

NATIONAL ROSIE THE RIVETER DAY: A TRIBUTE TO THE LONG BEACH ROSIE THE RIVETER PARK

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I am a proud co-sponsor of House Resolution 162, which will designate March 21, 2017, as National Rosie the Riveter Day. This honor has special significance for the City of Long Beach, California which I represent.

Long Beach is one of two locations in the nation that has a park dedicated to recognizing and preserving the history and legacy of the working women, including volunteer women, of World War II.

The Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park was dedicated in March 2006. It is a 3.2 acre park that is just steps away from where tens of thousands of women worked at Douglas Aircraft Company during WWII, assembling the planes and bombers that helped our brave service members win the war. It is also located near what was the Long Beach Airfield (now the Long Beach Municipal Airport), where during WWII Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs), commanded by 24-year-old Barbara Erickson, flew the finished warplanes to military bases around the world.

The Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park was inspired by former Long Beach City Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, author of the book “Rosie the Riveter in Long Beach,” and designed by public artist, Terry Braunstein. It features a rose colored walk-way that winds through the park so that visitors can see photographs depicting the work and efforts of these women. Visitors can access a narrated tour via cell phone and hear the song by the Four Vagabonds—“Rosie the Riveter” that gave these women their collective and affectionate name.

At both ends of the park are a “compass rose” that have been etched and painted into concrete, marking the location of the park.

At the north end of the park are both a military memorial and wall with plaques commemorating the lives of those who have served our country in so many ways and outlined with a rose garden in the shape of a “V” for victory. The Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park displays one of only two bas reliefs sculpted by Raymond Kaskey, who designed the same for the National World War II monument, here in Washington, D.C.

Last year, C-SPAN, in its “Cities Tour,” featured the Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park because of its role in honoring the women who contributed on the home front during WWII.

As we celebrate “National Rosie the Riveter Day,” let us continue our efforts to recognize and preserve the history and legacy of working women, including volunteer women during World War II, as a way of promoting cooperation and fellowship among all American women and their descendants.

IN HONOR OF ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY'S WAR GARDENS

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alabama State University upon its 100 year anniversary of planting war gardens to aid the United States efforts in World War I.

One hundred years ago, students, staff, and faculty of the then State Normal School at Montgomery, subsequently Alabama State University, assisted and advised residents near campus and in the City of Montgomery, Alabama on how to plant war gardens. Thanks to these efforts, it was reported that in March 1918 over 1,400 black homes in Montgomery had war gardens.

These gardens were important acts of sacrifice and rationing as commercially grown produce was shipped overseas to feed our troops and food-insecure Allies during The Great War or World War I.

Next month, the ASU Department of History and Political Science and university community will plant a Memorial WWI War Garden in commemoration and in honor of what was done on our campus a century ago.

The garden will represent the pride and commitment of ASU's campus to community and to country.

It was originally on March 21, 1918 that Alabama Governor Charles Anderson declared “Garden Days” urging Alabamians to grow war gardens, and this day on March 21, 2017 I declare “Garden Days” in tribute to what was done in the Montgomery community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Alabama State University for its legacy of civil duty and service to both community and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF KITTY JURCIUKONIS

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kitty Jurciukonis for her achievements as a volunteer, professional, and elected official in southeastern Pennsylvania. In recognition of these accomplishments, Mrs. Jurciukonis was posthumously awarded the Women of Achievement Award from the Delaware County Women's Commission.

Kitty worked as a tireless advocate for her community, serving as member of the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners for nineteen years, two of which were spent as President. She was also a leader in the Suburban West Realtors Association, the Springfield School District Home and School Association, and Community Education Council. She even volunteered her time and talents to help open the Springfield School District's Parent Resource Center.

The current Springfield Township Commissioner says of Kitty: “I was humbled and honored to follow in her footsteps. . . She worked tirelessly with integrity and enthusiasm for the Township and the people she served.”

I honor all of the work Kitty accomplished in our community and the trail she blazed for the women inspired by her achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 173, 174, 175 on Monday, March 20, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted “Yea” on roll call votes 173, 174, and 175.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF JUDGE BENTLEY KASSAL'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I hereby congratulate Judge Bentley Kassal on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Judge Kassal has dedicated his life to public service, and we are grateful for his contributions to the people of New York. As a member of the New York State Assembly from 1957 through 1962, Judge Kassal represented a significant portion of Manhattan's Upper West Side in the very same Assembly district that I would later serve. During his time in Albany, Judge Kassal, among other accomplishments, authored a bill establishing the New York State Council on the Arts—the very first arts council to operate in the United States.

Mr. Kassal was later elected to the New York City Civil Court in 1969 and then the New York Supreme Court in 1975. In 1982, Governor Hugh Carey appointed Judge Kassal to the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court. He continued in that capacity until 1993. Following his retirement from the bench, Judge Kassal has served as counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, and Flom, where he continues to provide assistance with litigation matters.

Judge Kassal is also a decorated war veteran, and was stationed abroad as an air combat intelligence officer for four years during World War II. In recognition of his distinguished military service, Judge Kassal has received the Bronze Star medal and the French Legion of Honor medal.

I am incredibly proud to count Judge Kassal as one of my constituents. The people of New York have been the fortunate beneficiaries of Judge Kassal's years of service. I wish him a warm congratulations on this special occasion, and thank him for his contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote

numbers 173, 174, and 175. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on all of these measures.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE
CHRISTINE FIZZANO CANNON

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Judge Christine Fizzano Cannon for receiving the Women of Achievement Award from the Delaware County Women's Commission. The Honorable Christine Fizzano Cannon has been a leader in our community both as a small business owner and a public servant. She ran her own law firm for over ten years and has served as a Delaware County Women's Commissioner, member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Disciplinary Board Hearing Committee, Ridley Hospital Foundation, and Delaware County Council.

