

note of thanks to Pete for his willingness to work with myself and my staff over the years as we have worked with the Army and the Stratford community to move the transfer and redevelopment process forward.

Pete played a unique and special role in the closure of the SAEP. He was determined that the site would not become just another abandoned eyesore. It was Pete who both envisioned and executed a plan to dispose of the excess Allied Signal machinery in a way that garnered millions of dollars for the Army and it was Pete that approved the use of the SAEP as a redistribution point for the 9–11 recovery supplies. He carefully budgeted every penny of the scarce budget he managed to ensure that the property remained properly maintained. It was also Pete who showed his support for the community by opening the facilities for a variety of activities including K–9 training and the Viki Soto SK, an annual run in memory of the young Stratford teacher whose life was cut tragically short at the school shooting in Newtown.

Pete Szymanski was an extraordinary man whose commitment and dedication to his job and his community earned him the respect and admiration of friends, colleagues, and community leaders alike. Today, I am honored to rise to pay tribute to his memory and to extend my heartfelt condolences to his wife, Kathryn, and their family. Pete's passing will leave a hole in the hearts of all those who knew him and a void in the community that will never quite be filled.

HONORING LIEUTENANT THOMAS
EVERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize today that former Congressman Petri's father, LT Thomas Evert, the pilot, and the crew of U.S. Navy Plane No. 63917 will be posthumously awarded medals for their heroic actions in the sinking of a German U-boat off the coast of the Bahamas in World War II. On August 7, 1943, U.S. Navy plane No. 63917, a U.S. Navy PB4Y Liberator Bomber of Bombing Squadron 105 (VB–105) piloted by Lt. Thomas Evert, USNR, successfully located German U-boat 84 and, after a four-and-a-half-hour engagement at close quarters in the face of hostile enemy fire, sank the submarine.

Prior to this action, German U-boat 84, a type VIII B Boat, was deployed off the coast of the Bahamas and the east coast of Florida. Hundreds of Allied naval vessels as well as, over 3,000 Allied merchant vessels were destroyed resulting in the deaths of over 70,000 aviators and seamen during the Battle of the Atlantic. As with all U-boats, the presence of U-boat 84 posed a serious threat to Allied war efforts in the western hemisphere.

Following their heroic efforts, Lt. Evert and his crew, as well as plane No. 63917 were reassigned to the United Kingdom. On October 22, 1943, Lt. Evert and his crew, along with the Bomber, went down after an aerial engagement with a German Blohm & Voss BV 222 Viking off the Atlantic coast of Europe.

Though long-delayed, the pilot and crew of U.S. Navy plane No. 63917 will receive the following posthumous awards:

LT Thomas Rudolph Evert, pilot: The Distinguished Flying Cross

LT David William Emmet, co-pilot: The Air Medal

ENS James O'Hara, second pilot: The Air Medal

ENS Edward J. Ellis, navigator, bombardier: The Air Medal

AMM1 Kendall L. Dungey, crown turret gunner: The Air Medal

AMM2 Karl J. Bertram, port waist gunner: The Air Medal

ARM2 John F. Wagner, radio operator: The Air Medal

ARM3 James T. Goble, radio operator: The Air Medal

AOM3 Raymond O. Haines, bow lookout, bow gunner: The Air Medal

AMMC3 Edwin Emery Winship, tail turret gunner: The Air Medal

In April 2018, I joined former Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Shuster, current Chairman DEFAZIO, Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER, Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI, and former Congressman Frank LoBiondo in urging the Navy to approve these awards. These awards are well deserved, and I am pleased to congratulate former Congressman Petri and the families of all the crew members of the PB4Y Liberator Bomber on receiving them.

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF
GUPTA MEDIA GROUP AND MR.
GUPTA'S COMMITMENT TO THE
WESTERN NEW YORK COMMU-
NITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the success of Gupta Media and Mr. Gogi Gupta's commitment to the Western New York Community on Thursday, November 21, 2019.

Gupta Media is a digital marketing agency that specializes in media buying, creative design, and technology solutions. Since their founding in 2005 by Gogi Gupta they have consistently been on the forefront of maximizing advertising effectiveness for clients in multiple industries. Currently, Gupta Media represents a number of music artists signed to both large and small record labels, including artists who have performed and been nominated during the Grammy awards show in past years. This October Gupta Media was included as a case study within the Harvard Business Review, where it was recognized as having a successful business model which optimizes its clients marketing dollars with a high degree of performance.

