

an aircraft carrier-based fighter, the F6F Hellcat, as a member of fighter squadrons VF-17 and VF-18 in two major operations in the Pacific Theater. With 8¾ confirmed kills, Lt. Cdr. Watts earned the designation as an American Fighter Ace. Of the more than sixty thousand American fighter pilots who have served since World War I, less than 1,500 have achieved the elite status of Fighter Ace.

In 1947, Mr. Watts graduated from Southern Methodist University (SMU) and began work in the Production Department for Humble Oil Company (later Exxon). He lived in and around the Houston area until transferring to Baytown in 1963. Billy finished his career in the Houston Office in 1982.

Mr. Watts served as an active member and treasurer of both Grace United Methodist Church and later Cedar Bayou Grace United Methodist Church. He was a faithful church member and took numerous camping trips with the Methodist Camping Group.

Upon his discharge from the Navy, Mr. Watts met his future wife Wanda Lee Dodson of Van, Texas and celebrated their seventy-second wedding anniversary on December 2, 2017. Billy is survived by his wife Wanda, three children, four grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

Lt. Cdr. Watts was proud of his Naval service and was active with the American Fighter Aces Association and was one of four aces invited to the White House for the signing of The American Fighter Aces Congressional Gold Medal Act. A year later, Mr. Watts returned to the United States Capitol and received his Congressional Gold Medal. As his Congressman, and fellow veteran, it was a tremendous honor and privilege to meet Lt. Cdr. Watts and participate in the presentation of his Congressional Gold Medal. Lt. Cdr. Watts' many military decorations include: the Navy Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross with two Gold Stars, Purple Heart, the Air Medal with seven Gold Stars, and two Presidential citations for serving on the USS *Bunker Hill* and USS *Homet* aircraft carriers.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Lieutenant Commander Charles Edward "Billy" Watts for his bravery, sacrifice, and service to our great nation. May God bless Mr. Watts, all of our World War II veterans, and all of those who have served or are currently serving.

HONORING THE TRUMBULL HIGH SCHOOL WE THE PEOPLE TEAM'S SUCCESS AT CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY'S WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION COMPETITION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trumbull High School's first place finish at Connecticut State University's We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution competition.

Every year, thousands of high school students contend in state and national We the People competitions, in which participants explore and debate the origins and import of our nation's Constitution. Trumbull High School students have long excelled in this competi-

tion. Their victory in 2017 marked their seventh consecutive state championship under the leadership of social studies teacher and coach Katie Boland. Overall, Trumbull High School students have won the Connecticut finals 23 times since the school began competing in 1983.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the exceptional academic prowess and intellectual curiosity the 29 Trumbull High School seniors on the team demonstrated in preparing for this competition. They researched the historical and philosophical underpinnings of the Constitution and applied their findings to the Constitutional issues of today. While the students have enjoyed a well-earned victory, they are already hard at work preparing for the We the People 2018 National Finals in April.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing these students—Lindsay Adams, Natalie Almonacid, Samantha Almonacid, Ethan Bachand, Max Bowen, Emma Butler, Shane Carley, Morgan Carrano, Danielle Cross, Connor Flaherty, Lalith Gannavaram, Sarah Giaquinto, Joseph Guedes, Gillian Kick, Manya Kidambi, Allie Lewis, Julia Luow, Lauren Luow, Stefano Mancini, Derek Marble, Mariam Marino, Mia McKinney, Joshua Merkin, Ishan Negi, Jessica Parillo, Joseph Piccolo, Laura Rosales, Alev Yorulmaz and Larry Zhang. I join the proud Trumbull community in wishing these students the best of luck as they continue to expand their understanding of the Constitution and the role it plays in upholding America's civic life.

IN SUPPORT OF H. RES. 676

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 676, a bipartisan resolution that expresses support for the citizens of Iran.