In 2012, Judge Fizzano Cannon was elected to the Court of Common Pleas. In this role she handles civil and equity matters, personal injury and property damage cases, real estate, land use and zoning matters, and medical malpractice cases. She is also currently serving on the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania, which reviews, investigates, and prosecutes judicial misconduct.

I thank Judge Fizzano Cannon for all of her work in our community, and I congratulate her on receiving this award.

RECOGNIZING THE SILHOUETTE
CIVIC AND SOCIAL CLUB

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize the Silhouette Civic and Social Club, which holds a commendable record of service to the El Paso community.

This Saturday, March 25, 2017 the club will recognize their 50th anniversary. Founded in 1967, the Silhouette Civic and Social Club has served the El Paso community through events, social activities, and scholarships.

The Club's founders wanted to create an organization with a unity of sisterhood dedicated to enriching and supporting the El Paso community. Three of its founders, Doris Gary, Baby Ruth Boswell, and Edna Black, still actively participate in the organization's activities to this day.

The Silhouette Civic and Social Club, affectionately referred to as the "Ladies with the Big Hearts," has graciously supported churches, shelters, and crisis centers through regular donations. They have supported El Paso's McCall Neighborhood Center, which preserves and advances the History of the African-American Community in El Paso, as well as the Reynolds Home, a shelter for homeless mothers and children.

They are most proud of providing college scholarships for deserving, honorable high school graduates. Their grass roots initiatives help young El Pasoans pursue the American Dream.

I thank the Silhouette Civic and Social Club for their efforts to improve our community and have a positive impact on the world through their generosity. The "Ladies with the Big Hearts" represent the compassion, selflessness, and community that is indicative of our country's southwest border and the people of El Paso that I have the distinct privilege to represent.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 173, YEA on Roll Call No. 174, and YEA on Roll Call No. 175.

HONORING MODESTO FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF SEAN SLAMON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Modesto Fire Department Chief Sean Slamon, who announced his retirement after serving the community of Modesto for 29 years.

In 1989, Sean began his successful career with the Modesto Fire Department. Throughout his many years of service, he has held various positions, including Firefighter, Engineer, Captain, Training Captain, Battalion Chief, Division Chief of Operations and Training, and Fire Chief since August 2014.

In addition to his dedicated service, Chief Slamon previously served as President of the Training Officers section of the California Fire Chiefs Association and remains on the team as an Area Director. Currently, Sean is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the California Fire Chiefs Association, in addition to being the former President of the Stanislaus County Fire Chiefs.

Knowing that education is the key to success, Chief Slamon obtained a Bachelor's degree in Occupational Studies from California State University, Long Beach as well as an Associate of Science degree in Fire Science from Modesto Junior College. He has furthered his education and training by obtaining numerous certificates from the California State Fire Marshalls Office and FEMA, and is a state certified instructor in numerous command and management courses.

Sean has been happily married to his wife, Shannon, for 23 years. Together, they have two children: Zachary, a Cal Poly San Luis Obispo graduate who is currently serving as an Airman 1st Class in the United States Air Force, and Courtney, a Senior in High School, who will be attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in the Fall.

Chief Slamon's 29 years of experience, knowledge, and commitment are unparalleled. His expertise has led him on a new journey as the Fire Chief of the Carson City Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions

made to the Modesto Fire Department by Chief Sean Slamon as we wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHANIE (SAM) FLEETMAN

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Stephanie (Sam) Fleetman for receiving the Women of Achievement Award from the Delaware County Women's Commission. Sam is the CEO of Mustang Expedition, Inc.—a nationally recognized full-service delivery carrier. She has grown the company from one truck and a few employees to a multi-million dollar company employing over 50 individuals.

While reaching success in a male-oriented industry, Sam has also been a leader in her community. She has served as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association—only the second woman to do so in eighty-six years—and the Delaware County Historical Society. And she previously held positions as the President of the Bridgewater Park Association and the Sharon Alumnae Association.

I thank Sam for all she's done professionally and philanthropically in our community and congratulate her on receiving this important award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES COTTON

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the remarkable life of James Cotton who passed away on March 16, 2017, at the age of 81. Mr. Cotton was a pioneering harmonica player who helped establish his instrument as an integral part of modern blues.

James Henry Cotton was born on July 1, 1935 in Tunica, MS, the youngest of eight brothers and sisters. His parents, Hattie and Mose were sharecroppers who worked on a cotton plantation and his father was also the preacher at the local Baptist church. Mr. Cotton was inspired to take up the harmonica by his mother and by the time he was 7 years old, he was performing for small change on the streets of nearby towns in the Mississippi Delta. At age 9, he moved in with Sonny Boy Williamson II to learn the instrument and Sonny Boy remained his hero for the rest of his life.

Around 1950, Mr. Cotton moved to West Memphis with Sonny Boy, which is where Howlin' Wolf heard him. Mr. Cotton played with Howlin' Wolf appearing in some of the recordings he made with Sam Phillips at Sun Records, in Memphis, in the early 1950s. In 1954, he also made four recordings under his own name for Sun. Mr. Cotton also played with Muddy Waters in Chicago where he contributed to classics like "Got my Mojo Working" and "Rock Me." In 1966, Mr. Cotton embarked on a solo career when he formed the