

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF LAWRENCE, INDIANA FIRE-  
FIGHTER JEFFREY HOLT

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding public servant, Jeffrey Holt, of the Lawrence Fire Department. For over two decades Jeffrey served the city and residents of Lawrence, Indiana, and we mourn his unexpected death. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Jeffrey Holt's commitment to making the City of Lawrence a safer, better place to live.

The Lawrence Fire Department was established in 1859, and is located in Lawrence, Indiana. The department consists of five firehouses and provides fire and rescue protection to over 47,000 residents for 22 square miles. Being a firefighter is not for the faint of heart. Those who answer the call of duty are motivated by a sense of pride in their community and extraordinary care for their fellow citizens.

Although he was not born in Indiana, Jeffrey was a life-long Hoosier. A graduate of Benton Central High School, Jeffrey began his career in public service with the Otterbein Fire Department. Starting as a firefighter, Jeffrey quickly took on an expanded role within the department, becoming an EMT before joining the Purdue Fire Department in 1985. In 1994 Jeffrey attended paramedic training at Methodist Hospital. After completing his training, Jeffrey began his career with the Lawrence Fire Department in 1996. He served as a Firefighter, Paramedic, Engineer, Lieutenant, Division Chief of Training, and Deputy Chief of Operations.

Jeffrey was passionate about music and was the lead singer of several bands including; the Rich Kids, Renegade, Midian, Illicit Affair, Winston Wolf, and Paper Valley.

Jeffrey and his wife Dr. Lindi Holt were married for almost 20 years. In addition to his wife, Jeffrey is survived by his parents Dr. Donald and Marilyn Holt, step children, Jennifer and Rachel, and many other loving family members.

Jeffrey will be forever missed by his family as well as his colleagues and friends in Lawrence and at the Lawrence Fire Department. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are grateful for Jeffrey's service to our Hoosier community. I extend my deepest condolences to Jeffrey's family, the Lawrence Fire Department, the City of Lawrence, his friends, and his fellow firefighters who mourn his loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way: Roll call vote 167—Yes, and Roll call vote 168—Yes.

KADE GANNON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

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

Kade Gannon is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kade Gannon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kade Gannon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING TONY HOLLAND

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable young man, Mr. Tony Holland of Oxford, MS, who's currently a student at Mississippi Valley State University.

Tony Holland is the son of Angela Cohran and Tony Holland, Sr. He is one of three siblings to Aaliyah F. Holland and Lydia Holland. Tony was a graduate of the 2015 class of Oxford High School, where he held the position as the senior class President. During his years in High School, Tony was very involved and influential in many of his peer's lives. Tony was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Educators Association and the varsity Cheerleading team, as the school mascot. While in high school Tony decided he wanted to devote his career to children through the field of Elementary Education at the illustrious Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, MS.

In 2015, Tony started his years at Valley, involved with the SGA as the freshmen class Vice President (2015–2016). In 2016–2017, he worked with the Royal Court as Mr. Sophomore and Mr. Junior (2017–2018). Tony has helped serve in the Delta area with the Male Initiative and Valley Trailblazers, tutoring, assisting with campus tours and helping students move on campus. Having to maintain a GPA while helping others throughout the campus and community; programs such as Student Support Services and the University Ambassadors has helped Tony stay on top of his own work and endeavors.

Going into his senior year, Tony is making preparation to start his reign as the next Mr. Mississippi Valley State University, for the academic school year of 2018–2019. Very creative and strong will, Tony ran his campaign platform on Evolve and Empower (E∧2). Tony

felt evolving the campus and empowering others was the key to successfully making campus life better. After completing this academic school year, Tony will graduate with honors in May of 2019.

Tony is a proud member of the Zeta Zeta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, where he currently serves as the secretary and treasurer.

After graduating from Mississippi Valley State University, Tony plans to teach in the Mississippi Delta while in graduate school at Delta State University in the Master of Education, Educational Administration and Supervision program. After completing graduate school, Tony will seek employment as a principal and continue to move in the direction that God provides for him, going higher and higher in his endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing such a remarkable student, leader, community volunteer, and young man, Mr. Tony Holland for his dedication and hard work to Mississippi Valley State University and the Delta area.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL K.  
BAKER'S DEDICATION TO THE  
HOUSE AND THE COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Michael K. Baker, the Chief Clerk of the Committee on Ways and Means Committee, who recently left the Committee staff after seven years of dedicated service.

Michael began his Congressional career as an intern under then Ways and Means Chairman Dave Camp. Michael shortly joined the Ways and Means Committee staff and served as Clerk over the past seven years under Chairman Camp, Chairman PAUL RYAN, and myself.

