

from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on weekdays. Financial assistance will be available to Ypsilanti residents, allowing for low-income community members to provide childcare to their children in a safe and nurturing environment. The facility consists of three classrooms, a playground and a gymnasium, and is located within the former Chapelle Elementary School. This visionary center will offer children and parents quality childcare in our local community, and we are grateful for the YMCA's ongoing commitment to Ypsilanti residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Ypsilanti YMCA's years of service to our southeast Michigan community. Their newly opened childhood development center will create a brighter and more healthy future for local youth.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIVERPOOL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKET- BALL TEAM

#### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the victory of the Liverpool Warriors Boys basketball team in the New York State Public High School Association Class AA Championship on March 17, 2018. The Liverpool Warriors defeated the Half Hollow Hills East team by a score of 71–64 to win the state title for the first time in program history.

The Warriors' victory marked the end of a perfect season for the team. Despite this dominant record the game was close, with the Warriors trailing by seven at halftime. They rallied in the second half won the game. Tournament MVP, Senior Charles Pride, who scored 18 points along with seven rebounds and six assists, and senior Noah Issakainen who added another 17 points in the win. Members of the championship team included Pride, Issakainen, as well as seniors Peter Cerrone, Alan Willmes, Joe Desocio, Nas Johnson, Connor Jones, juniors Kyle Butler, Alex Ruston, Jake Pisen, Nick Klein, Joe Valerino, Ryan Valentine, Ian Conroy, Matt Senecal, and sophomores Freshaun Dreher, Kyle Caves, and Lateef Edwards. The team was led to victory by their coach Ryan Blackwell.

I am honored to recognize the teamwork displayed by the Liverpool Warriors and to congratulate the members of the team, their families, the coaching staff, and teachers at Liverpool High School. This is a historic win for Central New York, the first Section III Class AA title since 2002, and I am confident that the positive experiences from the 2018 season will yield the Warriors continued success in both athletics and academics.

#### SPENDING CUTS TO EXPIRED AND UNNECESSARY PROGRAMS ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2018*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I support the idea of rescissions. Some of the rescissions

proposed by the Republicans are a good idea, but Republican leadership would not allow us to vote on the proposals separately. Therefore, I have no choice but to oppose the entire rescissions package. I hope to work with my colleagues to make fiscally responsible decisions moving forward.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF SAL VENTURA

#### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize over three decades of the dedicated work and compassionate leadership of Mr. Sal Ventura in service of improving the lives of working families in our community.

Sal was born in San Jose in the late 50's. Raised and educated in Santa Clara County, he completed the San Jose City College Labor Studies Program and started his long and storied career with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) with an apprenticeship in 1981. Sal was hired as IBEW staff in the Organizing Department in January, 1995, and by May, 1997, he was appointed as Business Agent.

In all, Sal spent 36 years as a member of the IBEW and 32 years as a member of the IBEW Local 332 Political Action Committee, serving as Chairman for 14 years. Over the course of his career, Sal served as an elected Executive Board member and as Vice President of IBEW 332. As he retires, Sal is the current President of the South Bay Labor Council executive board and the assistant manager of IBEW Local 332.

During his career, Sal expanded his efforts beyond IBEW and served on many labor and community boards and committees, including as Former Executive Board Member of the South Bay Labor Council, Delegate and former Trustee of the Santa Clara/San Benito Counties Building Trades, and Chairman of the South Bay Labor Council Community Services Committees. Additionally, Sal has served on the Board of Christmas in April/Rebuild Together Silicon Valley and with our community radio station, KKUP.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby recognize and commend Sal Ventura for his lifelong work and commitment to work in the best interest of our community. I congratulate him on his impressive career and commend him on his invaluable service. As Sal continues his life in San Jose with his wife, Jenny, his two daughters, two puppies, and a parakeet, I wish him a restful and fulfilling retirement. We have been lucky to have him.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE SEAMAN 1ST CLASS EDWARD SLAPIKAS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FINAL HOMECOMING

#### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Seaman 1st Class Ed-

ward Slapikas. 77 years ago, Edward was killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor and buried in Hawaii, but never identified. On Saturday, June 9, 2018, Edward received a hero's welcome home and full military honors following a Mass of Christian Burial at Holy Spirit Parish.

Edward Slapikas was born on August 9, 1915, son of the late Frank and Ursula Slapikas. He grew up in the Wanamie section of Newport Township, Pennsylvania and attended Newport Area High School. After graduation, he worked for the Glen Alden Coal Company before joining the Navy in 1940.

