

HONORING THE 2018 OHIO MILITARY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the Ohio Military Hall of Fame will hold a ceremony at the Statehouse in Columbus on May 4 to mark the induction of its 2018 class. Selection for the Hall of Fame is a high honor that has been accorded to only a few hundred Ohioans since 2000. To be considered for induction, individuals must have been decorated for heroic actions in a combat situation. I am honored to commend to the House this year's 30 inductees:

Senior Chief Sonarman Edward C. Byers, Jr., currently living in Little Creek, Virginia, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Navy veteran of the War in Afghanistan.

Lance Corporal Joe C. Paul (posthumously), recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Ronald K. Westfall of Bloomingdale, recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Corporal Donald A. Campbell (posthumously), recipient of the Silver Star, Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Nicholas W. Denman of Wooster, recipient of the Silver Star, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Major Larry N. Fealy (posthumously), recipient of the Silver Star, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Wilford E. Frash of McConnelsville, recipient of the Silver Star, Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Thomas L. Henning (posthumously), recipient of the Silver Star, Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.

Hospital Corpsman Second Class Robert F. Holtz of North Royalton, recipient of the Silver Star, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War.

Staff Sergeant James L. Messerschmitt of Cincinnati, recipient of the Silver Star, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Captain Edgar C. Fell, currently living in Atlanta, Georgia, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Chief Warrant Officer Second Class John E. Grafmiller of Upper Sandusky, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Captain John C. McFarren of Cincinnati, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War.

Chief Warrant Officer Second Class David A. Walls of Westerville, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant John C. Babyak of Poland, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War.

Sergeant First Class Danny W. Bell of Cincinnati, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Persian Gulf War.

Sergeant Jack W. Born of Parma, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Captain Thomas P. Casey of Beavercreek, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Private First Class Clayton H. Compher (posthumously), recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of World War II.

Signalman First Class Conard J. Conway of Mount Vernon, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Navy veteran of World War II.

Private First Class Paul L. Feathers of Fremont, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Donald I. Jakeway of Johnstown, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of World War II.

Sergeant John P. Luft of Gahanna, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant John F. McAllister of Delaware, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant First Class Donald D. Schweitzer of Wapakoneta, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Specialist Roy R. Sprague of Kent, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Robert E. Watson of Batavia, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.

First Lieutenant Walter A. Bettcher of Bay Village, recipient of the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Jack E. Kasee of Batavia, recipient of the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Captain Kevin B. Lombardo, currently living in Papillon, Nebraska, recipient of the Air Force Commendation Medal with "V" Device, Air Force veteran of the War in Iraq.

HONORING THE NURSES OF METHODIST LE BONHEUR HEALTHCARE

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, there are 3 million registered nurses in the United States that comprise our nation's largest health care profession. Today I rise to honor National Nurses Week May 6–12, 2018, and my friends working within Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

When I first became a nurse more than 40 years ago, I took an oath to "devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care." I still consider the words of that oath today in the decisions I make as a Member of Congress—particularly in matters of protecting the most vulnerable among us.

In that same oath, we also pledge ourselves before God to practice our profession faithfully. Nursing is not simply an occupation—it's a calling, and those are powerful words that we carry with us day in and day out.

Every day, registered nurses are working to chart a new course for a healthy nation and it is a privilege to honor them, and celebrate the ways in which they inspire, innovate, and influence to provide safe and high quality patient care.

Nurses are the backbone of our healthcare system and I am proud to recognize the out-

standing men and women of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. We should show our appreciation for our nation's registered nurses not just during National Nurses Week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

IN MEMORY OF REV. DR. MARK CHEW, JR.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mark Chew, a pastor and public servant, who passed away on April 6, 2018. Rev. Dr. Mark Chew, Jr. committed much of his life to serving Denton in a variety of roles.

Though he was born in Mississippi, Reverend Chew grew deep North Texas roots. He attended Fred Moore High School in Denton and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Dallas before receiving an associate's degree from North Central Texas College, a bachelor's degree from Southern Bible Institute, and a Doctorate of Divinity from the International Bible School in Houston.

In 1967, Reverend Chew began his pastorate at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. Throughout his half-century of pastoral ministry there, he oversaw the development of Outreach Ministry and Rays of Hope. Reverend Chew celebrated his 50-year pastoral anniversary in December 2017, a rare achievement.

Spurred by his love for the community, Reverend Chew served the people of Denton far beyond his local church. In 1981, he became the first African American elected to the Denton City Council, serving three full terms in the 1980s and two additional consecutive terms in the 1990s. In addition to serving as President of the Denton County NAACP for 8 years, Reverend Chew was an active member of the Lions Club, the Denton Public Utility Board of Directors, and the Camp Copass Board of Directors. He also was Chaplain at both Peoples Funeral Home and Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Denton.

Reverend Chew has left a rich legacy of service to faith, family, and community. I extend my condolences to his wife of 38 years, Dr. Rose Marie Chew, their family, the members of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, and all who knew him.

HONORING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the United States Army Reserve which celebrated its 110th anniversary on April 23rd.

What began in 1908 as a tiny corps of medical professionals held in readiness for service is today the Army's global operational reserve force—meeting high optempo demands, generating forces to support the National Military

Strategy and Army commitments worldwide, and providing mission-critical forces and capabilities in direct support of America's active duty forces.

Through two World Wars, the Cold War, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, the Global War on Terror and countless other crises, operations and emergencies, the Army Reserve has never failed to answer the Nation's call.

