

Conservation League. John facilitated each retirement from start to finish. He worked with multiple people and agencies and exhibited great professional skill and patience in getting each retirement completed. His outstanding work with various parties under short deadlines was critical to the success of this program.

I also want to thank the ranching families on the East Fork of the Salmon River. They are great people, who with their past generations, have made significant contributions to the region and to our country. When we first met together 17 years ago they told me their concerns and we came up with an idea of how we might go forward. They put their trust in me and I believe we came up with a plan to give them an opportunity to help put them in a better place. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with each family and I can proudly say that I believe the promises we made have been kept.

I would also like to recognize the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for their assistance in processing the retirements. In particular, I want to thank Kit Mullen, Sawtooth National Forest Supervisor; Kirk Flannigan, Sawtooth National Recreation Area Ranger; Andrea Cox, Supervisor Rangeland Management Specialist, Sawtooth National Forest; Ed Cannady, Recreation Manager, Sawtooth National Forest; Chuck Mark, Salmon-Challis National Forest Supervisor; Kurt Pindel, Challis-Yankee Fork District Ranger; Faith Ryan, Range and Weeds Program Lead, Salmon-Challis National Forest; Tim Murphy, BLM State Director (retired); and Todd Kuck, Field Manager, BLM Challis Field Office. They each did great work and we could not have completed the retirements without them.

Finally, I would like to note that without this voluntary grazing retirement program, the Boulder-White Clouds and Jerry Peak wilderness bills would never have become law. The program was a lynchpin to the compromise that allowed us to protect one of the most pristine areas of Idaho. It seems apparent that the cost of the program was small in comparison to the benefits that future generations will receive when they enjoy the remarkable beauty and serenity of the Boulder-White Clouds and Jerry Peak. We all owe a great deal of thanks to those who provided the resources for the program and to the ranchers who put their trust in allowing it to go forward.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE  
DAVID JONES, II

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN  
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of George David Jones, II. David was a resident of the First District of Virginia and my hometown, Montross. David was a self-employed farmer who served the community as a member of the Westmoreland County Volunteer Fire Department. Additionally, David was a member of the Westmoreland Hunt Club, Virginia Dog Hunting Alliance, Pantico Run Hunt Club, and Eastern Virginia Young Farmers Association.

I had the pleasure of knowing David for many years and was a witness to his dedica-

tion to his family and community. David is survived by his partner, Alexandra Jones; sons, George David Jones, III and Jeffrey Flynn Jones. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you extend your thoughts and prayers to David's family and friends as they mourn the loss of their loved one. I pray that God is with David's family and friends during this difficult time.

SUPPORTING THE RIGHTS OF THE  
PEOPLE OF IRAN TO FREE EX-  
PRESSION

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2018*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my continued support for the people of Iran and continued support for freedom of speech as it is encapsulated in H. Res. 676, a resolution supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression and condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests.

On Sunday, January 7, 2018, I stood in protest with Iranian-Americans on the streets of Houston to take a stand for human rights in Iran.

At that event, I stated "It is time for freedom to take over" and I stand by that statement here in Congress and add that separation of church and state is essential for a free and democratic Iran.

On December 28, 2017, popular protests against the Iranian regime began in the city of Mashad and rapidly spread throughout the country, in the most significant antigovernment protests in Iran since June 2009.

The protesters have expressed numerous economic grievances, including the regime's widespread corruption and the Revolutionary Guard Corps' control of the country's economy.

Protesters have decried the regime's costly, destabilizing activities abroad, including its support for terrorist groups such as Hezbollah and the murderous Assad regime in Syria.

Reports indicate that more than 1,000 Iranians have been arrested and almost two dozen killed in connection with the protests.

The Iranian regime has shut down mobile internet access and has blocked and pressured companies to cut off social media applications used by activists to organize and publicize the protests.

Congress has provided authority to license the provision of communications technology to Iran to improve the ability of the Iranian people to speak freely.

I encourage the Administration to expedite the license of communications technology to Iran to improve the ability of the Iranian people to speak freely and I call on companies to reject requests by the regime to cut off the Iranian people from social media and other communications platforms.

On January 1, 2018, regime officials threatened to crack down, with Brigadier General Esmail Kowsari of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps stating, "If this situation continues, the officials will definitely make some decisions and at that point this business will be finished."

Congress has provided authority to designate and sanction elements of the Iranian re-

gime involved in significant corruption and serious human rights abuses.

I urge the Administration to use targeted sanctions and work to convene emergency sessions of the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations Human Rights Council to condemn the ongoing human rights violations perpetrated by the Iranian regime and establish a mechanism by which the Security Council can monitor such violations.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps and its Basij militia have been sanctioned by the United States for planning and carrying out serious human rights abuses against the Iranian people, including for the cruel and prolonged torture of political dissidents, behavior that is absolutely intolerable.

The regime has routinely violated the human rights of Iranian citizens, including ongoing, systematic, and serious restrictions of freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including the continuing closures of media outlets, arrests of journalists, and the censorship of expression in online forums such as blogs and websites.

The Department of State's 2016 Human Rights Report on Iran noted:

severe restrictions on civil liberties, including the freedoms of assembly, association, speech, religion, and press.

Other human rights problems included abuse of due process combined with use of capital punishment for crimes that do not meet the requirements of due process, as well as cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment; and disregard for the physical integrity of persons, whom authorities arbitrarily and unlawfully detained, tortured, or killed.

For a country that once enjoyed great pride in its freedom of thought, the information in this Report comes with sadness.

On December 29, 2017, the Department of State strongly condemned the arrest of peaceful protesters and noted that "Iran's leaders have turned a wealthy country with a rich history and culture into an economically depleted rogue state whose chief exports are violence, bloodshed, and chaos."