On December 7, 1941, Edward was serving aboard the USS *Oklahoma* berthed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The *Oklahoma* endured Japanese torpedo attacks which capsized the ship and killed 26-year-old Edward and more than 400 of his fellow sailors. Edward and his compatriots were laid to rest in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl Cemetery) in Hawaii.

More than 70 years after that fateful December day, Edward was identified and finds his final resting place in St. Mary's Cemetery in his hometown of Wanamie. VFW Post 971 is named in Edward's memory, and his remaining family, a niece and nephew, was in attendance to celebrate his legacy.

It is a solemn honor to recognize the memory of Seaman 1st Class Edward Slapikas. Our nation is grateful for his selfless service in World War II. We shall never forget his sacrifice for our freedom, and we are honored to finally welcome him home. May he rest in peace.

#### RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF MICHAEL K. BAACH

#### HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of life's work of Michael K. Baach of Medina, Ohio and to extend my heartfelt congratulations on his retirement in June, 2018.

Mike Baach has played an important role as the President and CEO of Philpott Rubber and Plastics Company since August, 2009. Founded in northeast Ohio in 1889 and headquartered in Medina, Ohio, Philpott is a leading provider of custom molded rubber and plastic parts, standard polymeric products, and quality adhesives to the industrial market sector. Mike is the team leader of a workforce of dedicated professionals, more than 1,000 strong, whose combined productivity generates revenue exceeding \$70 million annually. By any measure, Mike's leadership, business acumen, professionalism are the gold standard we should all hope to emulate. What is more, Mike embodies these values with humility and a strong sense of deeply held core values. Mike, as I can personally attest, is both friend as well as a mentor to many.

Before his time at Philpott, Mike was a Co-Founder of Corpro, initially in Houston, Texas and then later in Medina, Ohio. Mike also worked as a sales manager at Harco Corporation, also in Houston and Medina. At each stage of his career, Mike has worked hard and added value for both to the customers he served as well as the companies for which he

worked. Mike is the author of five patents, again, bringing leadership, value and innovation to the business community.

Mike has also contributed to his community through his service on many boards in Medina County, in so doing, he has touched the lives of many in his community. I'm sure the Greater Medina Chamber of Commerce, Hospice of Medina County, Southwest General Health Center and Blue Coats of Medina County will all agree with me that Mike Baach has made his home, Medina County, a better place to live for all its citizens through his tireless devotion and service. It is the considered opinion of many that Mike's wisdom, compassion and integrity define his character. Medina County, and indeed, the State of Ohio and the Nation itself are better places because of Mike Baach's presence and contributions.

The 115th Congress acknowledges the many achievements of Mike Baach. I thank him for his friendship and wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIMPLEX MANUFACTURING COMPANY

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Simplex Manufacturing Company in my district in Auburn, New York.

Founded in 1918 by William J. Merritt, Simplex Manufacturing Company began as a leather goods manufacturer. Over the years, however, Simplex has evolved with market trends, and now provides a variety of essential, modern products that are often custom-made for a variety of machines and devices. Today, the parts crafted by Simplex are used in all manner of devices from motors and hand tools, to security systems which keep families and businesses safe from harm.

Throughout the years, Simplex has become a staple of the Central New York business community. In this day and age, while many companies have chosen quantity over quality, Simplex has remained dedicated to producing an excellent product. I am proud to congratulate the owners and employees of Simplex 100 successful years in business.

#### HONORING JOSEPH DIANTONIO OF MILFORD, MA

**HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph DiAntonio, a lifelong resident of the Fourth District of Massachusetts, who passed away in April after a life marked by courage, kindness, and an unwavering commitment to public service.

Born in Milford, Massachusetts in 1927, Mr. DiAntonio, or "Joe D" to those who knew him,

graduated from Milford High School in 1945 before enlisting in the Navy as our nation was gripped in the Second World War. After returning from service, Mr. DiAntonio began his career with the Rosenfeld Concrete Company where he would eventually retire as plant and credit manager.

In Milford, Mr. DiAntonio will be missed at Town Council meetings where he served fifty-two years as a member, taking on leadership roles as Chairman of the Town Finance and Library Building Committees as well as Trustee of the Milford Geriatric Authority.

