

enthusiasm that could affect anyone who heard his lectures or commentary.

Among the many awards he earned over his career were three commendations from the Virginia General Assembly, the Virginia Press Association's 2004 Virginian of the Year, the Best NonFiction Book Award by the Library of Virginia in 1997, and the Outstanding Professor Award of the Virginia Council for Higher Education. In turn, Dr. Robertson strongly supported Virginia Tech financially and through the donation of a large portion of his enormous collection of Civil War books.

After his retirement from Virginia Tech, Dr. Robertson resided in Virginia's Northern Neck. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Betty Lee" Robertson; his sons, James I. Robertson III and Howard Robertson; his daughter, Beth Brown; his stepson, William W. Lee Jr.; his stepdaughter, Elizabeth A. Lee; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. I would like to express my condolences to them and to the Virginia Tech community on the loss of this fine scholar and gentleman.

30 YEARS AFTER THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL: HONORING HIS EXCELLENCY LECH WAŁĘSA, THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF POLAND

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to be here today to help welcome back to Washington a true hero of democracy, former President Lech Wałęsa.

Thirty years ago, we all watched with surprise and jubilation at the fall of the Berlin Wall, for decades the symbol of repression and tyranny that had fallen over the states behind the Iron Curtain. As it happens, that was my first year as a member of Congress. What followed the fall of the wall was the collapse of the totalitarian regimes and the restoration of those countries to their place among the world's democracies. This was an incredibly momentous occasion, we in Congress understand.

In November of 1989, a humble electrician from the working-class Polish city of Gdansk spoke before a joint session of the United States Congress. I remember it well. He described his years-long struggle for freedom and asked for support from the United States. That man, of course, was soon-to-be President Wałęsa.

More than anyone else, President Wałęsa helped us understand the heroic and honorable fight that the people of Poland and others throughout central and eastern Europe were waging to win their freedom over dictatorship. We understood that the people of Europe needed our help in this struggle for freedom. And U.S. support was indeed critical in helping those countries transition to democracy.

Thirty years later, some of those countries need our help again. While the specter of communism has faded, many countries in central and eastern Europe face renewed threats to democracy. Today at a hearing of the European subcommittee, President Wałęsa and other experts described some of these new threats, in countries like Poland, Hungary, and

Turkey, where increasingly authoritarian leaders are undermining democracy and the rule of law. We owe it to President Wałęsa and all the others who continue to fight for democracy in the region to show our support.

I want to close by thanking President Wałęsa for everything he has done in support of freedom and democracy, and for visiting with us today. And I want to urge everyone that we can best honor President Wałęsa's legacy by continuing the fight against authoritarianism wherever we may find it.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE, LEGACY, AND SERVICE OF JAMES DUNCAN

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the life, legacy, and service of James Duncan of Appleton, Wisconsin.

Jim was born on June 28, 1947 to Rodney and Bertha Duncan in Appleton, WI. He attended Menasha High School and graduated in the Class of 1965. Jim then served in the U.S. Army in Korea during the Vietnam War as a medic. Upon returning home from service, Jim was employed as the fourth ever paramedic in the state of Wisconsin through Gold Cross Ambulance where he aided the community for 30 years.

Jim continued to serve his community from 1998 to 2019, holding various leadership positions on the Outagamie County Board. He utilized his extensive background as an Army medic and an emergency responder during his time on the Public Safety Committee. Jim was an advocate for rehabilitation and a supporter of jail diversion programs, like drug treatment court and veterans treatment court.

In addition to his service on the County Board, Jim was actively involved with several organizations throughout the Fox Valley. He assisted in fundraising, event planning, and medical care for the Special Olympics, was a foster father for over 15 years, and volunteered with the food pantry through Fox Valley Christian Fellowship.

Jim was a true altruist who was tireless and tenacious in his efforts to help others. He always went the extra mile to serve when others around him would not. His goal was not to surpass all others at any cost, but to serve others whatever the cost. Jim's leadership will be missed by all.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Jim's selfless service to our country. His love of country and service to the Fox Valley community will always be remembered. I offer my sincerest condolences to Jim's family.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE STEVE HOLLAND

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Mississippi State House Representative, Steve Holland.

Representative Holland served in the State House of Representatives for 36 years and proudly represented Mississippi's 16th district. During his extensive career, Representative Holland served on many committees, including: the Committee on Public Health and Human Services, Appropriations, Congressional Redistricting, Gaming, Judiciary A, Judiciary En Banc, Budget, Legislative Reapportionment, Medicaid, Local and Private Legislation, Tourism, Transportation, Fees and Salaries of Public Officers, Ways and Means, and Youth and Family Affairs.

