

May God Bless the New Life Refuge Ministries and their mission, may God Bless the victims, and may they find refuge, hope, and—ultimately—healing.

**HONORING THE GILROY DISPATCH
OF THE CITY OF GILROY**

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Gilroy Dispatch (Dispatch), the local printed news source for the City of Gilroy. On September 12, 2018, the Gilroy Dispatch will celebrate a true milestone, its 150th anniversary. I would like to commend the Dispatch for its century and a half of service, fellowship, and leadership to the Gilroy community.

Founded initially as the Gilroy Advocate, the Dispatch is one of the oldest continuous businesses in the region. The Dispatch has chronicled the community's growth from a small agricultural town to the nation's Garlic Capital.

The Dispatch has been at the heart of its Gilroy community through connecting neighbors to each other and to small businesses. It continues to serve as both a spotlight and watchdog for neighbors and readers alike on the changes and developments in Gilroy.

In its history, the Dispatch's pages have accounted for stories of all sizes and angles. It has chronicled wars, fires, earthquakes, floods as well as new schools, big harvests and citizen achievements. Despite its many awards over the years, the Dispatch is most proud of the trust it has earned by the Gilroy community.

As the Gilroy Dispatch celebrates 150 years of service to the Gilroy community, I join in congratulating them and wishing them the best for the next 150 years.

HONORING JANE L. HOUGH

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Jane L. Hough, who passed away on August 11 at the age of 91. She was a friend to me and to many who live in Salem, the city she loved. While most notable as the first woman to serve on Salem's City Council, she contributed in many ways to the welfare of her community.

Jane was born in Norton and grew up in the coalfields of Virginia. She attended Randolph Macon Women's College, where she earned a dual degree in Latin and math. Her son Andy told the Roanoke Times that she still spoke fluent Latin years after graduating, but she drew on her math degree to teach algebra at Andrew Lewis High School.

Jane was a longtime member of the Salem Republican Committee. In 1972, she decided to run for Salem's City Council. She ran as an independent, won, and served three terms, helping Salem find its footing in its early years as an independent city. Her leadership boosted the city's fiscal health. During her tenure,

she served on the executive board of the Virginia Municipal League and the National League of Cities' Small City Commission.

Jane's active citizenship in Salem extended beyond her time in elected office. Beside her career as a teacher prior to her time on City Council, she mentored children at the Virginia Baptist Children's Home supervised by her husband Franklin. Beginning in 1953, she also helped beautify the city by planting and landscaping as a member of the Salem Garden Club.

Jane is survived by Franklin, her husband of 69 years; their four children, Frank, Amelia, Jay, and Andy; their four grandchildren, Amy, Morgen, Lucy, and Samantha; and their great-grandchildren, Amelia and Olivia. She will be missed in Salem, the city for which she did so much.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable and missed Roll Call Vote 390. Had I been present, I would have voted "Nay" on Roll Call No. 390.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN**

SPEECH OF

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2018

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, thank you to Mr. HILL for organizing this tribute.

Last week, Arizonans said goodbye to our senator, our patriot, and our hero, John McCain. Thousands of us took a time off work, school, and our daily lives to pay our respects.

We honored Senator McCain because he was first and foremost an American patriot. He represented the very best about our country. He was loyal above all else to our core values as Americans. Before he left us, he wrote us a parting letter. One part of that letter spoke to me, and should be a daily reminder for us all:

"[W]e have always had so much more in common with each other than in disagreement. If only we remember that and give each other the benefit of the presumption that we all love our country, we'll get through these challenging times . . . believe always in the promise and greatness of America, because nothing is inevitable here. Americans never quit. We never surrender. We never hide from history. We make history."

John lived those values in the halls of the U.S. Senate, at home in Arizona, and around the world as a beacon of light and hope.

The memory of John McCain will never fade, but it's up to us to carry on his legacy. We must strive to find common ground and stand taller than the divisive and toxic politics of the moment. Some days, some will fall short of the expectations we set for ourselves, but we must wake up each day determined to do better and do right by the American people.