During his time with the Committee, Michael has overseen too many hearings to count and markups involving transformational tax, trade, and health care legislation. But at the end of markups that often stretched long into the night, after the crowds had gone home, you could find Michael back at his desk faithfully entering votes and statements into the record. His dedication to the legislative process and commitment to serving the American people is an essential part of the Committee's work. We simply could not have done all we have been able to achieve in recent years without his dedication and hard work.

Some markups, especially those stretching late into the night and involving dozens of amendment votes, would be particularly challenging for someone in Michael's position. But he was always undeterred. At those moments he would turn to those close to him to remind them—with a half-serious, half-joking smile—"We do not have to do this. We get to do this." I truly believe the lives of all Americans are better because of Michael's service at the Committee.

I know I speak for all Members and staff of the Committee on Ways and Means when I

say we greatly appreciate all of Michael's dedicated effort. We thank Michael for a job well done and we wish him every success in his bright future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRUCE W. CARTER VA MEDICAL CENTER

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Representative ALCEE HASTINGS, Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Representative FREDERICA WILSON, to recognize 50 years of service to our Veterans in South Florida. The Miami VA Medical Center, renamed the Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center in 2008, held its ribbon cutting on May 5, 1968. Originally a 630,000 square foot facility, the facility has nearly doubled in size to care for more than 57,000 Veterans per year in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe Counties.

The Miami VA Healthcare System is an accredited comprehensive medical provider, providing general medical, surgical, inpatient and outpatient mental health services. Recognized as a Center of Excellence in Spinal Cord Injury Research and Substance Abuse Treatment, it also houses an AIDS/HIV center, a prosthetic treatment center, spinal cord injury rehabilitative center, chest pain center, and Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Center (GRECC). Additionally, the Miami VA Medical Center was home to the first nursing home in the VA System.

Mr. Speaker, as a parent facility, the Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center supports 8 VA clinics from Key West to Deerfield Beach. These include two major satellite Outpatient Clinics, five Community Based Outpatient Clinics, and four Readjustment Counseling Centers, or Vet Centers. These Miami VA Healthcare System facilities serve our Veterans through their more than 750,000 visits each year.

We join together to recognize the Miami VA Healthcare System and its continued service on behalf of our Veterans. We support the Miami VA Healthcare System in its mission to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and wellness.

ETHAN GARCIA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

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

Ethan Garcia is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ethan Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ethan Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 167 and 168 on Monday, May 7, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREG REED

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Greg Reed, band teacher at Fredericksburg Christian School and Commander of the Enduring Freedom Honor Team.

Under Greg's leadership, the Honor Team performs 30–50 events annually at a variety of different venues including the National D-Day Memorial; the National Museum of the Marine Corps; the Pentagon; Walter Reed Army Hospital; National Naval Medical Center; the Capitol; National Mall; and countless VA hospitals. The group has received recognition from military installations and the Virginia House of Delegates. Additionally, they support the Honor Flight Program, performing for more than 500 World War II and Korean War veterans as they visit the nation's Capital and the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

Greg enjoys watching his students interact with veterans and grow from these experiences. The Honor Team's main missions are to bring awareness, gratefulness, and recognition to the United States Military and their families' sacrifices, past and present.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Greg for his leadership and continued desire to give back to veterans.

HONORING BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the commu-

nity, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Bethel AME has served as a catalyst for the African American growth in Yazoo County and the State of Mississippi.

Organized in 1868, Bethel is the oldest African American congregation in Yazoo City. Designed by A.S. King, Bethel A.M.E. is one of the earliest brick churches built by African Americans in Mississippi, and is the only downtown Yazoo City church building left standing after the fire of 1904. Although the building has had alterations, Bethel retains its historic Romanesque Revival tower, whose steeple is clad in sheet metal panels stamped to resemble shingles.

A group of African Americans first began worshipping in what was known as "The Market" shortly after Emancipation. The vision of the church at its current location began on May 29, 1874 when the church acquired the property at 214 S. Monroe Street. According to church history the building was erected under the leadership of Rev. Dangerfield.

One original piece that strikes a chord with its long time members is the bell inside the steeple. The bell is still very present in the hearts of church members. The bell could be heard throughout the community sending sounds of joy, fellowship and worship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church for its rich heritage and dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

AREZ GHAFOUR

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

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

Arez Ghafour is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Arez Ghafour is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Arez Ghafour for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EVAN H. JENKINS**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2018*

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 167 and YEA on Roll Call No. 168.