During his youth Mr. Gupta spent some of his time in Pittsburgh before finishing high school in Hamburg, NY, a suburb of Buffalo, NY. He attended Frontier High School before being accepted to Cornell University, where he graduated in 2000 with a degree in public policy. He founded Gupta Media in 2005 after deciding to take his marketing career into his own hands. The company's first major success came when they helped the music duo Aly & AJ reach the top of MTV's "Total Request Live" charts. Since then, Gupta Media

has only grown in stature and now proudly employs more than 50 people.

Following this success Mr. Gupta did not stop, going on to create the automated and publicly available product smartURL in 2011. Built to redirect online users to specific internet destinations based on the country they are accessing the site from, smartURL has been used by professional athletes, multinational corporations, and celebrities, and is another example of the intelligent innovation Mr. Gupta has fostered.

While Mr. Gupta currently lives in Boston, MA, where he manages Gupta Media, he has remained connected to his hometown of Buffalo, NY. He has adopted fandom for the local MLB team, the Boston Red Sox, but is still loyal to his hometown Buffalo Bills and Sabers. Mr. Gogi Gupta is emblematic of the hard work and dedication that the Western New York community thrives on, and I am proud that Mr. Gupta finds his roots in Buffalo.

Madam Speaker, I am certain that Mr. Gupta will continue to be at the forefront of change and foster innovation and creativity. We extend our best wishes to him and Gupta Media as they continue to lead this industry into the future.

CONGRATULATING JENNY'S
SWEETS & MORE ON RECEIPT OF
THE ROOKIE BUSINESS OF THE
YEAR AWARD

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to congratulate Jenny's Sweets and More in Lehighon on being named the recipient of the Carbon County Chamber and Economic Development Corporation's Rookie Business of the Year Award.

The Rookie Business of the Year recognizes a business in operation less than two years that has demonstrated enthusiasm, community spirit and commitment to growing in Carbon County. Jenny's Sweets and More, owned by Jennifer Solt-Cerato, has proven to be an outstanding addition to the Lehighon community. In addition to offering delicious candies, Jenny's Sweets and More always has an eye to the community and places a heavy emphasis on giving back. This business brings joy and light to its customers, both young and old, and represents the values of kindness and altruism that are characteristic of our Pennsylvania communities.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jenny's Sweets and More on this great honor and thank her for her commitment to our community.

HONORING MS. ANITA BOURN 30
YEARS AS A CONGRESSIONAL
STAFFER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my very own, Ms. Anita Faye Bourn, for thirty years of dedicated service as a congressional staffer. Anita's career with the U.S. House of Representatives began in 1989 when my predecessor, Gene Taylor, won the special election. Anita was hired on as a secretary, but quickly found her niche through constituent services. When I first took office in 2010, I had the opportunity to carry over staff from the previous administration. Anita was an obvious choice and to this day, has proven to be one of my most trusted staffers.

Anita was born and raised in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, with family, faith, and music at her epicenter. She would say her mother, Christine Bourn, is the heart and soul of the family. She has two sons, and a niece, to whom she is known as "Tee-Tee". Anita also claims a host of brothers and sisters in Christ through her church family at Shady Grove Baptist Church. Anita is a long-time member of the church music ministry and is deservedly considered the resident "rock star". I can attest to this as I have had the privilege of hearing her beautiful rendition of "God Bless America".

Anita's musical career officially began at the age of 12, when she started playing piano during church services. Since then, Anita has served as Director of the inspirational choir, the senior adult choir, and the men's chorus, while also directing the annual Easter and Christmas programs. One year, she depicted the Christian family in Tyler Perry's *Madea* style, which was undoubtedly an audience favorite. More recently, Anita was nominated as the Choir Director of the Year at the Gulf Coast Gospel Music Awards. Whether she is serving my constituents, or ministering to her community, Anita pours her heart into each of her endeavors.

In a few words, Anita is faith-filled, compassionate, vibrant, and a true expert in her field. I could not ask for a better representative among my staff. To close, I would like to share one of Anita's favorite bible verses, Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose". Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Ms. Anita Bourn for thirty exceptional years.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN MANHEIMER,
RETIRING POLICE CHIEF OF SAN
MATEO

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, local law enforcement often establishes a link with children through use of a costumed character known as "McGruff the Crime Dog." Universally trusted, McGruff makes police and their awesome

duties accessible. However, in the City of San Mateo, McGruff is outmatched in popularity by Police Chief Susan Manheimer. Once you know Chief Manheimer, it's easy to see why many in a room give her a hug and ignore the dog.

She is a Chief who is tough but kind, patient with the just but impatient with the dishonorable, quick to draw a line in the sand when public safety necessitates it but equally quick to reach out to troubled youths or adults when the security of the community and human dignity require it. Many parents with troubled teens have come to know Susan under difficult circumstances. Most would tell you her influence was akin to a heavenly blessing wrapped in a dark blue uniform with a badge.