Representative Holland is a true Mississippian who prioritized legislation that would create a brighter future for Mississippi. I thank him for his service, and I hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING OFFICER JONATHAN DIAZ

HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2019

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Officer Jonathan Diaz, of the Lemoore Police Department who passed away on November 2nd at the age of 31, while intervening in a domestic violence incident while off duty.

Officer Diaz began his law enforcement career in his hometown of Huron, CA in 2014 as a Reserve Police Officer and in 2015 was chosen as Officer of the Year.

He was hired by Lemoore PD in August of 2016 and was an asset to the community from the day he joined.

Officer Diaz received many commendations during his time with the force, including being selected to be the Recruit Training Officer for Tulare-Kings Counties Basic Police Academy, Field Training Officer for his department, being appointed as the Gang Investigator for the Kings County Major Crimes Task Force, and in September 2018 was awarded Lemoore PD's Public Safety Officer of the year.

In addition to keeping our community safe, Officer Diaz mentored at-risk youth in Lemoore through the Youth Adult Awareness Program.

Officer Diaz leaves behind his girlfriend, Victoria Gonzalez and their 10-month-old daughter, Stephanie, along with sons Jonathan Jr., Damian, his parents Juan Sr. and Blanca Diaz and three younger brothers.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOULEVARD BREWING COMPANY'S THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize and celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of Kansas City's own Boulevard Brewing Company. Born from one man's dream to put Kansas City back on the map for brewing, Boulevard Brewing Company has become an iconic and beloved institution by locals and tourists alike.

In the summer of 1984, while on vacation in Europe, John McDonald, founder of Boulevard Brewing Company, discovered his love and intrigue for Belgian beers. It was this curiosity and interest, coupled with the opportunity to address a gap in the market that fueled McDonald's dream. Kansas City was once home to more than a dozen breweries, producing a wide array of beers, but had succumbed to the industrial onslaught, leaving the city left with none. This, in conjunction with the homogenous nature of American beers being produced at the time, encouraged McDonald to continue to pursue this interest, embarking on an endeavor that would come to be a social and cultural pillar of Kansas City.

After attending art school, McDonald began home brewing, put together a business plan, sold his house to raise money, and sought necessary resources to start the brewery. In line with his creative background, McDonald's vision for the brewery was innovative, unique, and stood in stark contrast to what many breweries across the country looked like and produced.

McDonald began renovation in an old brick building along the historic Southwest Boulevard, which once housed the laundry for the Santa Fe Railroad. In November 1989, after more than a year of working tirelessly to retrofit the building, the first keg of Boulevard Pale Ale was loaded into the back of McDonald's pickup truck and delivered to a restaurant down the street.

For the first year, the small crew worked lengthy hours brewing, kegging, cleaning, and working to persuade bar and restaurant owners to put Boulevard beers on tap, as the company initially only produced draft beers. Knowing that the bottling of Boulevard's product would open doors to new opportunities and growth, McDonald worked to secure funding for bottling lines. After overcoming rejection by bank after bank, one institution saw promise in Boulevard's vision and enabled the brewing company to install a very small, used bottling line. With this line in place, Boulevard quickly found itself becoming the talk of the town and built a notable reputation for itself.

With its rapid growth came concerns of outgrowing the space in which Boulevard Brewing Company was founded. Faced with the decision to relocate or revitalize, McDonald chose to revitalize the historic building on Southwest Boulevard in 2006 in a \$25 million project that expanded into a new building with a 150-barrel brewhouse, packaging halls, and hospitality spaces. With sales reaching nearly 300,000 barrels, this renovation allowed the company to increase their potential brewing capacity to 700,000 barrels annually. In the years following, McDonald continued to create new products and grow Boulevard's presence. Boulevard soon found their products spanning coast-to-coast, from California to Washington, D.C. by the mid-2000s.

Eventually, their progress came full-circle when McDonald was approached by Michael Moortgat, President and fourth generation leader of Duvel Moortgat, maker of Duvel beer, which first set John McDonald on his journey in brewing. In 2014, Boulevard became part of the Duvel Moortgat family, a collection of artisanal breweries dedicated to the highest expression of the brewers' art.

