

the district I represent is appreciated for its vital significance and extraordinary employment opportunities, and creating jobs.

Congratulations to Governor Perdue, his wife Mary Ruff, and their entire family on this tremendous honor. I look forward to working with his successor in this new position in the tradition of Governor Perdue's success as Governor of South Carolina's sister state.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may we never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF CHARLES A. WEISS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to acknowledge the 75th birthday of Charles A. Weiss, my friend and roommate from the University of Notre Dame Law School. Charlie Weiss is a true legal giant who continues to be an extremely active litigator with the renowned Brian Cave law firm. A proud lifelong resident of Missouri, Charlie graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Missouri before attending Notre Dame Law School where he was an editor of the Law Review and received his Juris Doctor degree in 1968.

During his distinguished legal career, Charlie has practiced in state and federal courts throughout the country, including 39 different federal district courts, 8 federal courts of appeals and the United States Supreme Court dealing with significant cases which include class actions, intellectual property, securities, antitrust and constitutional law. Charlie has also been active in local, state and federal bar associations serving in such key positions as President of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, President of the Missouri Bar Association and a member of the House of Delegates and the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association, plus being on numerous ABA standing committees. Charlie has done much for the Notre Dame Law School, serving as President of the Notre Dame Club of St. Louis and President of the Notre Dame Law Association. In 2013, Charlie was the recipient of the Law School's Rev. Michael D. McCafferty C.S.C. Award.

Charlie's commitment to justice is demonstrated by his extensive pro bono work on behalf of indigent clients, most notably leading a team of lawyers to win the release in 2009 of an innocent man who had spent 17 years in prison for a murder he did not commit.

Charlie and his wife Susan are outstanding people who are proud parents and grandparents. As a friend and fellow Notre Dame graduate, I know that I speak for the countless people whose lives have been enriched by our association with Charlie Weiss in wishing him a very Healthy and Happy 75th Birthday and many more after that. Go Irish.

IN HONOR OF THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF JACK MCCONNELL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the birthday of Jack McConnell. He will turn 80 on February 7th.

Jack was born on February 7, 1937, to John Richard and Mary Heath McConnell in Lee County, Alabama.

Jack graduated from Beauregard High School in 1956. He later attended Columbus Technical College in Columbus, Georgia.

He used his technical skills as a mechanic and machinist at Perfect Plastics, Ampex Corporation and Uniroyal-Goodrich. He retired from Uniroyal-Goodrich in 1992 after twenty one years of service. After retirement he pursued his life-long dream of becoming a cattle farmer.

He is a lifelong member of Hopewell United Methodist Church and currently serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees, a position he has held for many years.

He was elected and served on the Lee County School Board for 6 years. He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Lee County Cattlemen's Association and the ALFA Farmer's Federation Board of Directors.

Jack and his wife Carolyn reside in the Beauregard Community. They have six children, Jason McConnell, Judi McConnell, Jennifer Sanavitis, Norman Rudd, Rob Rudd and Angie Rudd and they have eleven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Jack McConnell and wishing him a happy 80th birthday.

HONORING CLARKE BLODGETT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Clarke Blodgett. Clarke 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 81, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Clarke has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Clarke 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, Clarke has mastered the bugle, led his troop as the Senior Patrol Leader, and earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Clarke also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Clarke built, installed and organized shelves inside a shed at Sacred Heart Church in Bevier, Missouri.

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

HONORING THE SS "EXODUS 1947"

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary events surrounding the SS *Exodus 1947*, to which a historic memorial will be dedicated in the Port of Haifa in Israel this coming July.

The SS *Exodus 1947*, originally known as the *President Warfield*, was a passenger ship operating on the "Old Bay Line" between Baltimore, MD and Norfolk, VA. The ship served in that role for nearly 15 years before being repurposed during World War II, when it served both the Royal Navy and the United States Navy. Following the war, the ship returned to the U.S. and was placed in the Naval Reserve Fleet in Virginia, where it was to be sold for scrap.

Before the ship could be scrapped it was sold to the Haganah, the precursor to the Israel Defense Forces. The Haganah intended to use it, amongst 9 other ships, to evacuate displaced Jews from Europe to what was then Palestine, at the time under British Control. Before undertaking this mission the ship was towed to Baltimore, where it was refitted and crewed, primarily by volunteer Jewish-American ex-soldiers.

Once in Europe, the ship originally designed for 400 passengers was loaded with 4,454 Holocaust survivors and departed from the French Port of Sète. The ship was intercepted in international waters by a task force of eight British Naval vessels and was boarded by Royal Marines. While the unarmed crew and passengers fought back with whatever could be turned into weapons, they were eventually overwhelmed and taken back to France and then to displaced persons camps in Germany on British prison ships.

The events on the *Exodus* garnered international media attention and are considered by historians to have played a role in the passage of United Nations Resolution 181, which established the State of Israel. The mayor of Haifa in 1950 dubbed the *Exodus* the "Ship that Launched a Nation."

Memorials and historical markers for the *Exodus* have been placed in the Baltimore Harbor, as well as France and Germany. I am proud of the small role that Baltimore played in these historic events and also commend the work of my constituent, Dr. Barry S. Lever, with the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation to dedicate a memorial to the *Exodus* in Israel, and I congratulate them on their successful efforts.