The Iranian people should be allowed to express legitimate grievances without violent retribution from their own government. As Iranians chant "think of us," their government has responded with brute force. Twenty-one people have been killed and hundreds more await an uncertain fate after being arrested. Three young Iranians have died in jail, including Sina Ghanbari, a student who was being held in Iran's notorious Evin prison.

The regime's violent suppression of dissent should come as no surprise, given its long history of denying its own citizens fundamental human rights. Torture is widespread, members of religious minorities like the Baha'i face constant persecution, and the number of executions in Iran has skyrocketed under President Rouhani.

These protests also highlight how the Iranian regime has harmed its own people by spending billions of dollars to foment aggression and destabilize the region. While Iran suffers from a youth unemployment rate of nearly 40 percent and economic hardship, the regime continues to bankroll the Assad regime in Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the Houthis in Yemen. The Iranian people are outraged, and their leaders should take notice when crowds are heard chanting, "I give my life for Iran, not Gaza, [and] not Lebanon."

Adoption of this resolution will send a clear message to the brave voices in Iran crying out for a better future that the United States stands with them.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE SHOWMAN ASSOCIATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association (P.S.S.A.) on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

I look forward to joining them Friday evening at the annual Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association Convention as they celebrate this monumental milestone.

The Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association (P.S.S.A.) has served to keep the Outdoor Amusement Industry alive and strong through their combined efforts.

The P.S.S.A. has grown because its members have learned to put their individual goals aside for the common goals of the Industry. This unity really has the strength and foresight necessary to continue its work into the next century.

The annual convention and trade show brings together board members, volunteers and staff from most of the 109 Pennsylvania county and local fairs.

For 14 years its support of scholarships has generated more than \$200,000. The P.S.S.A.'s investment in our Commonwealth's next generation of leadership is to be commended.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association for working to the best of its ability to keep the Outdoor Amusement Industry the best of America's Family Entertainment.

Congratulations and Happy 50th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 due to hazardous weather conditions.

Had I been able to vote, I would have voted as follows: on H.R. 4318, the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Act, as amended, I would have voted Yea; on S. 117, the Alex Diekmann Peak Designation Act of 2017, I would have voted Yea; and on the Journal Vote, I would have voted No.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I was sick on January 16, 2018, and missed the votes on Roll Call No. 018 and Roll Call No. 019.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 018 and YEA on Roll Call No. 019.

**HONORING DANA MARSHALL-
BERNSTEIN**

HON. JACKY ROSEN

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today not only to mourn the loss of a family friend and lifelong Las Vegas resident but to let Congress know what an amazing woman she was.

Dana Marshall-Bernstein died in December at the age of 28, following a lifelong battle with Crohn's Disease. She spent most of her life in and out of the hospital but, even while undergoing countless surgeries, she never let her disease define who she was.

Dana never stopped feeling optimistic about her future. She believed in looking forward. She believed in kindness. And she used her experience to comfort others who were also affected by Crohn's Disease.

Even though she was suffering, Dana never stopped showing empathy. She insisted that medical patients were treated as humans first and medical cases last. She was radiant in her love for others.

Dana believed in these words: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Dana was outspoken and strong-willed. She was firm in her beliefs and did everything she could to stand up for the voiceless. She was fiercely committed to patient advocacy and ensuring that anyone in her situation was heard and cared for.

She served as a beacon of hope to her parents, Ed and Cari, and to her entire extended family. My heart aches for them, but I know that in their fondest memories of Dana lies a strong sense of pride. She shined in more ways than one. She was a light even in the darkest of times, and I know she will continue to shine in the memory of each and every life she touched. May her memory be a blessing for those who loved her.

In her time on this Earth, Dana accomplished what we all should strive for; she touched others and made differences. And though she is gone now, her influence will remain forever in our hearts and minds.

In between the politics and the debates, Congress possesses a very real capability to do good. We can fund grants for research towards cures for the most deadly diseases out there.

We can help people if only we decide to.

I encourage all members here today to carry with them the courage and determination that Dana brought into this world; to always think and live life with positivity; and to never, ever stop believing in doing good by others.