Today, Jeff Krum serves as President of Boulevard Brewing Company, Brewery Ommegang of Cooperstown, NY, and Duvel

Moortgat USA. Krum has been with Boulevard since its founding and is committed to taking the brewery even further. Krum has also been an active contributor to our Kansas City community in other ways, founding Ripple Glass, which created a local and regional glass recycling solution, and serving on the board on directors of the Kansas City Streetcar Authority, the Downtown Transportation Development District, and the Kansas City Economic Development Corporation.

To this day, Boulevard remains steadfast in its commitment to the original vision and mission set forth by McDonald, helping to redefine American beer while having a lasting positive impact on the Kansas City community. Through these efforts, Boulevard Brewing Company has established itself as the Midwest's largest specialty brewer.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Boulevard Brewing Company's thirtieth anniversary and celebrating their innovation, vision, and impact in Kansas City and beyond.

IN HONOR OF CLAUDETTE COLVIN
FOR HER COURAGE DURING THE
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND
CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN
HISTORY

HON. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 15, 2019

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Claudette Colvin, an American Civil Rights pioneer, who on March 2, 1955, at the age of 15, was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama for refusing to give up her seat to a young white woman passenger, becoming one of many to be arrested for challenging Montgomery's bus segregation policies. Nine months later, Rosa Parks was famously arrested for performing the same act of defiance. Although there were hundreds of people arrested before Claudette and Rosa Parks, Claudette along with Aurelia Browder, Susie McDonald, and Mary Louise Smith, were the first to challenge the law in the Alabama courts.

Prior to her historic 1955 stand against racial injustice, Claudette had been studying Black leaders like Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth during Negro History Month in her segregated school. Claudette's classroom conversations led to discussions around the current day Jim Crow laws she and all her peers were experiencing. In describing the significant moment when a bus driver ordered her to give up her seat to a young white woman, and she refused, Claudette says: "Whenever people ask me: 'Why didn't you get up when the bus driver asked you?' I say it felt as though Harriet Tubman's hands were pushing me down on one shoulder and Sojourner Truth's hands were pushing me down on the other shoulder. I felt inspired by these women because my teacher taught us about them in so much detail."

After a year-long battle in the courts, being ostracized by her peers and the community, an older man befriended her, and she became pregnant. In addition, she was a 15-year-old teenager, from a low-income family, and she had very dark skin. Therefore, the leaders deemed Claudette inappropriate to be the face of the Bus Boycott.

Claudette's heroic story was nearly forgotten by history. The story of Claudette illustrates how the role of women in the Civil Rights movement has been largely overlooked. Her actions led to monumental progress in our nation's history. Not only that, her heroic actions led to the rise of other great African Americans. If not for Claudette's brave act, there may not have been a Thurgood Marshall, Robert L. Carter, Martin Luther King, Jr., or Rosa Parks. She truly paved the way for our nation's history.

Claudette, Aurelia Browder, Susie McDonald, and Mary Louise Smith were among the four women plaintiffs to testify in the federal court case filed by civil rights attorney Fred Gray on February 1, 1956, as Browder v. Gayle. On June 13, 1956, the three-judge panel that heard the case in the United States District Court determined that the state and local laws requiring bus segregation in Alabama were unconstitutional. The case went to the United States Supreme Court, which upheld their ruling on December 17, 1956. Three days later, the Supreme Court issued an order to Montgomery and the state of Alabama to end bus segregation. This order not only ended bus segregation in Alabama, but also impacted public transportation throughout the United States, including airplanes, taxis and trains.

In 1987, The 100th Congress designated March as "Women's History Month" in honor of the tremendous contributions of women to society, and to recognize that despite these contributions, the role of women in history has consistently been overlooked and undervalued in our history books. Claudette is testament to the fact that we are still discovering new accomplishments of historical women, and we will continue to shine a light on these amazing icons for years to come. Though their historic acts of civil disobedience were separated by nine-months, Claudette and Rosa Parks remain intertwined in the same movement. Claudette knew Rosa very well, was active in Rosa's youth group, and considered Rosa an inspiration to her own beliefs and actions. Rosa and Claudette's mother, Mary Jane Austin (Gadson), grew up together in Pine Level, Alabama. Her mother used to play with Rosa and her brother Sylvester at Ms. Leona's house, Rosa's mother. Rosa also knew Claudette's great grandfather, Gus Vaughn, who has been mentioned in several of her books.

Madam Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Claudette Colvin's courage to stand in the face of injustice and demand her recognition of her inalienable rights. Because in her own courage to fight for her freedom, she paved a path for millions of others to do the same—because it was her constitutional right.

UNITED STATES EXPORT FINANCE
AGENCY ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4863) to promote