

State and its people. He will be greatly missed but his memory will live on through the kindness of everyone he touched and the lasting impact of the causes for which he fought. I am honored to recognize Ken and extend my condolences to his family. May he deservedly rest in peace.

HONORING FRANCISCO MUÑOZ III

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Francisco Muñoz III on the occasion of his retirement. For more than 43 years, Mr. Muñoz served as director of the dance and Ballet Folklórico programs at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Francisco Muñoz graduated from Pan American University—now University of Texas Rio Grande Valley—in 1975, double majoring in history and health, physical education and recreation. He went on to earn multiple graduate degrees at the University. Francisco began teaching dance part-time in 1977, and in 1982 became the first full-time instructor at the school to focus on folklórico.

On August 31, 2018, Francisco retired from his positions as director of both prestigious UTRGV performing arts programs. Francisco and his wife, Mary, built the dance program and the internationally recognized Ballet Folklórico company from the ground up. His work has forever transformed the dance department at UTRGV and enabled students from all over the Rio Grande Valley to share their talents on national and international stages. Francisco's colleagues and pupils were fortunate to receive instruction and encouragement from a leader like him.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent someone as hard-working as Mr. Francisco Muñoz III. The South Texas community is thankful for his work and dedication to enriching our culture. I wish him the best as he begins a new chapter of his life. May retirement suit him and his family well.

BILL HARRIS POST OFFICE BILL

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer legislation to honor a good man, a faithful public servant, a veteran, and a friend to the people of the great state of Ohio by renaming the Post Office in Ashland, Ohio after former Ohio Senate President, Bill Harris.

Bill served our nation as a United States Marine for 23 years. He completed tours of duty in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. His actions led to him being awarded the Bronze Star twice and the Vietnam Medal of Honor. He rose to the rank of Major and retired in 1977.

Shortly thereafter, Bill found himself moving to Ashland, Ohio and opening a car dealership. It is still run by the Harris family. Bill was an active member of his community, serving

as chairman of the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Board for the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University.

I got to know Bill when we served in the Ohio legislature together. While he was in the Senate, I served in the House. Bill was Ohio Senate President when he led them to enact major reforms to Ohio's tax code. He also had a passion for making Ohio's higher education system better and more affordable. But I also got to know Bill on a personal level. After Bill broke his leg slipping on ice in 2009, he was unable to drive. Since I lived the closest to him, I drove him down to Columbus while he was recovering. We spent many hours talking, sometimes about politics and state government, but mostly about family and life. He told me stories and imparted his wisdom on those drives from Ashland to Columbus and back.

Bill Harris dedicated his life to his family and friends, his community and country. I offer this legislation as a way to honor Bill's legacy and recognize his achievements. I ask for my colleagues' support of this bill to rename the Post Office in Bill's hometown of Ashland after him as thanks for his commitment to Ashland, the State of Ohio, and to America.

HONORING MICHAEL BEATTY

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hoosier artist and Congressional Art Competition judge Michael Beatty.

He has shared his passion for artistic and creative expression with many throughout his career. Michael's work has been showcased across northern Indiana, giving our community the gift of cultural enrichment and a chance to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us.

The breadth of his work, which spans various mediums, publications, and international honors, stands as a guiding light for others. Michael is a role model, a leader, and an expressive visionary who inspires us all.

Michael has always been active in our community, and for the past several years has helped celebrate the hard work and incredible talent of local high school students as a judge in Indiana's 2nd District Congressional Art Competition. His participation in our annual competition gives young artists encouragement and the opportunity to continue pursuing their dreams. I want to thank him for the time and dedication he has given to support the next generation of Hoosier artists.

I am truly grateful for his positive contributions in northern Indiana and across the country. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Michael's compassion, drive, and creative spirit. It is a privilege to represent Hoosiers like Michael Beatty, who helps make our communities vibrant and our futures bright.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, homicide is the leading cause of death

among youth, especially among people of color between the ages of 13 to 34. The Center for American Progress reported 17 young people are murdered every day in America. Imagine if 17 of our nation's best doctors, lawyers, engineers, scientists, poets, and politicians lay waste everyday due to gun violence. According to the Brennan Center for Justice, the murder rate has declined by 3.4 percent from 30 of the largest cities in America. The murder rate in Chicago also declined by 12.3 percent in 2017, but remains more than 60 percent above 2014 levels. Some cities saw their murder rates rise in 2017, such as Baltimore (7.8 percent) and Philadelphia (13.1 percent). This is the daily reality of America, particularly for urban cities like Chicago and Philadelphia. This issue should outrage us all.