Today our Nation faces new threats, from multiple sources, that challenge U.S. military dominance across every domain. And again, the Army Reserve is rising to the challenge, creating a Ready Force of units and individual Soldiers postured to move fast, engage quickly, and win decisively on the battlefields of today and tomorrow.

The world is rapidly changing but one thing is constant: The Army Reserve will remain the dedicated federal reserve of the most decisive and lethal land force in the world—ready now, shaping tomorrow; forging the most capable, combat-ready and lethal Army Reserve in U.S. history. And so, I wish the Army Reserve another Happy Birthday, and many more years of success.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOYNE DISTRICT LIBRARY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Boyne District Library upon the occasion of its 100th Anniversary. Through its trusted service, reliable staff, and community investment, the Boyne District Library has become an indispensable part of Northern Michigan.

Opened in April 1918 with a grant from the Carnegie Corporation, the private book collection of a Petoskey lawyer, and an incredibly determined staff, the library grew into the local institution it is today. Over the course of 100 years, the Boyne District Library forged its path to success while maintaining its commitment to the community it was built upon. Today, the library still stands at its original spot on the corner of Park and Main Street in Boyne City.

To celebrate its 100th Anniversary, the library has issued a challenge to patrons of all ages to read 100 books over the course of the year. Additionally, it hosted an event in February which included a presentation on the history of the Boyne District Library—from the original grant application in 1916 to the present. Later this summer, the anniversary will continue to be celebrated through events like an ice cream social and bookmobile visit. Day after day, the Boyne District Library continues to set a positive example of what can be achieved when the people of a community work together for the common good.

Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate the Boyne District Library and its staff for 100 years of success, service, and community investment. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the Boyne District Library all the best in its future endeavors.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS PROVIDE VALUE TO RESIDENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, community associations are an expanding phenomenon and the preferred form of new residential developments approved by local governments across this country. These developments consist of planned communities in the form of condominiums, cooperatives, and single-family homes. Local governments appreciate these developments because they offer residents private amenities such as pools, sport courts, parks, walking trails, and other amenities that would otherwise be provided and maintained with public dollars. In fact, an estimated \$88 billion is collected annually in dues from community association residents to pay for essential association obligations including the installation and maintenance of amenities.

The growth of planned communities is showcasing a residency choice selected by more and more Americans each year. As of 2017, approximately 70 million Americans reside in nearly 350,000 community associations across the country. Residents enjoy this type of living for a number of reasons including a sense of community, access to aforementioned private amenities, enforcement of aesthetic standards set by the community, and regular maintenance of common areas. With democratically elected resident board members who volunteer to serve their community, this is arguably the most local form of government (quasi) that exists. Related to this, an estimated 2.36 million residents volunteer for service on their community's board of directors or other committees performing 80 million hours of volunteer service valued at \$1.93 billion. Those are significant numbers.

The financial benefit enjoyed by residents in planned communities is that home values are historically four to five percent higher than homes that are not in planned communities. That translates into the positive protection of property values in these communities and a higher return on investment when it comes time for owners to sell.

Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that approximately half of these communities are self-managed either with just volunteers or professional staff hired and managed directly by the association's board of directors. The rest of these associations hire professional management companies to manage the operation of their communities and/or their finances and provide counsel to the board of directors.

Personally, I'm proud of the fact that the largest community association management company, Associa, is headquartered in Dallas, Texas, in my Congressional District. Associa employs nearly 10,000 people across North America in 180 office locations operating in 35 states as well as Canada and Mexico. Associa manages roughly 10,000 communities, comprising more than 2.5 million units, and housing more than 5 million residents. Associa is a privately-owned company that was started by John Carona more than 40 years ago and he continues to lead the industry with constant innovation and unparalleled customer service. John is not only a successful businessman,

but he is a humble public servant having served 24 years in the Texas State Legislature. I am proud to call him a supporter and friend of mine.

Mr. Speaker, I offer these comments today because as community associations continue to grow they also continue to evolve as does the community association management industry. I am pleased that management companies like Associa are not satisfied with business-as-usual but rather choose to invest in world-class employee training and cutting edge technologies for their clients. By doing so, they help ensure well-run community associations and well-informed board members and residents. I extend my appreciation to Associa's employees and to the volunteers in community associations around the country for their service to their clients and communities.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our friend and ally, Israel, on its recent Independence Day. 70 years ago, after centuries of expulsions, pogroms, prejudice, and persecution, the Jewish people celebrated their return to Israel and the establishment of a land where they could live in peace and prosperity.

We are all too aware that Israel has repeatedly faced grave threats to this peace, and must regularly defend its very existence against those who would destroy her. Despite these threats, for the last seven decades, the Israeli people have stood strong in defense of freedom and democracy, and built a thriving nation. After this historic anniversary, let us in the United States Congress reaffirm our commitment to our ally. Since its independence, our nations have had a special relationship, deeply rooted in shared democratic principles and values.

Our nations are both free and vibrant democracies, and together, we can create a safer world. We live in dangerous times, with enemies who threaten Americans and Israelis alike. Our joint counterterrorism and military efforts are essential for the prosperity of both of our nations. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of this member of the House of Representatives, I would like to congratulate Israel on their 70th anniversary and reaffirm our commitment: Israel, we stand with you.

ALEXIS RUNNING BEAR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexis Running Bear for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Alexis Running Bear is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.