

Willard Tanner (Christine) and James Brown (Bessie); brother-in-law, Frederick Mushaw (Shirley); sister-in-law, Josephine Tanner; and cousins, nieces and nephews.

Today, on behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I join the family and friends of Robert Lee Brown, Jr. in celebrating his life of service and sacrifice. I offer my sincerest gratitude to Mr. Robert Lee Brown, Jr. for his selfless dedication to our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, I was unable to vote due to my attendance at an event with the President. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on Roll Call no. 640, YEA, and on Roll Call no. 641, YEA.

IN MEMORY OF THE LIFE OF HAROLD DEON POWELL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the life of my friend, Mr. Harold Deon Powell.

Harold passed away unexpectedly earlier this month in Italy while on an economic development trip with the Alabama Department of Commerce representing the State of Alabama and Macon County.

Harold was born on September 2, 1974 in Cleveland, Ohio to Harold L. and Willa Mae Powell. Soon after, his family moved to Shorter, Alabama, where he was educated in the Macon County public school system and attended Tuskegee University.

Harold lived in Shorter, Alabama and served as the Town Clerk of Shorter with his mother, Willa Mae, the Mayor of the Town of Shorter. He also served as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Macon County Economic Development Authority.

Harold had his own local Sunday morning talk radio show on WBIL AM-580 to keep his listeners informed with commentary on relevant news both nationally and locally. He was a licensed real estate broker and instructor and founded Powell Properties.

Harold was committed to his community and worked hard to make a difference. He was also very active in politics and served as the first African American National Vice-President of America. He worked on several Federal and local campaigns as well.

On November 27th, friends and family gathered at the Tuskegee University Chapel to celebrate his life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering and honoring the life of Harold Powell.

CELEBRATING BEULAH MELOCHE'S 111TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Beulah Meloche for turning 111 years old.

Ms. Meloche was born on November 23, 1906, in the town of Chazy, New York. At the time of her birth, Teddy Roosevelt was president and the average life expectancy was only 47 years. Having grown up in Plattsburgh, Ms. Meloche now resides happily at the RiverLedge Health Care Rehabilitation Center in Ogdensburg, New York.

As a supercentenarian, Ms. Meloche is one of only about 70 like her in the United States. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am proud to wish Ms. Meloche all the best on her birthday. Her longevity is a testament to the human spirit and an inspiration for the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, I was unable to vote on any legislative measures because I was accompanying the President for a speech in Missouri. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

(Roll no. 640) On ordering the previous question providing for consideration of H.R. 3017—Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act, and H.R. 3905—Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, I would have voted yes.

(Roll no. 641) On adoption of the combined rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3017—Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act, and H.R. 3905—Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act, I would have voted yes.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SHERIFF DAVID HOBBS

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jefferson County Sheriff David Hobbs, who passed away this week after a brave battle with cancer.

Sheriff Hobbs loved Jefferson County and its people. He was born and raised there. He served the County and the state of Florida in law enforcement for more than 30 years, including 11 with Florida Highway Patrol and 8 years as a deputy sheriff in Jefferson County. He was first elected Sheriff in 2004. He was also a Marine Corps reservist.

Sheriff Hobbs dedicated his life to serving and protecting others, putting himself in

harm's way so others could live safe and free. And he truly loved his colleagues at the Sheriff's office. Serving in law enforcement is not just a job. For him, it was a calling.

In later years, Sheriff Hobbs was passionately involved with the American Cancer Society, spreading awareness by sharing his story battling the disease.

We owe Sheriff Hobbs a great debt of gratitude. Please join me in honoring the life and legacy of Jefferson County Sheriff David Hobbs.

REVEREND LARRY DUNHAM, O.F.M. CELEBRATES HIS FIFTIETH JUBILEE OF PROFESSION OF VOWS

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on August 16, 2017, Reverend Larry Dunham, O.F.M., observed his 50th anniversary of the profession as a member of the Order of Friars Minor commonly known as the Roman Catholic Order of the Franciscans. Since 2013, Father Dunham has served the people of Washington, D.C. as Guardian and Commissary of the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America with devotion and dignity.

In this capacity, he has provided for the spiritual, pastoral and temporal assistance of residents of the city, including the development of a volunteer-run city farm that provided over 13,000 pounds of fresh produce for the city's low-income residents. Prior to his current role, Father Dunham served his nation selflessly as a chaplain in the United States Navy during Desert Shield and Desert Storm, as Provincial Minister of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Province from 2000 to 2009 and as President of the English Speaking Conference of the Order from 2003 to 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate and applaud Reverend Larry Dunham, O.F.M. for his 50 years of dedicated, spiritual service.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL LAWSON FOR THE MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael Lawson of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Lawson joined the United States Marine Corps in 1966 and served in the Vietnam War. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. After being honorably discharged in 1969, Mr. Lawson devoted much of his time serving veterans in his community.

Mr. Lawson is a leading coordinator for veteran celebrations in the Butte-Silver Bow area. He is active in the Marine Corps League, United Veterans Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. Mr. Lawson

is also a DAV driver and chairman of the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Michael Lawson for his dedication and service.

VETERANS ESTEEM TEAM

HON. PAUL MITCHELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Veterans in my district, and those who support them. Earlier this month, I attended a Veterans Esteem Team meeting in Lapeer County.

It is a dinner organized and prepared by local Junior High and High School students from North Branch, Almont, and Dryden to honor area veterans. Those who have served our nation are the best one percent this country produces. Words will never be adequate to capture the debt of gratitude owed to the men and women of our military who have enabled our nation to continue to be safe and prosperous. I'm honored to serve them, and the students in my district who took the time to recognize and organize this event for our veterans.