SAN BERNARDINO SHERIFF'S CAPTAIN SAM LUCIA RECEIVES PRO- MOTION

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding public service of outgoing Victorville Sheriff's Station Captain Sam Lucia, who has spent 13 of his 27 years in law enforcement servicing the people of Victorville,

California. His departure from the Victorville station is due to his promotion to lead the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Employee Resources Division.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to thank Captain Sam Lucia for his tireless work and dedication to the residents of the high desert. It has been a pleasure to work with him over the years, but I know he will continue to excel in his new role with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, on January 23, 2017, a series of votes were held. I was not present because bad weather caused my flight to be cancelled, and I arrived too late to vote. Had I been present for these roll call votes, I would have voted Yes on Roll Call 60, and Yes on Roll Call 61.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to weather conditions my flight was cancelled and I was unable to be present for votes on the House Floor on January 23, 2017.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yes on H.R. 423, the Anti-Spoofing Act of 2017, which will make it illegal to send false caller ID information to any individual in the United States via Voice-over-Internet (VoIP) calls or text messages. This prevents criminals from defrauding individuals via text or VoIP call services; and Yes on H.R. 582, the Kari's Law Act, which will require all multiline telephone systems to be able to dial 911 without having to dial any additional digits or area codes. This can save lives by ensuring that every phone can access an emergency dispatcher by simply dialing 911, regardless if another digit is typically required for outside calls.

PEACEFUL REGIME CHANGE IN IRAN IS A MUST FOR PEACE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in a little over two weeks, we will mark the 38th anniversary of the Iranian revolution. The 1979 revolution in Iran was supposed to herald a better future for the Iranian people. Instead, the revolution ushered in an age of repression, tyranny, and persecution.

For 38 years, the Iranian people have been living under one of the most brutal regimes in the world. This regime is a maniacal theocracy that wields an iron grip over its people.

The regime has been described by Human Rights Watch consistently as a "regional lead-

er in executions." In 2015 alone, Iran executed approximately one thousand people with virtually no due process.

Iranian authorities announced in August 2016 that they had executed 20 prisoners found guilty of "enmity against God" which carries the death penalty.

Other crimes that can get you killed in Iran are "attempts against the security of the state," "outrage against high ranking officials," and insulting the Supreme Leader.

The Iranian regime routinely jails journalists, human rights defenders, and anyone who speaks out against the deplorable practices of the regime.

Once in jail, prisoners can expect to be tortured and abused. The State Department's Human Rights report claims that Iranian prisoners are commonly subjected to threats of rape, sexual humiliation, threats of execution, electroshocks, and severe beatings.

This is a sick tyrannical government that imposes its will on its people through brute force. The Iranian people have suffered immensely since 1979.

Unfortunately, since its founding the regime has also sought to "export the revolution," code for wreaking havoc abroad.

Iran's awful human rights record rivals only its long record of sponsoring terrorism throughout the world.

Iran remains the world's number one state sponsor of terrorism. In fact, Iran has only increased its support to terrorist groups in the past two years.

The regime uses its Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps to implement its foreign policy goals and create instability throughout the Middle East. The IRGC cultivates and supports terrorists abroad in service of Tehran.

It provides financial assistance, weapons, and training to groups like Hezbollah in Lebanon, Palestinian terrorists Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Shia militants in Bahrain, and terrorist militias in Iraq.

Its support for these groups has helped Tehran's ally in Syria Bashar al Assad butcher over half a million of his own citizens.

But it doesn't just end there. Iran has a tacit agreement with al-Qaeda, allowing the terrorist group to move money, arms, and fighters through Iran since at least 2009.

On February 11 the clerics in Tehran will celebrate 38 years of oppressing the people of Iran.

On that day we should remember the many victims of this evil regime, both in Iran and across the world.

The Iranian people deserve better.

They deserve a democratic government whose priority is not to keep themselves in power no matter the cost but to improve the lives of the Iranian people.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING DAVID BUTLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize David Butler. David 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.

David has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years David 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, David has led his troop as the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, became a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and earned the rank of Tom-Tom Beater in the tribe of Mic-O-Say. David has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. David built five wooden storage boxes to hold the seat cushions for the swings at Immacolata Manor, a home for adults with developmental disabilities in Liberty, Missouri.

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

INTRODUCTION OF DEADLY FORCE TRANSPARENCY ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, the fact that after the Michael Brown shooting in Ferguson, the Eric Garner killing in Staten Island, and so many other, similar tragic events around the country, we still don't have reliable statistics about when, where and against whom law enforcement uses deadly force is shameful.

Even FBI Director James Comey has said it is, "ridiculous that [he] can't tell you how many people were shot by the police last week, last month, last year."

If we are serious about addressing excessive force, we need to know the full scope of the problem. For example, how often is deadly force used? Are minorities disproportionately the victims? Could other, non-lethal measures have been taken?

That is why today I am introducing the National Statistics on Deadly Force Transparency Act. It would require collection of this type of information. Although a provision of the 1994 Crime Bill requires the Attorney General to collect statistics on the use of excessive force, there is no enforcement mechanism and the federal government has been unable to gather data from many local police departments. Since excessive force can be difficult to define, this bill would be limited to just instances where deadly force is used.

Specifically, this legislation would require any law enforcement agency receiving federal funds to provide data to the Department of Justice on when each instance of deadly force occurred, including the race and gender of both the victim and the officer involved. It would also require an explanation as to why law enforcement felt deadly force was justified and any non-lethal efforts that were taken before deadly force was used.

The Department of Justice would make this data publicly available but would not disclose any personally identifying information.

This is information the public should already have. The fact that we don't is absurd. I urge my colleagues to fix this problem and pass the Deadly Force Transparency Act without delay.