Mothers In Charge, Inc. (MIC) is one organization that is here today in our nation's Capitol to inform Members of Congress of the impact of gun violence. MIC is comprised of impassioned mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, and others who are committed to working towards saving lives and preventing another parent or guardian from having to experience their terrible tragedy. They advocate for families affected by violence and provide counseling and grief support services for families when a loved one has been murdered. One of the advocates is Mrs. Johnson-Speight, who is spearheading a movement to make the nation aware of homicide among young people. She works with juvenile offenders—some of whom are incarcerated for murder—using a cognitive skills development model titled, "Thinking For A Change". This program addresses the development of pro-social and proper decision making skills, violence prevention, and preparation for re-entry back into their communities.

I commend all of the organizations and institutions working hard to bring attention to homicide, and their efforts to eliminate the threat of gun violence. In honor of the many precious lives lost as a result of gun violence, Congress, in 2007, designated September 25th as the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims. On this day, every year, we are reminded of the lives lost, and the need to continue the fight against violence so their deaths are not in vain.

TRIBUTE TO GLORIA AND LARRY WEST

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Gloria and Larry West of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 17, 1968 in Harlan, Iowa.

Gloria and Larry's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join

me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

COLORADO FARM BREWERY AND COLORADO MALTING COMPANY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cody Family and the Colorado Malting Company and Colorado Farm Brewery of Alamosa, Colorado for their entrepreneurial spirit.

Over 80 years ago, Ray Cody moved his family from Oklahoma to the San Luis Valley of Southern Colorado and started what is now known as the Colorado Malting Company. Almost four generations later, Ray's grandson and great-grandsons now own and operate the business he created.

Ray's son Bob eventually took over the then-humble farming operation and expanded it several times. Thanks to Bob's ambition, the business entered into a contract with Coors Brewing Company, growing high country barley for one of the world's foremost breweries. Along the way, Bob also started a dairy operation with the help of his sons. For many years, the Cody's lived and farmed on Henry Road, growing barley for Coors using malting equipment they made from scratch. In the early 1970s, Bob's son Wayne took over the dairy operation.

In 1994, Wayne sold the dairy cows and focused full-time on farming Coors barley and alfalfa hay. Almost 15 years later, Wayne, with the help of his friends and family, converted the old dairy barn into a malting facility. Now, Wayne's son Jason, who was one of the founders of Colorado Malting Company, runs the day to day operations of the facility, while Wayne's sons Joshua and Bobby have played active roles in the design and growth of the company in recent years.

The Cody family's tenacity has led to many accolades, including national recognition from the New York Times. Colorado Farm Brewery is also the first in the state to have a tasting room on location at the farm.

Mr. Speaker, the success of the Colorado Malting Company and the Colorado Farm Brewery is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Cody family. Their entrepreneurial spirit has paved the way for them to become one of Colorado's premiere brewing and malting companies, and it is my honor to recognize them. I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the years to come.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN F. GIRARD

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, on August 12, 2018 the Town of Norwich, Vermont lost a longtime member of the community, John F. Girard. He was revered for his service to the town, its school and especially its children.

I would like to include in the RECORD the eulogy delivered by Dan Fraser, a former student and lifelong friend.

In Memory of John F. Girard—Aug. 25, 2018.

It has been a rough few weeks for all of us, especially the Girard, Adams, Capps and Culverhouse families.

Mr. G. was a man I knew extremely well. The family asked me to speak some about the time when his children were growing up. The Girard and Fraser families go back almost 50 years! The first four Girards and Frasers are all the same age—Johnny—sorry John—you will always be Johnny to me and my brother John, Lauren and I, Mikey—Mike and Rob, Linsey and Mat—something in the water that year? Linsey spelled with no D and Mat spelled with only 1 T. Then my sister Jen completed out the team.

Norwich was not as large as it is today, there was no internet—some families only had one car—like both the Girards and the Frasers. We grew up in a time without daycare and Mrs. G and my Mom stayed home raising all of us kids and I would say they did a pretty darn good job!

The Girards moved here in 1966 from Somerville, MA, when Mr. G was hired to teach at the Marion Cross School. My dad returned from Vietnam in 1972. Ironically enough, it was at St. Francis of Assisi Church where our families first met—right over there behind us. Mrs. G noticed my mom as a new comer at church and that was the beginning of a lifelong friendship that continues on among our families today. Every first communion, every confirmation, every wedding and birth—our families gathered to celebrate. In addition, every Christmas Eve—the tradition was that we went to mass and then back to the Girards for dinner and an evening of fun. All of us kids would wonder what gifts we might get in the morning. Mrs. G's famous homemade eggnog, spinach squares, shrimp, and lasagna were enjoyed by all. Mr. G would entertain us all or we would sit and watch a Boston sports team play on TV—he could never contain his excitement.