No matter our party, we should all aspire to live up to his measure and always try to do what's best for our country.

**REPUBLIC OF THE RIO GRANDE:
THE 7TH FLAG OVER TEXAS**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to a Texan, "Six Flags" is more than just the name of an amusement park. As those of us from great state know, the term refers to the six different flags that have flown over our state: those of Spain, France, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederacy, and—since 1865—the flag of the United States.

However, what many folks don't know is that there was a 7th flag over Texas that has long been overlooked: the flag of the Republic of the Rio Grande. Now, if you're from the little border town of Laredo this is no news to you. Laredo has adopted this flag as the city's official flag. It can be found waving on the streets, hanging on houses, and even prominently displayed in halls of City Council. Red, white, and black with three stars and two stripes, this flag is a symbol for a group of fighting Texans that will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, the Republic of the Rio Grande was a small, unrecognized nation. After Texas broke away from Mexico, leaders in other Mexican states were empowered to do the same. In 1840 the courageous leaders met in Laredo, Texas and declared their independence, claiming the territories of Mexican states, parts of current-day Texas, and even New Mexico for the Republic of the Rio Grande.

Those of us who have taken Texas history in school know that Mexico isn't a country keen on giving up territory without a fight. It's no surprise that the young Republic soon found itself facing the well-prepared Mexican army on the battlefield. Despite several months of intense battle, the revolutionaries were soon captured. The Republic of the Rio Grande was no more.

The Republic of the Rio Grande may have been a small and short-lived nation, but it captures the mind and spirit of generations of Texans. The Republic of the Rio Grande reminds us all to never give up without a fight, especially when fighting for freedom.

If you make it out to Laredo, Texas, look up. The flag of the Republic of the Rio Grande will be there, waving in the soft breeze. Look up and remember the brave soldiers that fought for Texas, the stars and stripes of that 7th flag, and remember the Republic of the Rio Grande.

And that's just the way it is.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MR. PETE
HANSE**

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Pete Hanse on being honored

as the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce 2018 Agriculturalist of the Year.

Pete Hanse was born and raised in California's Central Valley, attending local schools and choosing to remain in the community as an adult. Establishing a successful family business, Hanse Farms Inc., Mr. Hanse has earned a well-known reputation for his dedication to protecting and preserving the agriculture industry in Kings County and the greater Central Valley region.

Mr. Hanse has further shown his service to the community by his involvement in the Kings County Farm Bureau. For forty-four consecutive years, which is an accomplishment in and of itself, he has volunteered on its Board of Directors. He has held every position on the Board, including serving as President from 1986 to 1988. His involvement continued with his participation in numerous California Farm Bureau state conventions, establishing relationships and gaining knowledge from organizations outside of Kings County.

Through his decades of experience, Mr. Hanse has become known for his superior knowledge on many topics in the agriculture industry. His peers look to him for direction on industry challenges and he is consistently willing to share his wisdom with others. Through his dedication and involvement in the community, Mr. Hanse has become known for his reliability, hard-working character, and leadership for the industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Pete Hanse on his dedicated service to the Central Valley and on being honored as the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce 2018 Agriculturalist of the Year.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDW. C. LEVY CO.

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Edw. C. Levy Co., which was founded in 1918 when Edward C. Levy, Sr. started a trucking business in Detroit, Michigan area.

A short time later, Levy started hauling away steel slag for the Ford Motor Company's River Rouge plant, and then other steel mills.

He began to crush the slag and sell it as road-base material—a move that paved the way for the company's continuing expansion and development.

Today, under the leadership of Ed Levy, Jr. and S. Evan Weiner, the Levy Group of Companies has grown into an international business with locations across the United States and the globe.

Their products and services include steel mill services, slag, natural aggregates, asphalt, concrete and cement, specialty products, logistics, lab services, land development, and agricultural products.

The company is committed to promoting the well-being of their employees and recognizing contributions made by the hardworking, loyal people who work there.