On January 1, 2018, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom, Boris Johnson, stated that:

The UK is watching events in Iran closely.

We believe that there should be meaningful debate about the legitimate and important issues the protesters are raising and we look to the Iranian authorities to permit this.

On January 2, 2018, the French Foreign Ministry stated that:

French authorities are closely monitoring the situation in Iran.

Demonstrating freely is a fundamental right.

The same is true for the free movement of information.

France expresses its concern over the large number of victims and arrests.

On January 1, 2018, a spokesman for the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that:

We call on the Iranian authorities to uphold and respect democratic and human rights and "We are encouraged by the Iranian people who are bravely exercising their basic right to protest peacefully."

Canada will continue to support the fundamental rights of the Iranians, including freedom of expression.

As hypocrisy has it, Iran is a member of the United Nations, voted for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is a signatory to

the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, among other international human rights treaties.

In violation of these and other international obligations, Iranian regime officials continue to violate the fundamental human rights of the Iranian people.

Today, I rise with my colleagues in Congress to stand with the people of Iran that are engaged in legitimate and peaceful protests against an oppressive, corrupt regime.

I rise in support of H. Res. 676 which condemns the Iranian regime's serious human rights abuses against the Iranian people, significant corruption, and destabilizing activities abroad.

I call on all democratic governments and institutions to clearly support the Iranian people's right to live in a free society.

I rise to urge the Iranian regime to abide by its international obligations with respect to human rights and civil liberties, including freedoms of assembly, speech, and press.

The Iranian regime must do the right thing and respect the proud history and rich culture of the Iranian nation.

The people of Iran want nothing more than to promote the establishment of basic freedoms that build the foundation for the emergence of a freely elected, open, and democratic political system.

I wholeheartedly support H. Res. 676 and continue fighting for a free Iran.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 2, YEA on Roll Call No. 3, and YEA on Roll Call No. 4.

#### TO RECOGNIZE JAMES B. HOWARD ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE KING GEORGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James B. Howard, a citizen of King George County and Virginia's First District, on his retirement from the King George County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Howard served his community well as a member of the Board of Supervisors for the James Monroe District from 1976 to 1978. Additionally, Mr. Brown served as a member of the King George County School Board from 1988 to 1991, and the County Supervisor for the James Monroe District from 2000 to 2009 and 2014 to 2017.

During his tenure, Mr. Howard furthered the education of our youth through leading the development of Sealston Elementary School, construction of the new King George High School, the expansion of the King George Middle School, and renovation of the Potomac Elementary School, in addition to other leader-

ship successes. Mr. Howard served as the Chairman of the King George County Board of Supervisors for multiple terms and dedicated 21 years to serving the county in local government.

I would like to thank Mr. Howard for his many contributions throughout his 21-year career. I wish him and his wife, Sheila, the best of luck in their future endeavors.

#### IN MEMORY OF CLIFF EVERTS

### HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memorial to a dedicated husband, proud father, pioneer of aviation and entrepreneurship, and importantly, a great Alaskan. On December 7, 2017, Alaska lost one of its hardest working and most dedicated fathers, Mr. Cliff Everts.

Cliff Everts is a keepsake original forged from rare earth. He matriculated from New York but had the spirit of an Alaskan Wolf, the business acumen of a Rockefeller, and the fortitude of a Sourdough. His smile could light up a room and his sense of humor warmed any room he happened to grace. In thinking of that astounding smile and infectious laugh, I am reminded of one of his famous quotes and something he said the last time I saw him "Dude, that was sick!" It's how he lived his life.

In reflecting upon Cliff's many accomplishments and his life, one could go on for days about all he did. I can speak to his service to his customers and how he always found a way to deliver cargo ranging from reindeer to homebuilding materials (beat that Home Depot), or start a business to sell ice cream to Alaskans! He did so at the best price with the best service to those customers. I can speak to all of his service to the community. How much he cared for Alaskans and loved Alaska.

However, what gives me the most pleasure and puts a massive smile on my face, is Cliff's dedication and his love for his wife and six children. Whenever anyone asked what made Cliff happy or what made Cliff such a success, it was always his family. He always shined when he talked about them and you could see how he would glow whenever he thought about them or saw them in person. You just do not find that in most people but you always knew it with Cliff.

Suffice to say that Cliff will live in infamy in our hearts and souls. I hope that Cliff's family and especially his wife Betty can take comfort in the bond they have with him; always. I hope the precious memories the family has of their precious Cliff will one day bring them comfort, and that they will come to find, in the lovely words of Hugh Orr:

"They are not dead who live in lives they leave behind. In those whom they have blessed, they live a life again, and shall live through the years eternal life, and shall grow each day more beautiful, as time declares their good, forgets the rest, and proves their immortality."

Please join me in expressing our heartfelt appreciation for Cliff and our sympathies for his wife, Betty; son, Robert Everts and his wife Paula; his daughters, Melanie Moyer; Debbie

Baggen; Karen Wing; Vicki Parrish and her husband Albert; and Susan Hoshaw and her husband Don; 16 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and so many close, cherished family and friends.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent Tuesday afternoon, January 9, on very urgent family medical business. Had I been present for three votes which occurred,

I would have voted "Aye" on H. Res. 676, Roll call vote No. 2;

I would have voted "Aye" on H.R. 4564, Roll call vote No. 3; and

I would have voted "Aye" on H.R. 4581, Roll call vote No. 4.

#### TRIBUTE TO NORMA AND ROY BULLOCK

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Norma and Roy Bullock of Creston, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on November 3, 2017.

Norma and Roy's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, 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 60th 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 and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND ROGER CANDEE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2018*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Roger Candee of Carlisle, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated on November 9, 2017.

Donna and Roger's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.