

Groups like the custodians of "Texas Raiders" that travel the country and give veterans the opportunity to fly in World War II aircraft are doing important work to ensure that our country's veterans are not forgotten and are given due recognition of their bravery and sacrifice.

Bill remarked that at 93, he is, I quote, "pretty well advanced right now." Bill, you may be "advanced" in life, but you are still front and center in our collective memory.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DARLENE AND
MYRON LINTNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Darlene and Myron Lintner of Sidney, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Darlene and Myron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 65th 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 65th 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.

CONGRATULATING SALINAS
VALLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital on its 65th anniversary.

In 1941 Bruce Church, a local businessman and philanthropist, had a vision to build a hospital for the people of Salinas. He donated land to the project and twelve years later his vision became a reality. In recognition of this philanthropic endeavor, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent Mr. Church a letter congratulating him which read, "The people of the Salinas Valley have every right to be proud of this admirable example of local self-reliance and initiative."

On April 20, 1953, the 138-bed hospital triumphantly opened its doors, supported by one-hundred employees and forty-five physicians. The hospital's founders envisioned a technologically advanced hospital of the highest quality to serve the residents of the Salinas Valley. Salinas Valley Memorial has lived up to the founders' vision in providing state of the art health care services.

Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital has grown to hold 266 beds and employs 1,600 people and 300 board certified physicians with a myriad of specialties. The hospital's successful

medical research and use of revolutionary health care technology has been facilitated by its bold partnerships with both local organizations and leading global institutions for science and medicine, such as NASA and Stanford University.

Salinas Valley Memorial provides comprehensive health care and offers patients a variety of specialty care by working with partners to address important health issues like diabetes, obesity, and cancer. This hospital's dedication to expanding health care into underserved communities has fostered increased education and wellness, allowing the diverse citizenry to make permanent lifestyle choices for a healthy community.

I am honored to recognize the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital and the many contributions it has made to the Central Coast of California. It has bolstered and encouraged the health and well-being of our community throughout the last sixty-five years. Through investing in the latest medical technologies, conducting clinical research, and providing education to the community, this hospital has, from its inception, played an invaluable role in the lives of the residents of the Salinas Valley.

We continue to be proud of the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital and everyone who has been involved in its extraordinary work and mission over the last sixty-five years. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the house join me in congratulating the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital for a triumphant sixty-five years of excellence.

IN RECOGNITION OF TRISH
DEPRIEST

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from former Representatives Jack Kingston, and Lindsay Thomas, and the son of the late Representative Bo Ginn:

"We thank Congressman CARTER for the opportunity to submit something regarding our mutual and beloved employee, Trish DePriest. We must immediately point out that Trish never worked for any of us, rather she worked for the people of the First District of Georgia and kept us advised and well out of the way of her great progress. Trish is in a rare category of legendary public servants. While she yielded the headlines and public credit to us, she was the force behind the scenes to get the job done. Whether it was a veteran who needed help navigating the VA Bureau, a senior citizen experiencing a Social Security or Medicaid glitch, or a newlywed couple in desperate need for a last minute passport, Trish was there for thousands of people making a difference in their life. She knew how to get things done, knew the people of power, but most importantly she was consummate champion of the underdog. If you got spun off the track and your lawyers, doctors, and friends couldn't help, Trish DePriest was the person to call. It did not matter the task, the politics, or time of day, Trish has always been ready to step forward and solve the problem.

We love you, Trish. We thank you for everything you've done for the people of Georgia,

for all your hard work and making us look very good. We hope you enjoy your retirement and continue to never make left-hand turns."

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of the Jackson Lee Amendment to H.R. 4, FAA Reauthorization and Disaster Recovery Reform Act, which was not included in the Rule for this bill.

I am disappointed that the other Jackson Lee Amendments to H.R. 4, the "FAA Reauthorization and Disaster Recovery Reform Act that would have made permanent the FEMA Office of Disaster Response and Recovery, which exists, but has not been codified, was not made in order.

FEMA is the agency that helps people before, during and after disasters.

For 38 years, FEMA's mission remains: to lead America to prepare for, prevent, respond to and recover from disasters with a vision of "A Nation Prepared."

On April 1, 1979, President Jimmy Carter signed the executive order that created the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

From day one, FEMA has remained committed to protecting and serving the American people.

That commitment to the people we serve and the belief in our survivor centric mission will never change.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 100-707), signed into law on November 23, 1988; amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-288).

The Stafford Act constitutes the statutory authority for most Federal disaster response activities especially as they pertain to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and FEMA programs.

