

Day and honor Staff Sergeant Arnold Raymond “Ray” Lambert, a World War II veteran and Moore County constituent.

There are American heroes, and then there are American giants. Ray—along with other men and women of the Greatest Generation—is a giant. At 98-years-old, he is one of the few surviving warriors who stormed the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Seventy-five years ago, 160,000 Allied troops landed along a heavily fortified French coastline and established a foot-hold in Nazi-occupied France—though that one sentence hardly does the invasion any justice. D-Day was a major turning point in WWII and the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany.

Ray served as a medic in the 16th Infantry Regiment of the army’s storied First Division, the “Big Red One.” Facing intense fire from German forces, his medical unit landed with the first assault wave at Omaha Beach. Soldiers were killed and wounded all around him, and Ray pressed on—rescuing troops from drowning, attending to countless wounds, hauling soldiers to safety, and always serving his fellow men in uniform. He was wounded and in immense pain himself, but he persevered after giving himself a shot of morphine. That’s incredible and selfless service at its finest.

Ray sacrificed on that beach. He saved countless men on that beach. And he never once gave up. After breaking his back and losing consciousness, he was picked up and evacuated by a landing craft. On that same landing craft was another heroic medic who was wounded—his brother, Bill. They were taken to safety in England and began the long journey back home and to recovery.

Before Normandy, Ray served in North Africa with the Big Red One and earned his first Silver Star for rescuing wounded soldiers under fire in 1943. He continued to risk his life to save his fellow men in uniform, next in Sicily. A Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Silver Star recipient, Ray continues to serve our country and our community and he recently published a memoir titled “Every Man a Hero.”

I admire Ray not only for his service, but also for his desire to memorialize his fallen comrades and his efforts to pass on the great values of his generation. As he said recently, “Perhaps they should teach a little more in schools about World War II and how the generation at that time, my generation, loved the country and respected the flag and was willing to fight for our families and our country.” I agree and believe every generation owes an enormous debt to Ray and the Greatest Generation.

I applaud Ray for his tremendous service, and I thank him for his courageous and selfless actions. I am so proud to represent him in Congress, and I wish him and his wife Barbara and their family all the best.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Staff Sergeant Ray Lambert and his service to our country.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF TOM JOYNER ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and recognize Tom

Joyner, of the Tom Joyner Morning Show, who is an iconic DJ and radio legend, and plans on retiring at the end of this year.

Tom has entertained and inspired millions of people throughout his career. He is a brilliant individual and a hard worker, earning the nickname “The Fly Jock” by flying between a morning show in Dallas, Texas and an afternoon show in Chicago, Illinois earlier in his career. In 1994, The Tom Joyner Morning Show was syndicated, and it has aired on the WTLC airwaves in the Indianapolis community for more than 25 years. Tom is also the founder of The Tom Joyner Foundation, Reach Media Inc., and BlackAmericaWeb.com. His tireless work and influence was honored in 1998 when he was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame.

Tom grew up in Alabama, and his father served as a Tuskegee Airman. True to these roots, he has a deep commitment to civil rights, and has used his platform to serve others. He has raised millions of dollars through the Tom Joyner Foundation to provide scholarships, endowments, and capacity building enhancements for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their students. Tom has also been a champion for voting rights. He has tirelessly promoted voter engagement—inspiring listeners not only to register to vote but to be better informed about the issues and the candidates. His efforts are credited for helping to turn out a record number of voters in the African American community during the historic 2008 election.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Tom Joyner a happy retirement. His work has informed and inspired countless individuals in our community, and he leaves a legacy of service to be followed for all Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE, DEDICATION, AND SACRIFICE OF SERGEANT CHEEXENG LEE

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to welcome home Sergeant Cheexeng Lee from his service in the United States Marine Corps.

Sgt Lee enlisted into the Marine Corps in May 2009. Upon graduating from Appleton West High School in June 2010, he went to boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Pvt Lee was stationed at Camp Pendleton north of San Diego, and after additional training, checked into his first unit, 3rd Battalion 1st Marines. He was reassigned from his original role as Rifleman to Machine Gunner under Weapons Platoon, India Company 3/1. He later deployed with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit from November 2011 to June 2012.

