

that door remained open and welcoming for every generation that followed. In my mind, his legacy is not just that he was the first, it is that he ensured he would not be the last.

I am grateful to have known Judge Daniel and ask that my colleagues join me in sending condolences to the family of this pioneer of our legal system and inspiration to our entire nation.

IN HONOR OF THE VA ANN ARBOR
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM FOR
THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System for their critical work providing medical services to our nation's veterans. Their continued excellence in patient-centered healthcare is worthy of commendation.

Since its foundation in 1953, the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System has provided essential healthcare services to veterans throughout Michigan and northwestern Ohio. The main campus operates as a referral center for complex specialty care and boasts state-of-the-art facilities and several satellite outpatient clinics. Beyond the medical care it offers, VAAAHS is a major research center, participating in over 400 active studies in basic science, health services, and rehabilitation.

The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System stands as a role model in providing exemplary healthcare to our nation's veterans. Their work has had a profound impact on Michigan and Ohio by ensuring access to preventive and active treatment. We thank VAAAHS and its staff for their continued dedication to providing high-quality medical services to veterans, supporting clinical research, and promoting education on public health programs. We also congratulate the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System as they begin construction of a new veteran welcome center. Once finished, this new structure will expand the available capacity of the medical center and expedite critical care for its visitors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System for their exemplary work in healthcare access, education, and research. Their efforts have been instrumental in ensuring care for the brave servicemen and women that protect our country.

CELEBRATING THE 100 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY OF UCLA

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. McCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the University of California, Los Angeles, which has distinguished itself as one of the finest institutions of higher learning in the State of California and across the country.

In the past 100 years, 14 Nobel Prize winners, 13 MacArthur Fellows, 9 National Medal

of Science winners, 3 Pulitzer Prize winners, 1 Field Medalist, 2 Turing Award winners, and 38 Academy Award winners have called UCLA home. Every year, UCLA receives more applications for admission than any other university. It is for these reasons and more that UCLA was ranked this year as the number one public university in the country by U.S. News and World Report.

The influence of UCLA and its impact on California is wide-reaching and expansive. Even in my district, two hours away from Westwood, thousands of constituents call UCLA their alma mater. UCLA's influence in my district cannot be overstated. For many students who are unfamiliar with the challenges of applying for college, UCLA provides mentorship and a tangible path to higher education, actively organizing workshops and school visits to guide them. UCLA does not limit itself to just educating the next generation of leaders; it has tracked groundwater loss in my district and throughout the Central Valley, demonstrating the need to expand our current water storage and infrastructure. As many people know, UCLA's Ronald Reagan Medical Center provides world-class care for countless individuals, but it also directs clinical trials back home in my district—ensuring that the residents of the 23rd District receive cutting-edge treatment and care. On behalf of California's 23rd District, I am proud to congratulate UCLA on 100 years of great accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE,
LEGACY, AND SERVICE OF MAS-
TER SERGEANT DONALD
CHARLES BETTINE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, legacy, and service of Master Sergeant Donald Charles Bettine.

MSG Bettine passed away on Monday, April 29, 2019 at the age of 89. He was born in Green Bay on August 12, 1929 to Charles and Elva Bettine.

After graduating from Central Catholic High School in 1947, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Upon completion of basic training, MSG Bettine went to Japan where he was an instructor in the Eight Army Ordnance School. After a brief return to the U.S., he was deployed to Korea to serve in the Korean War. As a part of the 3rd Infantry, he participated in the evacuation of Hungnam in 1950. MSG Bettine charged enemy snipers in a frontal attack, allowing his platoon to advance forward. For this display of bravery, he earned his Bronze Star with the "V" for Valor. Dubbed the "Christmas Miracle," the incredible evacuation resulted in the rescue of nearly 200,000 troops and civilian refugees.

After his service in the Korean War, MSG Bettine was stationed near Moscow, Idaho where he met the love of his life, Evelyn Sumner. They were married on December 19, 1953, and shortly after relocated to Germany, where he was stationed for 4 years. Following his time in Germany, he was stationed in several places across the U.S., and was later sent to Korea for a second time where he was stationed in Seoul. During his time in Seoul,

MSG Bettine became heavily involved in one of the local orphanages, dedicating his time to the children there. Upon his return to the states, MSG Bettine was assigned to Fort McCoy. He retired from active duty in 1968.

