

On April 21, 1836 the Texas army surprised and met the vastly larger army of Santa Anna, and defeated it in a brutal, but short, 18-minute battle. Santa Anna was captured along with half of his army. The rest were casualties of the battle. The Texian losses were minimal.

The Texas war for independence and freedom was successful.

Texas remained a Republic for nine years then was admitted to the Union in 1845, by the slim vote margin of one.

The rest, they say, is Texas history.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE DANIEL  
HEATH

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Allen County Judge Daniel Heath and to congratulate him on his retirement. For years Judge Heath has been an integral figure in our community. After graduating from what is now the Indiana University McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis, Judge Heath and his family returned to Fort Wayne, wherein he began his career in public service.

Judge Heath took a job as a District Representative for then-Congressman Dan Coats. In this capacity, Judge Heath managed an outstanding constituent service operation that served the people of northeast Indiana. Judge Heath then served as Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke's Chief of Staff and Safety Director, before running for Congress in 1989. Though he was defeated in a close race, Judge Heath never stopped serving his community. In 1996, he was elected to the bench in Allen County.

Having served in the Civil Division of the Allen Superior Court for 17 years, Judge Heath went on to serve in the family division in 2013. In this role, Judge Heath spearheaded many important initiatives in our community, including the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, a program designed to lower the number of young offenders incarcerated in Allen County, and BrightSteps, a program designed to enhance early childhood development.

Allen County benefited greatly from Judge Heath's dedication to the community, and we will miss his leadership. I wish him and his family the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT  
HONORS DEDICATION OF EM-  
PLOYEES AND CITIZENS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the men and women honored by the Richmond Police Department at their annual awards banquet last month.

The banquet honors dedicated employees and citizens committed to the mission of the Richmond Police Department. Each Division

Commander picks someone from their division to honor. Officer James Williams was named 2017 Officer of the Year and Officer Vladimir Golovine was named 2017 Employee of the Year. The department awarded the Business Sponsor of the Year to The Church of Rosenberg for outstanding support to the department during 2017. Josh Landry was honored as 2017 Citizen of the Year. Also receiving awards were Rookie of the Year Officer Ruben Robles, Top Gun Division Winner Officer Robert Oliver, Co-Detective of the Year Detective John Dawson, Top Gun Division Winner and Overall Champion Sgt. Steven Rychlik, Co-Detective of the Year & Top Gun Division Winner Detective David Childs, Top Gun Division Winner Detective Andrew Runge and Telecommunicator of the Year Danell Gaydos. Our communities are safer thanks to strong police departments and the critical organizations that support them. Thank you to each of these honorees.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Richmond Police Department honorees. I thank them for all they do to keep the Richmond community safe.

ASHLYNEE MIKE AMBER ALERT IN  
INDIAN COUNTRY ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. NORMA J. TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 26, 2018*

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the United States Congress for taking the right step forward in helping combat the high numbers of children abduction and crime rates in Indian Country.

As a former 911 operator, I know that the AMBER Alert program has led to the rescue of countless lives across the United States—but until now, access to this critical tool has been limited for our tribal communities.

Mr. Speaker, the passage of this bill will give tribes across the United States the ability to respond quickly to child abductions and help ensure the public safety of their citizens. These precious young lives are no less valuable than any others and they deserve to be protected.

Last November, I introduced Savanna's Act as a result of the disturbing increase in murdered and missing Native American women and girls. My bill is named in honor of Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, a 22-year-old pregnant member of the Spirit Lake Tribe who was tragically murdered.

While I am hopeful that the institution of an AMBER alert program will help bring some much needed relief to this issue, we must do more to address the gap of information sharing between tribal, local, and federal law enforcement agencies. My bill aims to do just that.

Let's keep the momentum going and finally bring full justice to our Native American neighbors.

HONORING FANNIE'S NEST, INC.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of innovators who have shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve their community, Fannie's Nest, Inc.

Fannie's Nest, Inc. is a Mississippi based nonprofit organization and with its ministry incorporated on January 22, 2016 by founders Pamela Scott Bracey, PhD and Darrell Scott, Jr. The founders along with several other cousins were interested in carrying out the legacy of "educated communities of Christian unity" instilled by their grandmother, the late Fannie Lee Jones Scott. Fannie was the mother of 12 children, and mother-like figure to several other children in the community of Yazoo City, Mississippi. She also served as a devoted choir leader of Tulane Missionary Baptist Church in Yazoo City for many years until her untimely passing to be with the Lord in 1996.

As a charitable organization and ministry, Fannie's Nest, Inc. vision is to exhibit a sincere hands-on Christian approach to encourage the development of well-rounded youth that grow to make positive impacts in all areas of society. Their mission is to educate, empower, and expose youth to a variety of stimulating experiences with the ultimate goal of nurturing them to soar beyond mediocrity, negative stereotypes, and unfavorable statistics.

The organizers and members of Fannie's Nest, Inc. are committed to designing and implementing innovative mentoring programs, conferences, and events that cater to youth in pursuit of aiding Mississippi students and communities to grow in the following areas: Educational Scholarship, Career Development, Leadership, Service Learning, Financial Education, Physical Fitness, Self-Awareness, Cultural Awareness, Music Appreciation, and Communication.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Fannie's Nest, Inc. for its dedication and desire to serve others and giving back to the community.

HONORING CRECENCIO CRUZ  
PADILLA

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a lifelong LULAC member and community activist of the Central Coast community, Crecencio Cruz Padilla.

Born in Mexico City, Mr. Padilla arrived in Monterey County in 1953 and worked as a farmworker for Driscoll's Berries. During the 1960's, Castroville's Head Start Program hired Mr. Padilla as a Community Liaison where he had an opportunity to work with farmworker families. Education was very important to Mr. Padilla, and he decided to take part-time classes at Hartnell College focusing on criminal law. That experience led him to advocate

for community members accused of committing crimes. Mr. Padilla went on to become an investigator at the Monterey County Public Defender's Office in 1974 where he worked until his retirement in 1997.