A proud son of Italian immigrants, Mr. DiAntonio was a member of the Italian-American War Veterans Post of Milford, where he worked to honor the service and sacrifices of past and present veterans of Italian heritage, and the impact that first generation Americans continue to have on our country.

On May 4th, Joseph DiAntonio was laid to rest with military honors surrounded by his six children, twelve grandchildren, and fourteen great-grandchildren. The Fourth District was proud to have a neighbor like "Joe D", and from the Halls of Congress, I offer our condolences to those who knew him.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HALLS HILL STATION NO. 8

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2018*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Arlington, Virginia's Halls Hill Station No. 8, which is being honored at the African American Fire Fighters Historical Society's 8th Annual Salute Dinner. As the Civil War ended, freed slaves in Arlington set out to build a community and independent life. Many settled in the Halls Hill neighborhood, making it North Arlington's first African American community. There they built a supportive community with sprawling businesses, civic organizations, and support services. One of the most respected and treasured of those service organizations is Fire Station No. 8.

In 1918, twenty years after Arlington County's first firefighting company was established, a group of African American men formed a volunteer fire department to bring fire protection to the African American community of Halls Hill. At the time, the Halls Hill African American community, which began as a home for freed slaves after the Civil War, was kept separate from adjacent white communities, in part, by an 8-foot wooden fence. Initially, the Halls Hill firefighters had only a 60-gallon chemical tank—pulled by six men over unpaved and muddy roads—that was housed on the grounds of the John Langston Elementary School. In 1925, the seven-year-old Halls Hill Station No. 8 held its first elections and, through door-to-door canvassing campaigns, raised enough money to procure the Station's first motor-driven engine. In 1927, the Halls Hill Volunteer Fire Department was officially incorporated and moved to a new location on Lee Highway, which featured a telephone by which fire calls were routed through the chief operator of the local telephone company.

With Arlington County starting to fund equipment and utilities for volunteer fire companies, the 1930s proved much more rewarding for the previously neglected Halls Hill Volunteer Fire Department. With County support, the Halls Hill Volunteer Fire Department obtained its first pumper as well as a 1929 Diamond-T truck. The Hicks family, who owned several community businesses, also offered property for a new firehouse, which quickly became a de facto community center for local news and conversation. The new firehouse featured such attractions as a pay phone and soda machine as well as a blaring siren to summon volunteers to the firehouse. Around this time, the Arlington County Fireman's Association was founded as a network for Arlington fire companies, but did not include Halls Hill Volunteer Fire Department.

In 1940, Arlington County began funding professional fire staff to work within the volunteer companies. Eleven years later, Halls Hill became the last firefighting company in the county to be assigned paid professionals. The original professional firefighters assigned in 1951 to Station No. 8, in order of hire, were Alfred Clark, Julian Syphax, George McNeal, and Archie Syphax. Later, Hartman Reed, James K. Jones, Carroll Deskins, Henry Vincent, Carl Cooper, Ervin Richardson, Jimmy Terry, Wilton Hendricks, Bill Warrington and Bobby Hill were also hired. As a segregated station, Halls Hill Station No. 8 sought to prioritize serving the immediate community. However, firefighters assigned to the Station were routinely dispatched on calls outside their first due area. On these dispatches, firefighters were often berated, even by the residents the firefighters were attempting to help.

Career advancement opportunities for African American firefighters at that time were limited to Fire Station No. 8. Nonetheless, in 1957, Alfred Clark became the first African American fire captain in the County and continued to serve at Station No. 8. His daughter Kitty recalls that when the station later became integrated in the 1960s, some white firefighters said they "would not serve under a 'Nigger'" and even wrote it on the chalkboard. The battalion chief, upon arriving, ordered it removed and told the white firefighters they will serve and respect Captain Clark."

As the main social and community center for families of the Halls Hill African American community, Station No. 8 was on the forefront of the Civil Rights Movement. There, community members advocated for a variety of causes, including the desegregation of public schools and integration of lunch counters.

In 1962, construction began on a new Station No. 8 facility, which served a growing Arlington County population. However, in 1999, a study for the County Manager identified Station No. 8 for possible "relocation, consolidation, replacement or closure." In 2016, after community pushback, the Arlington County Board voted to build a new Fire Station No. 8 at the Lee Highway site where the Station remains today. 100 years after its formation, Station No. 8 has a fully paid staff that serves the very community that preserved Station No. 8 as a Halls Hill institution. Arlington County has committed to building a new Station No. 8 that will memorialize the countless people who have sustained this community asset.