As a good neighbor, Levy is also active in helping to fund local projects and in contributing to charitable organizations that improve

the quality of life in the communities where they are located.

As they celebrate 100 years, Levy maintains a prominent position in the global marketplace and has a sterling reputation for excellence, innovation, and cooperation.

It is a lasting legacy that undoubtedly reaches far beyond Edward C. Levy, Sr.'s wildest dreams.

IN HONOR OF ALVARADOSMITH

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the AlvaradoSmith law firm in California. Since 1993, AlvaradoSmith has provided legal counsel to public agencies, large non-profit corporations, municipalities, emerging businesses, mid-sized companies and Fortune 500 companies. Since then they have opened three offices across California in Santa Ana, Los Angeles and San Francisco, in addition to international locations in Latin America. AlvaradoSmith uses state-of-the-art technology and attorneys with a wealth of experience in different sectors to provide clients with innovative solutions.

The AlvaradoSmith firm was established by Ray Alvarado and Ruben A. Smith with core principles around diversity, excellence, integrity, and community leadership. They have shown their commitment to these values as one of the largest minority-owned law firm in the nation and the largest certified minority-owned law firm in California. Their highly-qualified attorneys attended the nation's prestigious law schools including Berkley Law, Cornell, Georgetown, UCLA, USC and Yale. Their attorneys have breadth in their expertise ranging from business litigation to intellectual property. Their clients include Netflix, Shell, University of California, Restoration Hardware, Southern California Edison and Northrop Grumman.

Today, AlvaradoSmith serve as champions for diversity in legal counsel and continue to set the example for other law firms. AlvaradoSmith fosters inclusivity through their ability to speak over five different languages, investment in a multi-generational workforce, creation of women's leadership forum, and multi-disciplinary practice. I am honored to recognize AlvaradoSmith and its 25 years of dedication to diversity and inclusion.

HERB MEYER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of an inspirational community leader, Herb Meyer, who recently passed away at the age of 87. Mr. Meyer was one of the sailing world's premier disabled racers, and he was dedicated to reducing barriers facing people with disabilities.

Born in 1931, Mr. Meyer began his sailing career at 12 years old in New Jersey. After serving in the Korean War as a jet fighter pilot,

he moved to California in 1963. Once in the Bay Area, Mr. Meyer started racing out of Belvedere Cove and eventually moved to Marin county in 1980.

In July of 1993, while sailing on San Francisco Bay, Mr. Meyer broke his neck and became a paraplegic. After sailing for over 30 years, Herb thought his days on the water were over. Thanks to the Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors, Mr. Meyer was retrained on sailing with a disability, and back out on the bay just one year after his accident. He continued competitive sailing and participated in Paralympic and other international races including in Canada, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Australia.

Over the years, Mr. Meyer joined many community organizations serving the disabled. In addition to serving as Commodore for the Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors in 2002, he was on the boards of the Marin Center for Independent Living and the Treasure Island Sailing Center, and he was a founding member of the county's In-Home Support Services chapter. These efforts also translated to national action, as Mr. Meyer chaired the Special Needs Committee for the United States Sailing Association.

Herb Meyer served his country during a time of war and his community thereafter. He faced his disability and worked tirelessly to not only continue his passion for sailing but to lower the barriers for other to do the same. Mr. Speaker, it is therefore fitting that we honor Herb today for his decades of commitment to helping people with disabilities overcome barriers and follow their passions. His presence will be sorely missed, and his leadership not be soon forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, due to tropical storm Gordon, which impacted my district on 9/4/18, I was en route back to Washington and unable to vote on the following roll call votes on 9/6/18. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 392.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF ST. GEORGE'S MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Macedonian Orthodox Church's consecration in Syracuse, New York. The Macedonian Orthodox Church has long been a staple in the Syracuse community and currently serves 200 families in the area.

Known locally as St. George, the congregation traces its roots back to 1964 when twenty Macedonian immigrant families established the church in upstate New York. Once established, the church registered under the jurisdiction of the Mother church, the Macedonian