Following his retirement from active duty, MSG Bettine continued his service to others as the JrROTC instructor at Premonstre High School in Green Bay, WI where he taught for over 20 years. Affectionately known as "Sarge," MSG Bettine strived to instill the values and lessons he learned during his time in the military to his students. MSG Bettine took an active interest in his students' futures, and often followed their careers through the Armed Forces. It was not unusual for him and his students to stay in touch years after their graduation.

MSG Bettine joined the Knights of Columbus in his late 20s, and he was ultimately honored for over 60 years of service. In line with his character and values, he joined the Knights of Columbus to serve his community beyond his service in the military. He was a Fourth Degree Knight and served as District Deputy, Programs Coordinator, and District Marshall.

Words cannot justly thank MSG Bettine for his many years of service to our country. My sincerest condolences go to his family.

BIRTHDAY OF DR. IRENE HUSTON

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of a long-time community leader, Dr. Irene Huston.

In her early years, Irene and her family moved from Mississippi to the Bay Area in the "Second Great Migration" to escape racist labor and housing practices. Irene attended Contra Costa College before earning a Bachelor's Degree from International Seminary in Plymouth, Florida. Today, Dr. Huston holds graduate degrees from Phoenix University, Antioch Christian University, and Elbon-Solutions College of Ministry, as well as an honorary degree from the National Theological Seminary of the Commonwealth University.

Although her interests and successes cast a wide net—she has served as a lecturer at San Jose State University, opened her own clothing boutique, and authored several books and a play—her focus has always been the church.

Dr. Huston has been in the ministry for 50 years, and has devoted the majority of this time to supporting women and families. She is internationally ordained and has ministered around the world, including in India, Nigeria, England, and Israel. Additionally, at home in California, she worked with the West Contra Costa Unified School District's adult education program.

Irene has founded a number of faith-based service organizations, including Irene's Women's Faith Foundation, and she continues her efforts today to motivate and empower young women and serve her community.

Please join me in wishing Dr. Irene Huston a happy 81st birthday, and in thanking her for a life of service and dedication.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JEFFREY McDONALD OF CARMEL, INDIANA

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Jeffrey McDonald, an enterprising entrepreneur, youth mentor, and community leader. Born in Woodland, California on April 5, 1967, to Alan and Mary McDonald, Jeffrey would come to Indiana and graduate from Indiana University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Business and Marketing. Jeffrey was known throughout his community for his selfless leadership in business and his desire to help those in need of guidance to reach their full potential.

As longtime lauded business leaders in their community, Jeffrey and his wife Shelli McDonald started their e-commerce pet food and treat supply business, Raw Paws Pet Food, in 2014. Their mission in business was not only to provide a profitable living for themselves and their employees, but to create products that better served the health of pets through proper nutrition and diet. Sourcing their products from responsible and ethical farms they have become leaders in their industry.

Beyond his many successes in the business world, Jeffrey's impact was also felt throughout his community through his participation and exemplary leadership in philanthropic organizations. Jeffrey served on the boards of many community groups including The United Way, The Indianapolis Zoo, and The Young Presidents' Organization (YPO). Jeffrey's community engagement allowed him to pursue his passions of animal welfare and the empowerment of women. His remarkable talent for connecting with people ensured that his vital work with these organizations made a lasting impact on Central Indiana, not to be forgotten.

His achievements show us the immense influence one person can have within their community and inspire us to aim higher. Jeffrey had the unique ability to see the best in every one of life's situations. His caring and genuine nature put those around him at ease, and his zest for life was infectious to those in his presence.

On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Jeffrey's wife Shelli, and numerous friends and relatives who mourn his loss.

IN HONOR OF KARL W. MICHLER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special man, Mr. Karl Michler of Lexington, Kentucky. Mr. Michler is part of a special group of heroes that served our nation during World War II. Mr. Michler celebrates his 99th birthday on June 5.

Mr. Michler enlisted in the service at the age of 22. He was a proud member of the United

States Army. He served as a medical corpsman. His assignments took him to locations in the United States, France and Germany. He served for 4 years and was honorably discharged in February of 1946.