The underlying Disaster Reform language in H.R. 4, the FAA Reauthorization Act provided the opportunity to make strong statement regarding the Federal government's responsibility for disaster response and recovery.

The work of the FEMA Office of Disaster Response and Recovery is critical when disaster strikes and for this reason should be a permanent part of the agency.

This is the office responsible for the Federal wide coordination of disaster response and recovery efforts.

Disaster response also requires that this office work well with non-governmental aid agencies like the Red Cross, and health care

responders, and private entities and business who collaborate on meet the needs of communities experiencing a disaster.

I offered this Amendment to this bill because of my experience with Hurricane Harvey.

There was no way to pre-prepare for Hurricane Harvey, or Maria or any of the other major disaster events in 2017.

What we can do is learn as much as possible and apply those lessons to future disaster response and recovery efforts.

When there is an event, like Hurricane Harvey there are important and valuable lessons that can help us to meet future challenges.

On June 1, 2018, this year's Hurricane Season will begin, and it must be the duty of this Congress to make sure that FEMA is prepared to meet the challenge.

I plan to introduce a FEMA Modernization Act this year to address a range of moderation issues that are intended to strength the capacity of the agency to manage several major disasters simultaneously.

Every place in this nation has one or more vulnerability to floods, damaging storms, wildfires, earthquakes, volcanic activity, or earth movement—such as mudslides.

FEMA is the nation's premier organization that must respond to catastrophes at a moment's notice.

Making permanent the FEMA's work in disaster response and recovery will be part of this bill.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEREK J. SPRAGUE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Derek "Boomer" J. Sprague.

Boomer embodied what it means to be a citizen of the North Country. At work, Derek was incredibly skilled at Luck Bros, Inc., operating large machinery and moving heavy metals with ease. At home, Boomer was his children's biggest fan and could be found coaching their sports teams and cheering them on. In his spare time, Boomer took advantage of the beautiful North Country to fish, hunt, golf,

and most importantly, spend time with the people he loved. Instead of focusing on material success, Boomer's family and friends knew him to value spending time with the important people in his life more than anything.

I would like to offer my deepest condolences to Boomer's family and friends, and especially his two children, by whom he will be greatly missed. It is clear that Boomer's happy spirit and love for life and for all he met will leave a lasting impact on his community. His memory will be forever cherished in the hearts of the many people he touched throughout his life.

HONORING GAINESVILLE'S DHRUV GAUR

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dhruv Gaur a Gainesville, native and Lakeview Academy alumnus, who recently became the college champion of "Jeopardy!," America's favorite quiz show.

Dhruv studies public health and economics at Brown University. Each season, "Jeopardy!" hosts college students for a tournament, giving them the opportunity to represent their school through a display of their trivia knowledge.

This season, Dhruv competed on the game show, and, despite his incorrect "Final Jeopardy" answer, he prevailed. As the victor, this Gainesville student took home a \$100,000 cash prize, which he plans to use for future investments.

Although Dhruv Gaur clenched the victory sporting his Brown University sweater, he also represented his neighbors back home in Northeast Georgia through his success. I congratulate Dhruv on his "Jeopardy!" win and look forward to his future success.

COMMENDING STUDENTS ADVOCATING AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Adin Segal, Tal Shauder, Eli Eiston, Isana Singh, and Zach Bodin, five students from Palm Beach County who have come together to say enough is enough with the gun violence in our country. While Congress refuses to enact common sense gun safety legislation, a new generation is taking action.

These students enrolled in the Peres Leadership Program, named after former Israeli President Shimon Peres' vision of leadership. For Peres, leadership was a noble cause defined not by personal ambition, but by moral values and a call to do the right thing. These students are all too familiar with our collective failure to protect them from gun violence. They reject calls for arming teachers and placing armed guards in schools. They do not accept the idea that the answer to gun violence is more guns. They see their schools as sanctuaries of learning in which guns have no place.

To support and honor the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the students created the National Association of Students Against Gun Violence, establishing chapters in their schools to connect and unite students as they fight against gun violence. Their organization seeks to register every student to vote on their 18th birthday, facilitate town hall forums, and advocate for accountable leadership that supports reasonable solutions to gun violence.

Since its founding only four weeks ago, their group has grown to nearly 1,000 members in 70 chapters in high schools across Florida, with more on the way in high schools and colleges around the country.

I commend their activism, leadership, and dedication to their communities and I look forward to working with them to advance common sense gun legislation, like expanding background checks and banning the sale of assault rifles, high capacity magazines and bump stock devices. This is the least we can do.