**HONORING AND REMEMBERING
THE LIFE OF PIPER, THE CHERRY
CAPITAL AIRPORT K-9**

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor today to acknowledge the life and service of

the beloved K-9 of the Cherry Capital Airport, Piper. On January 3rd, Piper passed away in the arms of his handler and friend, Brian Edwards, after a yearlong battle against prostate cancer. His impact on the people of Michigan's First District will not soon be forgotten.

Piper joined the team at the Cherry Capital Airport in 2015. Working with Edwards, the airport's director of operations, Piper worked to keep wildlife clear from the runways and facilities, becoming an instant local celebrity. Through social media and news outlets, he became famous nationwide. His goggles, vest, and boots became icons of the K-9's valuable role at the airport and important place in the community. Whether it was chasing down snow owls or posing with the Blue Angels, Piper was not only critical to ensuring the safety of the operations at the Cherry Capitol Airport, but also brought joy to any who had the opportunity to watch him in action.

In 2016, Piper was named the Grand Marshal of the Cherry Royale Parade, the first time an animal has received this honor. He was also featured in Midwest Living Magazine when Traverse City was named the Best Midwest Town later the same year. Following Piper's passing, U.S. Coast Guard personnel lowered the flag flying over the Traverse City base and presented it to Edwards in honor of the K-9. A public memorial service for Piper will be held on January 20th at the City Opera House in Traverse City.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Michigan's First District, I ask you to join me in honoring the life of the beloved airport K-9. Piper's service to the Cherry Capital Airport and his impact on the people of Michigan cannot be overstated. His friends and community can take pride in knowing that Northern Michigan is a better place thanks to his life's work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent January 16, 2018 due to unforeseen circumstances. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following:

Roll no. 18—H.R. 4318—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA, and Roll no. 19—S. 117—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA.

**CONGRATULATING JOEL WEISMAN
OF WTTW-CHICAGO UPON HIS RE-
TIREMENT**

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the longtime host of Chicago Public Media's "The Week in Review" for 40 years of helping to keep the Windy City well informed. Joel Weisman conceived the longest-running series in the history of WTTW over coffee at the Palmer House with colleague John Callaway and William J. McCarter, the then-president and CEO of WTTW. The Emmy

Award-winning program has welcomed a rotating four-person panel from print, broadcast and digital news media to discuss politics and other news relevant to Chicago each Friday since. Mr. Weisman's last stint as host will be on Friday, January 19, for an hour-long special with special guests and highlights from the past four decades. Mr. Weisman, a lawyer and lifelong Chicagoan, began his journalism career at the City News Bureau after graduating from the University of Illinois. He has also worked for The Gary Post-Tribune; The Chicago American; as a reporter, columnist and metropolitan editor for The Chicago Sun-Times; and as Midwest correspondent for The Washington Post. He is also the father of my legislative director, Matt Weisman. I want to wish him all the best as he retires from "The Week in Review."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on January 17, 2018 for being off the floor momentarily. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Yes on Roll Call No. 021.

**CONGRATULATING DAVID ST.
PIERRE**

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate David St. Pierre, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD), on his election as the President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA).

Under Mr. St. Pierre, MWRD and its nearly 2,000 staff members work to effectively protect the health and safety of the public in the Greater Chicagoland area, protect homes and businesses from flooding, protect the quality of its Lake Michigan water supply and improve water quality in regional waterways across MWRD's nearly 900 square mile service area.

In 2011, Mr. St. Pierre was unanimously selected by the Board of Commissioners as Executive Director. He brought to the District more than 25 years of experience working in the water industry in several cities and a record that included significant reductions in operating costs and improvements in utility performance and customer satisfaction. Mr. St. Pierre earned his Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

MWRD owns and operates seven water reclamation plants, including one of the world's largest. Its Tunnel and Reservoir Project (TARP) is one of the country's largest public works projects for pollution and flood control. MWRD treats an average of 1.4 billion gallons of wastewater each day and has over 2.0 billion gallons per day total capacity. Its role in preserving the health, environmental quality