Therefore, I would like to include in the RECORD the names of students and sponsors of the Veterans Esteem Team:

Veterans Esteem Team Board Members—President: Benjamin Koning, Vice-President: Brian Garner, Secretary: Robert Heugh, Treasurer: Wayne Jacobs, Director: Glenn Ream.

Veterans Esteem Team North Branch chapter: Mr. Robert Heugh—Advisor, Darius Boulton, Liberty Cooper, Ms. Dusty Olivia Heugh, Gabe Hutchins, Ayden Marshall, Elizabeth Oland, Logan Sawson, Peyton Shepherd, Valerie Trombley, Spencer Wesch, Karter Shingledecker, Jack Enen, Ryan Rogers.

Veterans Esteem Team Almont chapter: Mr. John Reinhard—Advisor, Hannah Chaney, Seth McCarthy, Emily Kruk, Josh Boyd.

Veterans Esteem Team Dryden chapter: Abigail Koning.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF LESLEE ATIRAM

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Leslee Atiram who sadly passed away on November 10, 2017.

Leslee Atiram was a beloved teacher who was described by her students and peers to be inspiring and an optimist. Raised in Brooklyn, Ms. Atiram had a drive to one day be an educator. Ms. Atiram spent four decades teaching math and science for high school and elementary school in New York and New Jersey, of which she spent two of those decades teaching at Rutgers Preparatory School, Princeton Day School, and the Sunday school at Temple Shaari Emeth.

Her passion for education led her to study at Stroudsburg University and the University of

London during her undergraduate years. She then earned her master's degree in education from Brooklyn College. Her style of teaching was like none other—she always brought warmth, kindness, and a good sense of humor to her classes. Her knowledge and skills as a math and science teacher earned her the ORT American Outstanding STEM Educator Award, which honors an educator in the New York, New Jersey, Connecticut tristate area who seeks to advance STEM education.

Outside of her educational career, Ms. Atiram organized a support group for other people in the school community who were touched by cancer.

Leslee is survived by her husband, Zam; her sons, Logan and Zak; Kristin, Zak's fiancée; her brother, Stan, and her loving nieces and nephew. A memorial service for Leslee will be held Sunday, December 10, 2017 at Rutgers Preparatory School in Somerset.

Our nation suffers in the loss of nurturing educators like Leslee Atiram, but I am honored that such a talented and dedicated individual has shared their gifts on behalf of our community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering the amazing life of Leslee Atiram and sending our sincere condolences to her friends and family. May Ms. Atiram be blessed and rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING PHILLIP LYONS FOR THE MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Phillip Lyons of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Lyons answered the call to serve his country following the attack on Pearl Harbor. He joined the United States Navy and later the Navy Reserve. Mr. Lyons was a submariner during World War II and the Korean War.

Mr. Lyons has been active with Butte's American Legion post for the past 70 years and served as the post's commander. Mr. Lyons was State Commander of the Montana Subvets, is a member of the DAV and VFW, and has logged over 15,000 hours of volunteer work on behalf of veterans and their families.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Phillip Lyons for his dedication and service.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT JOHN C. BURNAM, USA (RETIRED)

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor retired Master Sergeant John C. Burnam for his honorable and distinguished service in the United States Army, which in-

cluded two years of combat mission as an infantryman and German shepherd scout dog handler during the Vietnam War. In addition, I would like to recognize him for years of tireless work after military retirement to establish the John Burnam Monument Foundation, which designed and built a national monument for America's military working dogs and their handlers that served in the Armed Services of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

Master Sergeant Burnam's time in the Army can be categorized best by his two years of service during the ground war in South Vietnam, where he was deployed as a combat infantryman in the 7th Cavalry in the 1st Cavalry Division, and was subsequently wounded in battle. During his second year in Vietnam, he distinguished himself as a German shepherd scout dog handler serving in the 44th infantry scout dog platoon. After being wounded and the death of his first canine companion, Timber, he returned to duty and participated in over thirty combat missions, leading combat infantry patrols and saving American lives with his second scoutdog, Clipper. Tragically, both of his dogs died in the Vietnam War, which had a profound impact on the rest of Master Sergeant Burnam's career, as well as his personal life.

Throughout Master Sergeant Burnam's combat service, he was awarded over thirteen military service awards, some of which include the Legion of Merit medal, the Bronze Star medal, and the Purple Heart medal. However, his achievements go far beyond his impressive resume, military awards, and Army accomplishments. Master Sergeant Burnam went on to establish the John Burnam Monument Foundation, an organization that grew from his desire to honor others who have served on Military Working Dog teams throughout American history. His foundation, as its name suggests, was dedicated to funding the construction and maintenance of a national monument for the men, women, and canines that make up these teams. In addition to his foundation, he has worked relentlessly to bring awareness to the work of scout dog handlers by authoring books, writing articles, and appearing in TV documentaries on the History Channel, Netflix, CNN, and other channels. Master Sergeant Burnam's authentic and passionate storytelling have brought to life the hardships, humor, and horrors of combat, as well as the courageous heroism of both dog and handler.

In 2005, Master Sergeant Burnam approached me to help him turn his dream of a Military Working Dog monument into a reality. He worked relentlessly, contributing language to support the drafting of the legislation, as well as giving congressional testimony before several subcommittees during the legislative process. Due to his tenacity and passion for the project, the legislation was signed by President Obama into Public Law 110-181 on October 28, 2009. This finally set into motion Master Sergeant Burnam's vision by authorizing the John Burnam Monument Foundation to establish and maintain a national monument on the Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

This approval sparked Master Sergeant Burnam's motivation to maintain his voice in the process, as he led the design and development details of the national monument, including size, scope, and historical significance of each component. This included the large