Mr. Padilla was also a pioneering civil-rights activist in Monterey County. In 1972, he founded the North Monterey County Chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens, a civil rights advocacy organization. Mr. Padilla, alongside Cesar Chavez, was also a strong supporter of the United Farm Workers in their fight for unionization.

Mr. Padilla spent his life fighting to help those in the community of little means. In one account, Mr. Padilla demanded that the city of Salinas form a police review board after a string of officer involved incidents. Mr. Padilla also helped community members in generous ways that did not make headlines. He defended a countless number of people and was known to take in families he found without shelter at the courthouse. In 2012, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the La Raza Lawyers Association, and the Alisal Betterment Association dedicated a Lady Justice statue at the National Steinbeck Center in honor of Mr. Padilla's work. Mr. Padilla's legacy as a passionate advocate for his community will stand the test of time.

Crecencio Padilla's legacy is defined by his dedication to his family as well. His children remember him as "an amazing father and husband," who gave love and support to all his family. He was a role model for his family and the Central Coast community. His legacy will live on in the memories of those of us who had the honor to know him. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring Crecencio Padilla.

#### SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVOR BILL OF RIGHTS

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, every six months, Amanda Nguyen begins her search for her rape kit.

Despite being sexually assaulted, the burden to ensure it's not destroyed lies on Amanda—the victim.

In her home state, there is a 15-year statute of limitations for prosecuting sexual assault crimes.

But untested rape kits are only required to be stored for six months.

Mr. Speaker, conflicting laws like this defy common sense.

Because of stories like Amada's, Congress passed a bill in 2016 that implements, on the federal level, a Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights.

This important legislation grants survivors the right to have a rape kit preserved for a full 20 years.

It gives survivors the results of forensic exams and notification if an evidence kit is destroyed.

Two years after passage, it's clear that this legislation is needed now, more than ever.

This week the House Judiciary Committee will be reviewing this imperative law.

Ensuring it is implemented effectively and improves the experience of survivors as they fight for the justice they rightfully deserve.

And that's just the way it is.

#### HONORING THE MDWFP SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks' Special Response Team led by Major Dale Bell.

On July 11, 2017 at approximately 0700 hours, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP) Special Response Team (SRT), made up of 36 SRT members and seven conservation officers, were deployed to Leflore County, Mississippi, to assist the local Emergency Management Agency with the C130 Aircraft crash, where the lives of 16 servicemen were lost. After arriving to the Central Operation Center, MDWFP was assigned as the lead agency for the search and recovery of this mission. The SRT members had a daunting task of recovering the remains of four servicemen. But I am proud to say they recovered the remains of all 16 servicemen ensuring they would be flown home.

Other responsibilities included, finding 50 missing weapons and providing daily supervision to a large number of Marine members on the ground. The SRT team demonstrated resilience operating in 105-degree daily heat, while handling venomous snakes and infestations of chiggers, ticks and mosquitoes.

This tragic event was the largest aviation accident to happen in Mississippi and in the history of the United States Marine Corps. The MDWFP SRT's role in the law enforcement community is very important. The skills, training, dedication, and technology that they bring to deployments are second to none.

Today, I am honored to recognize these brave public heroes for the hard work, dedication and courage they exude each and every day protecting Mississippians.

#### FOSTER HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY SWIM TEAM EARNS 5A SILVER MEDAL

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Foster High School Girls Varsity Swim Team for earning a silver medal in the 200-yard freestyle.

Kalissa Niles, Maddie Jacks, Sophie Gibson and Meagan Clark finished in second place with an impressive time of 1 minute and 39.47 seconds. Their accomplishments in the pool have made their families and the Richmond community proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the ladies of the Foster High School Girls Varsity Swim Team. Keep up the great work.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF MR. JOHN PAGEL

### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2018*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the life and legacy of Kewaunee County native, Mr. John Pagel.

Mr. Pagel was a successful businessman, a revered community leader, and, most importantly, a beloved husband, father, and grandfather. He was taken too soon, but John leaves behind a proud and enduring legacy that lesser men could not hope to forge in a dozen lifetimes.

While reflecting on John's time with us, I turned to scripture and was reminded of him in one of my favorite verses. "And to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody." (1 Thessalonians 4: 11-12)

A dairy farmer by trade, John's passion for his family and community, entrepreneurial spirit, and respect for nature brought him tremendous success in life. A towering figure in Wisconsin industry and a renowned public servant, John never shed the humble hometown qualities that earned him respect and happiness from the start. Beloved by his family, community, and employees, good and honest men like John are hard to find and even harder to lose.

John's extraordinary memory will be cherished by countless people across Wisconsin and America. May his humility, decency, and uncompromising integrity be remembered and emulated by all who knew him.

#### GUN VIOLENCE

SPEECH OF

### HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 26, 2018*

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to find the courage to take action and eradicate gun violence in America.

While our children and families demand a vote on commonsense legislation to keep our communities safe, my Republican colleagues continue to turn their backs.

Since the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary, the House has observed 42 moments of silence—tonight makes 43—to honor victims of gun violence, but no meaningful action has been taken to strengthen our gun laws. After every mass shooting we offer our thoughts and prayers to the victims, their families, and first responders. Our thoughts and prayers are not enough. A moment of silence is not enough.

In the past decade, more than one million Americans have been shot. Every day, on average at least 35 Americans are killed with a gun and nearly 33,000 die each year from gun-related violence.

In my home state of Ohio, someone is killed with a gun every eight hours. This is unacceptable. There are no moments of silence on