Mr. Michler returned home and married Jean Vogt. Following his service in the Army, he took over the family business, Michler's, which was started by his grandfather Carl Michler in 1900. He continued that very successful business for many years. His son, John, and later his grandson, Robin, kept the business growing and thriving.

Mr. Michler and his fellow veterans are true heroes. As members of the "Greatest Generation", they willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am humbled to honor the service of Mr. Karl W. Michler and to celebrate his upcoming 99th birthday before the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN'S LEGACY IN FIRE PREVENTION, FIRE SAFETY, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, between May 5 and 7 of this year, national leaders representing every facet of the fire service gathered together in Key West, Florida for three days of discussions on the future of fire prevention, public education, and fire service challenges in general. They attended the event at the invitation of the Harry S. Truman Foundation. Each year, the Truman Foundation conducts an annual symposium at the Truman Little White House to reflect on the legacy of our nation's 33rd President. The theme of the 2019 symposium was, "Truman's Legacy Towards Fire Prevention, Fire Safety, and Historic Preservation." In 1947, President Truman convened a conference on fire prevention following a series of devastating fires that captured the attention of the nation. Hundreds of representatives from government, business, non-government organizations, and the fire service attended the Washington conference. In his remarks to the attendees, Truman stated, "Safety from fire should not be a topic for discussion during only one or two weeks of the year. It is definitely a year-round public responsibility." Seventy-two years later, President Truman's words inspired the assembly of prominent fire service leaders to meet in Key West.

The Truman Foundation asked the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to serve as a co-facilitator of the recent program. By every account, both organizations did an exemplary job in conducting the event. Presentations by notable fire service leaders addressed a broad range of issues that span the important work in fire prevention. For example, on the third day, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation conducted a forum to identify key areas for advancing fire prevention in our nation. Watching the recent success in Florida, I remain so impressed by the ability of the national fire organizations to work together to address the needs of firefighters and public safe-

ty. This ability is something I have witnessed throughout my years as a co-Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus.

Seventy-two years have passed since the 1947 conference, and during that time, the number of victims dying in fires has decreased to approximately 3,000 each year. This isn't a coincidence. But the fire service leaders assembled in Key West this month didn't see this as an achievement; instead, they recognized that more work needs to be done.

The strength of our nation has always been the indomitable spirit of our citizens. The fire service personifies that spirit. I commend the Harry S. Truman Foundation and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundations for bringing together our nation's leading fire officials. And I pledge my continued support for the more than one million firefighters across the nation who are prepared to respond to the next call for help and to the family members who lose loved ones in the line of duty. God bless all of them.

HONORING JOANN GAMA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor JoAnn Gama, an educator, innovator, and leader.

JoAnn Gama was born and raised on the north side of Houston, Texas. In 1997, she joined Teach For America, committing two years to teaching in public schools in underserved communities. After moving to the Rio Grande Valley, JoAnn enrolled at the University of Texas-Pan American, now known as the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and earned her master's degree in Educational Leadership.

In 1998, JoAnn co-founded the IDEA Academy within the Donna Independent School District with fellow Teach For America corps member, Tom Torkelson. After one year as a "school within a school," JoAnn and Tom applied for a state charter. Nearly 20 years ago, in August of 2000, they opened the IDEA Academy Charter School with 150 students, grades 4 through 8.

JoAnn is the co-founder and chief of schools, and led many efforts to replicate the original school. Currently, IDEA Public Schools educate nearly 45,000 students in 79 schools across five regions—the Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, Austin, El Paso and Southern Louisiana. In 2017, U.S. News & World Report ranked IDEA Donna, IDEA Quest, and IDEA Frontier in the top 1 percent of all public high schools in the United States and the top 40 best public charter schools in the nation.

Madam Speaker, JoAnn Gama has worked tirelessly to give countless students the tools they need to succeed. She is a pillar of our community and an example to us all. It is an honor to represent a selfless, committed individual like her who has forever changed and strengthened the foundation of education in South Texas. I wish JoAnn, her husband Juan, and her children Gaeland and Jimena the best in their future endeavors.