

the Robert S. Thurman American Legion Post 13.

In 1919, 100 years ago and shortly after the conclusion of the first World War, members of the U.S. Army's American Expeditionary Forces founded the American Legion. Over the past century, the American Legion has brought veterans in their local communities together and has been a strong advocate for veterans issues on Capitol Hill. In its infancy, only a few posts across the United States were formed, one of those posts was the Robert S. Thurman American Legion Post 13 located in Joplin, Missouri.

Today, Joplin Post 13 celebrates its 100th anniversary. It has the honor of being one of only a handful of American Legion posts to turn 100. Its 100-year history hasn't been without its ups and downs. At its peak in the '50s, the post had upwards of 500 members. Just a few years ago, the post's membership dropped to fewer than 30 members. Today, the post is experiencing a resurgence of membership and currently has about 250 members.

With this resurgence in membership, funds going to Post 13's activities have increased. The post is now able to hold an annual veterans expo, operate an honor guard to attend the funerals of local veterans, has created an endowment for nursing students at Missouri Southern State University and sponsors the Missouri Boys State program and the Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy. For 100 years, Post 13 has brought veterans in the Joplin area together in service to their fellow veterans and their local community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and the rest of this body join me in congratulating the Robert S. Thurman American Legion Post 13 on 100 years of fraternity and service to the veterans of southwest Missouri.

HONORING ROWAN LITTLE
LEAGUE'S VICTORY IN THE LITTLE
LEAGUE SOFTBALL WORLD
SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rowan Little League's victory in the Little League Softball World Series Championship. Rowan Little League is based out of the City of Salisbury, located in North Carolina's 8th Congressional District.

Rowan Little League defeated Eastbank Little League 4-1 on August 14, 2019 in the championship game at Alenrose Stadium in Portland, Oregon. This marks Rowan's fourth trip to the World Series in the past five seasons and is their second title, an extraordinary accomplishment for the perennially successful program.

Under the direction of Coach Steve Yang, the program has exemplified the very best of North Carolina through tenacity and perseverance. Rowan far exceeded expectations this summer and enjoyed a perfect 17-0 record, including 7-0 in World Series play.

I know I speak for our entire community in offering my most heartfelt congratulations to the exemplary young women of Rowan Little League. These young leaders are the heart and soul of our community and I couldn't be more proud.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Rowan Little League's victory in the Little League Softball World Series Championship.

CONGRATULATING BEACON COLLEGE FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Beacon College for 30 years of service to students. A quality education can change a life. It unlocks the door of opportunity and success and equips children to achieve their dream.

For thirty years, Beacon College has been a pioneer in providing students with learning differences and disabilities with a high-quality college experience. It is committed to student success and provides accredited Associate in Arts and Bachelor of Arts degree programs to its students.

Their results are clear with 70 percent on-time graduation rates and a 1-year average for students completing their degrees in four years. This is almost double the 10-year national average for all students.

Beacon College is the only institution of higher education nationwide to serve with this exclusive mission. Under College President, George Hagerty's leadership, the faculty and teachers at Beacon College are passionate and committed to providing every student with the specialized attention they need to cultivate success. Recently, Beacon College was ranked as Number One on the prestigious Peterson ranking of the top 20 colleges for students with learning disabilities.

Beacon College not only equips students with academic knowledge, they also are dedicated to coaching students in the skills necessary to find and retain employment. It is my honor to congratulate Beacon College, Dr. Hagerty and the faculty and staff on reaching this service milestone. May you continue to serve these special students and equip them with the knowledge and skills to achieve their dreams.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 525.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF EMMA BRUTON TERRY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary life

and legacy of Emma Bruton Terry, who passed away on September 8, 2019 at the age of 92.

After spending her formative years in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Emma moved to Buffalo in 1952, and graduated from Bryant and Stratton College.

Emma then met and married her first love, the late Isiah Terry. From this union came five beautiful children, the keystone of her legacy. She was both a loving spouse and a caring mother.

No stranger to hard work, Emma was employed at many local small businesses including New York Lerner Shops, the Medical Records Department at Children's Hospital, Saturn Ring Company, and lastly the Buffalo China Company from which she retired in 1992.

Emma was the epitome of a dedicated mother, and a true steward of her community. Throughout her life she garnered many awards in honor of this yearning penchant to help.

To those that knew her best, her family and loved ones, Emma will always be memorialized as a committed parent and a loving friend. In their hearts she will be remembered as a Jazzy Stepper, and simply a kind soul.

Madam Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor a woman who was beloved in my hometown of Buffalo, New York. May Emma's memory live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, on September 11, 2019, I was unable to attend a vote because I was attending to official business. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 523.

RECOGNIZING JIM BYRUM FOR HIS
SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE
MICHIGAN AGRI-BUSINESS ASSO-
CIATION

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Jim Byrum for his service as President the Michigan Agri-Business Association. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to educational excellence, Jim has become an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

Jim grew up on his family's farm near Onondaga and was raised in the same house where his grandfather was born in 1889. Throughout his career he stayed close to his agricultural roots, serving as Executive Director of the Michigan Bean Commission and the State Executive Director of Michigan's Farm Service Agency before eventually becoming the President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)—a nonprofit organization of approximately 500 members from every part of the agricultural sector in Michigan.