Chief Manheimer is now retiring. From all who know her, it is likely that one tear will be shed in joy because she earned family and recreation time and they are happy about her future. Another will be shed because the wisdom she exhibited must now be found amongst the rest of us. We wonder if we are equal to the task.

Her mantra is "community policing." The gift of her service is that she stressed both words equally. She first exhibited this talent as an officer in one of San Francisco's most challenging neighborhoods, the Tenderloin. She spearheaded a Safety Ambassador Program, a community improvement district, homeless outreach teams, and juvenile diversion and referral practices. Her résumé notes that she served with the SFPD decoy unit, as well as in violent-crime suppression and gang suppression. As her star rose within the department, it was obvious that the community trusted Susan Manheimer.

In 2000, she was welcomed as the first woman to serve as the San Mateo Police Chief. Under her leadership, and with the strong support of the outstanding men and women of the San Mateo Police Department, the community, city management, and her city council, the department received awards for the improved quality of life in San Mateo.

She built her department's practices based upon evidence about sustainable solutions that strike at the root of neighborhood safety and quality of life. Her department emphasizes building legitimacy, trust and engagement between the police and the community.

This is best exhibited by remarks of one of the past officers who managed the Police Activities League. When that officer would see a group of boisterous teens on a street corner, she could often recognize each of them and would wave. They were her team members, not a youth gang. Chief Manheimer, joined by an outstanding staff, built that close relationship with the community. In addition to youth sports, she also started homeless outreach teams and sought increased resources for the homeless. Crime was suppressed by working with neighborhood leaders. Youth crime plummeted in part because sports substituted for mischief.

Chief Manheimer's regional, state, national, and international professional accomplishments are too numerous to mention in full. These include serving on the Juvenile Justice Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, serving as the first woman President of the California Police Chief's Association and the San Mateo County Chief's and Sheriff's Association, and serving on the Board of Directors of the Peninsula Conflict

Resolution Center. She holds a Bachelor's in Business Management from Saint Mary's College in Moraga and a Master's in Educational Leadership from San Diego State University.

It's been a privilege to call Susan Manheimer a friend. She can be riotously funny and is always the spark in the room of any gathering. When she shows up in uniform, her shoes are polished to Marine Corps standards. Her son, Jesse, is a Captain in the Corps. Ever competitive, Mom won't be outdone. Her daughter, Sarah, is an accomplished attorney. Susan is also the grandmother of Jackson, Lucas and Karina.

Madam Speaker, we were fortunate Police Chief Susan Manheimer has led the City of San Mateo with us. McGruff will someday come back in his uniform. Susan will walk amongst us in civilian attire. That's ok. In our childhood imaginations we adored McGruff. In the adult world, we will always love our favorite top cop. Happy retirement Police Chief Susan Manheimer.

CELEBRATING THE NAVAL SERVICE OF EDWIN EARL THOMPSON

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank a great sailor, Chief Edwin "Easy" Thompson, United States Navy (Retired), for thirty years of service as an Engineman Chief Master Diver (Frogman) in the United States Navy.

After enlisting in the Navy in 1944, Thompson served on the hospital ship USS *Haven* (AH-12) and evacuated wounded from the Marshall Islands, Guam, and other South Pacific Islands. During World War II, Mr. Thompson also served aboard a destroyer minesweeper in the Straits of Alaska. Thompson served on many ships during his career, but one of his greatest highlights was serving as a Marine Honor Guard when the Battleship *Texas* (BB-35) was turned over to the state of Texas in 1948.

From 1948 to 1952, Edwin Thompson was stationed on the Battleship *Missouri* (BB-63). On the *Missouri*, he participated in the battles of Inchon and Hungnam during the Korean War. Mr. Thompson has also pointed out that he was on the USS *Missouri* both times she ran aground.

In the 1950s, Easy joined the Underwater Demolition Team Two, Unit 22 and served alongside his friend, Michael Murphy who was killed in Vietnam during an underwater explosion. Michael Murphy's grandson, Navy SEAL Lt. Michael P. Murphy, posthumously received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during SEAL Team One's Operation Red Wings in Afghanistan.

On January 17, 1966, a U.S. Air Force B-52 bomber armed with hydrogen bombs collided mid-air with a tanker while refueling over the Mediterranean Sea near Palomares, Spain. One hundred tons of flaming wreckage was spread over 15 square miles with one of the bombs tumbling into the sea. Thankfully, the three other bombs hit the ground and did not explode.

The Chief of Naval Operations created Task Force 65 consisting of 34 ships, 2,200 sailors,