While on the MEU, Lance Corporal Lee served in Malaysia, Singapore, Djibouti, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and Hong Kong. After this deployment, he attended Advanced Machine Gunners Course and was selected to join 3/1’s elite Scout Sniper Platoon. From October 2013 to April 2014, he deployed to Okinawa, Japan. He was then stationed in Thailand to participate in Operation Cobra Gold, a major multinational military exercise.

After completing his second deployment, Corporal Lee attended Scout Sniper Course

(SSC), completing the grueling course in April 2015. Afterwards, he deployed with the 15th MEU from May 2015 to December 2015, where he served in Hong Kong, Bahrain, Dubai, and Kuwait.

After his third deployment, he was transferred to Division School Pre-Scout Sniper Course at Camp Pendleton from March 2016 to June 2018. During that time, he trained hundreds of Marines from various units to better prepare them for SSC. Sgt Lee also trained Japanese Snipers from the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF). He travelled to Washington, D.C. to provide subject matter expertise as the Marine Corps tested a new sniper rifle, a model that is now currently in use by Marine Snipers deployed around the world.

Words cannot adequately thank Sgt Lee for his years of service to our country. May his service, dedication, and sacrifice be remembered by a grateful nation. It is truly an honor to welcome him home.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID “GINO” GASPARINI

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Gino Gasparini of Redwood City upon his retirement after 47 years in the recycling and solid waste industry. His career is an example of how private enterprise and public service can merge to create great benefits for the entire community.

Gino is the son of a man rooted in the solid waste industry. His father, Gino Sr., worked on a truck. Gino Jr.’s fondest memory was of hanging off the back of a garbage truck and of making tags with his father. Fifty years ago, garbage bills were collected door-to-door and the tags were used in those collections.

He graduated from high school having started a proud tradition at San Carlos High—the “Nude Relays”—an event that remained for years after he graduated. His reputation, however, was districtwide. At another high school in the district his sister, Dani, had to endure the ever-present question from teachers, “Are you related to Gino Gasparini?” His sister, wisely, conceded the relationship and noted that she was, indeed, Gino Sr.’s daughter.

Gino attended community college for two years and then entered the solid waste business. From 1972 to 1988, he collected garbage along residential and business routes from Burlingame to East Palo Alto. He began his career in management in 1995 as the manager in charge of day-to-day operations of drivers and supervisory staff. He was a great manager, often getting into the cab of a truck to stay in touch with the challenges faced by front-line employees.

Solid waste management on the San Francisco Peninsula has long been an advanced form of industrial processing. When I served on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in the 1980’s, I organized the first household hazardous waste pickup day. We invited residents to drop off pesticides and chemicals at the waste transfer station. A chemist working for the county glanced into the back of a station wagon and immediately

ordered that all persons in the vicinity pull back 100 feet. The vehicle owner had placed two potentially explosive chemicals next to each other. Today, the operations of Recology and its partner agencies manage a waste stream that potentially includes waste oil, e-waste, light bulbs of various types, household batteries, paint, construction debris, and such relatively benign products as cardboard, paper, glass and metals.

Gino Gasparini was at the forefront of these recycling efforts. Just a few years after my well-intentioned event resulted in a small-scale evacuation, Gino initiated voluntary recycling at the curbside. In 1989, Gino's effort was the largest multi-jurisdictional residential recycling program in the nation. Today, that effort is mandatory, involves three large containers, and diverts millions of tons of household and commercial waste to the recycling stream. This enterprise requires a knowledge of chemistry to avoid explosions and fires, and "adherence to strict standards to avoid cross-contamination of materials.

Gino participates regularly at city council meetings, community meetings, and in leadership positions at the Chamber of Commerce. He is often at charitable fundraisers. From the police athletic leagues to "walk for life" events to environmental cleanups. Recology and Gino Gasparini are both inseparable and unavoidable. They really care about the community.