In its 24 years under Jim's leadership, MABA has consistently and exceptionally represented the interests of the agricultural industry in Michigan, offering important resources to businesses while working proactively to keep the industry ahead in the global marketplace. For instance, MABA's "2025" project has encouraged industry leaders to think about long-term needs and how Michigan agriculture will grow in the coming years. Jim has excelled as a leader and communicator, and his expertise has made him well-respected by those across the political spectrum.

Agriculture is the second-largest sector of Michigan's economy, contributing more than \$71 billion to the economy annually and supporting one out of every four jobs in the state. With today's ever-evolving world, the work of industry leaders like Jim has been critical in making Michigan the agricultural hub it is. His impact on the state of Michigan cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Jim Byrum for his decades of service as President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Jim all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE SALEM OREGON
ROTARY ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Rotary Club of Salem, Oregon as they celebrate their 100th year of service to the Salem community. With nearly 200 members, the Rotary Club of Salem has established itself as one of the most distinguished community service organizations in my district.

The Rotary Club of Salem was organized on September 16, 1919. Over the last 100 years, the Rotary has strengthened their community through their mission of providing service to others, promoting integrity, and advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace through fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

The Rotary Club of Salem gives back to the community by sponsoring inbound and outbound exchange students, distributing dictionaries to 4th graders in the Salem/Keizer school district, giving grants to local non-profits and by participating in international projects annually. To celebrate their 100 years of service, the Rotary will be building the Gerry Frank Amphitheater, a multipurpose amphitheater at Salem's Riverfront Park to inspire culture and encourage community togetherness.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Rotary Club of Salem as they celebrate their 100th anniversary and thank them for their service to the community of Salem.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
KAREN WILLIAMS CONNELLY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Karen Williams Connelly, 68, of Niles, Ohio, who passed away peacefully at home, Thursday Sept. 5, 2019, surrounded by family after a long illness.

Karen was born April 7, 1951, in Warren, the daughter of her proud parents, Tom and Luella Knai Williams.

After graduating from Niles McKinley in 1969, Karen attended the Ohio State University and eventually graduated from Youngstown State University. Karen earned a bachelor's degree in social work and later a master's degree in counseling. Karen worked in the mental health field in the Mahoning Valley until her retirement, helping hundreds of people with mental illnesses. She loved her work and her love for people could be seen in all aspects of her life.

On Nov. 29, 1980, she married the love of her life, Tom Connelly, and together they made a life in Niles. Karen loved to laugh and enjoyed hosting parties, picnics and events in her home. Christmas Eve and Memorial Day were her favorite events and her parties became traditions among family and friends. Karen loved to cook and bake and was constantly trying new recipes.

She will be dearly missed by her devoted husband, Thomas R. Connelly; her loving children, Thomas and Laura Connelly and Megan and Brian Gibson; her grandchildren, Lucy Gibson, Max Gibson and Lily Jones; a sister, Patty Williams; a brother Bryan (Lisa) Williams; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Karen was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Luella Williams.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Karen's physician, Dr. Zul Mangalji, and the nurses at Trumbull Memorial Hospital for their exceptional care and compassion during her illness.

I am very blessed to have worked with and befriended Karen's husband, Tom, who was the president of AFSCME Local 2026, which represents hundreds of nurses at Trumbull Regional Medical Center. Karen will most certainly be missed by all the lives she touched.

HONORING "FOOTSTEPS TO YOU:
CHATTEL SLAVERY" EXHIBIT

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Footsteps to You: Chattel Slavery exhibit. This exhibit opened in San Bernardino in 2018 and featured original artifacts and documents from the 19th century to showcase how the institution of slavery has shaped the United States.

Originally from historian Jerry Gore's estate, the collection gives visitors greater insight into the daily abuses inflicted on the millions enslaved in America, and the courage that African women, men, and children demonstrated

while fighting for their freedom. Guests can immerse themselves in newspapers, first-person accounts, and objects of the slave trade. I had the chance to examine up close some of these documents and was reminded that slavery was not just an unspoken evil, but one out in the open, written, and debated in our country. These slave narratives help spark questions about how visitors themselves would have participated in slavery during this time in history.

The exhibit was one of the San Bernardino County programs named as part of the 2019 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties.

It is my honor to recognize the Footsteps to You: Chattel Slavery exhibit on the House floor today. This exhibit provides necessary insights and education into the experience of a slave in America and has made important contributions to the 35th District that are worthy of admiration.

HONORING ERIC LARSON ON THE
EVENT OF HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eric Larson on the event of his retirement as Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau.

Eric has spent his career dedicated to the agricultural industry in San Diego County. During his forty-eight-year career, he worked in cut flower and nursery crop production, was the General Manager of the California Floriculture Growers Association and served as a board member of the Living Plant Growers Association, the San Diego County Farm Bureau, and the San Diego County Flower & Plant Association.

In 1996, Eric became Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau, where he helped the Bureau launch San Diego Grown magazine, establish the San Diego Farm & Nursery Expo, and advocated for the needs of local farmers. During Eric's tenure as Executive Director, the San Diego County Farm Bureau was selected as "County of the Year" three times by the California Farm Bureau.

The San Diego County Farm Bureau would not be the organization it is today without the hard work and dedication of Eric Larson. I thank Eric for his dedication to the farmers of San Diego County and congratulate him on his retirement.

REMEMBERING DON RODMAN

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a good friend, a leader in business and a titan of philanthropy, Don Rodman.

Growing up in a single parent household in Dorchester during the Great Depression, Don