When there were not holidays or celebrations, it still meant we would go to the Girards to hang out or they would come to our house. In the winter, it was sledding and building snowmen outside. During the summer it was riding our Green Machine big wheels for hours on end tormenting the old ladies around Jones Circle with all the noise they made. Green Machines—the gift from last Christmas—Mr. G put together 4 of them for us to all share. And we rode bikes on the trails—in the wooded lot behind the Girard's house before Mascoma Bank put in their parking lot and paved it. Of course there were Lou's donuts on special occasions, with 9 kids we could polish off 3 dozen pretty quick. The Girards—are simply the best—as all of us here today already know.

Calendar squares—here in this envelope are calendar squares from the 2019 calendar. If there are not enough—just pick a date sometime next year. We are all here to pay tribute and honor Mr. G. We need this tribute to carry on so on your date—you do something for some member of his family. Send a card, flowers, make a phone call, drop off a dessert, a meal, or pay a visit and share a story. All year long the Girards will be reminded of how amazing Mr. G was and he will always be remembered.

Lauren—this one is for you: Now what about the jars of peanut butter and jelly and boxes of crackers. Mr. G's favorite snack—peanut butter and jelly on crackers. Thank you to everyone who brought one of these items—Lauren they are here, as you wished—enough for all the various Girard families to take home and any extra will be donated to The Haven in his honor.

As I look out across this field, I see a crowd, some old, some young, some locals

and some with roots here who traveled from great distances. Mr. G the impact you have had on so many, the footprint you have left, the learning and life skills you so enthusiastically shared will last for generations.

How do you honor a man like Mr. G—A legend in his own time who in his lifetime already has a scoreboard in Tracy Hall, the Marion Cross School gym and a road named after him. He was the first Citizen of the Year, and here we sit at Girard field.

It is often said that it takes a village. Well Mr. G, you for over 52 years, you have been here for our village—Norwich. Today, is pay-back! The village of Norwich is here for you and the Girard family. I am so proud of how Norwich has really rallied on this one. Thank you all who helped make this happen.

We are going to start backward with the youngest first:

Linsey—as a special tribute for you and your family to honor your father: on May 8, 2019 there will be a wine tasting to support The John Girard Fund established by you and your siblings at The Norwich Rec. Dept. This will be an annual Event.

Mike—as a special tribute to you and your family to honor your father, and to tie in with your work in education as a teacher, Marion Cross School has declared Nov. 4th to be John F. Girard Day and he will be honored each year on this date. This date was not chosen at random, but we know this date has a double significance to your family.

Lauren—as the most local, as a special tribute to you and your family to honor your father—it seems fitting that Dan & Whit's will have an ice cream cone day for Mr. G. We will donate 100% of sales today to the John Girard Fund at the Norwich Rec. Dept. established by you and your siblings in his honor. A wonderful Norwich couple will match all funds raised today. Please be sure to stop after this event to support the effort. This will be a yearly event, in the future it will be held on Aug. 12, the day of his passing so that his memory lives on forever.

John—as a tribute to you and your family to honor your father—Mascoma Bank has donated a \$2,500.00 Scholarship in honor of Mr. G. This will be awarded to a graduating Hanover High School Athlete or athletes. This individual must have attended Marion Cross School.

You all know for me, it is about keeping it local—so for the extended Girard family—as a tribute to you all, the businesses in the Norwich community have also been impacted by Mr. G and the Girard Family. Aug. 12, will be Mr. Girard Day in Norwich—the following businesses will contribute and make a donation based on sales in his honor to The John Girard Fund established by his children at The Norwich Rec. Dept.

The Norwich Inn, Carpenter and Main Restaurant, Diane's Casual Cuts, the Norwich Bookstore, Dan & Whits. I have not had a chance to reach out to all Norwich businesses, so we welcome all businesses from any town to join us and participate. The intent of this day is only intended to increase the funds in John Girard Norwich Rec Dept. account, the fund established by his children—please do not turn it into anything more than the business community supporting this effort. Please reach out to me for details. This will be an annual event.

Now for the Matriarch of this wonderful family: Mrs. Cathy Girard—Mrs. G—as a special tribute to you and honor your husband—this speech will be offered to the Norwich Historical Society and more importantly read on the floor of Congress and entered into the Congressional Record in Washington, DC. Mr. G will be eternally honored at the national level. Nothing could be more fitting. Special thanks to Norwich resident and Representative Peter Welch for making this happen.