always cheerful and willing; he made a lasting impression on all with whom he came into contact. Collin's spirit never wavered during the long months of his imprisonment. We few still living who knew him cherish his memory." On October 25, 2004, 60 years and a day after Major Whitehurst's death, the Whitehurst family dedicated a memorial marker in Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery commemorating his life and service.

John Whitehurst, Major Whitehurst's only son, has helped keep his father's memory and patriotism alive. John, who was born in Manila, has lived most of his life in Texas. A passionate social worker, John has also taken time to attend American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society conventions since 2002, and serves on the organization's Board of Directors. Twice, he has returned to the Philippines, including a visit for the dedication of the Hell Ship Memorial at Subic Bay.

I wish Mr. Whitehurst a fulfilling trip to Japan this week, and I offer him and his entire family my gratitude for his father's service and tremendous sacrifice for the United States.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MODEL CITIES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th Anniversary of Model Cities, a provider of essential community services for low-income residents in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Born to meet a growing need for high-quality health care for low-income residents in the capital city's historic, predominantly African American Rondo neighborhood, Model Cities has grown and evolved over the past five decades into a dynamic development organization focused on fully integrating human services while working to improve economic conditions for all.

Model Cities has led the way adapting as necessary to address changing community

challenges. From its beginning in the basement of St. James AME Church, the organization broke through barriers to improve the lives of people coming through its doors. Early leaders like Mary Stokes, an African American nurse, who served as the center's first coordinator of volunteer medical and dental services, helped set the standard of care and outreach to the community. Mrs. Timothy O. Vann, another trailblazing African American woman and a graduate of the University of Minnesota, became the first project director in 1971. Upon her retirement, Dr. Beverley Oliver Hawkins became the new Executive Director in 1984 and continues to lead Model Cities.

Today, Model Cities looks a little different than it did at the beginning. As part of its evolution to meet the needs of the community, the health center became a separate organization and in 2003, changed its name to Open Cities Health Center. Model Cities continues to deliver a broad range of critical community services that strengthen our community: culturally competent family support services, youth program services, homebuyer education and community-based development. One of the community development efforts that is currently taking shape, Business Revitalization and Ownership for a Working Neighborhood (BROWNstone), aims to revitalize an area in Saint Paul's Frogtown neighborhood along University Avenue and Metro Green Line Light Rail Transit, while also adding 35 units of affordable rental housing, as well as retail, office, and community space.

For 50 years, Model Cities has been a vital partner in our community, lifting up families and individuals in need to access opportunities to improve their lives. As Model Cities commemorates this 50th anniversary year, please join me in recognizing the selfless contributions of the staff and volunteers who have delivered these vital services for our community.

WILLIAM HANNAH RETIRES FROM LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN UNION

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional career of General Chairman William Hannah of the Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Union, a Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, who retired on October 1, 2017.

Bill Hannah gave his heart and time to the Labor movement working on better working conditions for the membership for over 35 years and 46 years in the industry. He began with Southern Pacific Railroad in May of 1971, was promoted to Engineer in 1978, and was a member of Division 5 from 1979 to 1981.

Bill became a charter member of Division 56 in 1981, and is still a proud member in good standing. For over 35 years he was a union leader for the Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Union as a Local Chairman of Division 56 from 1982 to 2001 and a General Chairman from 2001 to Oct. 1, 2017, covering 18 divisions and covering over 2000 members.

For over 16 years, he was involved in On-property Negotiations, as well as arbitration involving discipline, claims, rules and wages on the Union Pacific and Pacific Harbor Lines.