Gino was honored as the Redwood City/San Mateo County Chamber Person of the Year in 1996, the Redwood City PAL Citizen of the Year in 2006 and received numerous other awards over several decades. For over 20 years, Gino helped with the annual Redwood City creek and neighborhood cleanup.

As he enters retirement, Gino will not be alone. He will be joined by his wife, Jenny, and he will be able to watch his four children more closely: Adrianna, Daniel, Michael, and Nicholas. One child is a teacher and the other followed in the family tradition by entering the solid waste industry.

Let me close by saying that to know Gino Gasparini is to know a smile set amidst a whirling dervish of activity. He can be relied upon to think of his family and neighbors first. He can be relied upon to use fairness to infuse his judgment. He can be relied upon to think of new ways to accomplish longstanding objectives. He can be relied upon for a straight answer to any question. In short, Gino Gasparini is the man that everyone wants to call when there is a problem, but he is also the man everyone readily agrees to recognize when tough jobs get done well.

I salute Gino upon his retirement. Civic forums will be different without him. Our streets will be cleaner because of him. Our environment will benefit for years to come because of the standards of performance that he created. Good luck (Buona fortuna), Gino.

RECOGNIZING VICKI MASSIE OF  
BILLINGS

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Vicki Massie of Billings for developing a program to provide computers to

students and organizations that need them, and for recently setting up two needed computer labs in a rural Montana school.

Vicki is the executive director of St. Vincent de Paul in Billings, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing personalized service to those in need. Four years ago, as the volunteer coordinator, she developed Project R.E.B.O.O.T., or "Refurbished Electronics Bringing Out Opportunities Together." Project REBOOT refurbishes donated computers and distributes them to schools, students, and organizations in need. Since its inception, Project REBOOT has given nearly 100 computers to Montana students.

This spring, Vicki's project helped fill a tremendous need for students of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal School. Elementary and high school students at the small, rural school shared one computer lab. Students faced another challenge: the high school curriculum required supplemental work online, and there were only nine laptops for 78 high school students.

I one day, that changed.

Through Project REBOOT, Vicki brought 50 computers to the Northern Cheyenne Tribal School. Vicki and her two sons, who work in information technology at a nearby school district, set up two new computer labs for students at the school.

With greater resources and access to technology, the students of Northern Cheyenne Tribal School, and all students Vicki has helped through Project REBOOT, can improve their skills and further open the doors of opportunity, be it in higher education or in the workforce.

Madam Speaker, for her vision and dedication to expanding access to technology for Montana students, I recognize Vicki Massie for her spirit of Montana.

HONORING THE LIFE OF W.T.  
JOHNSTON

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Newton Championship Coach, community leader, teacher, preacher, husband, father, grandfather, and father figure W.T. Johnston, who went home to be with the Lord on May 11, 2019, at the age of 54.

William T. (W.T.) Johnston was born on March 28, 1965 in Poteau, OK. He attended Henderson State University in Arkansas where he played for the Reddies as a defensive end from 1986–1988. His distinctions on and off the field were noticed, and in 2019 he was awarded with the Sporty Carpenter Award, which is given in honor of Henderson State's legendary head football coach.

He moved to Newton in the early 1990's where he coached and taught. For the last eight years, he was an outstanding head coach for the Newton Eagles football team, where he successfully led the Eagles to a 97–15 record. Even later in his career, battling Graft-versus-host disease, W.T. coached the Newton Eagles to a victory win as Texas State Champions in both 2017 and 2018.

W.T. married the love of his life Debra Short on August 3, 1985 and together they raised

their two sons, Drew and Shaw. He had two grandchildren, Jax and Reece. On April 22, 2019 Newton ISD announced that Drew would be taking his father's position as head coach.

William T. Johnston not only instilled the message of God in his students and athletes, but also inspired millions around the country with his courageous message of never giving up and hope. He has truly left a legacy, and will be remembered for generations to come. The Johnston Family will continue to be in my prayers.

IN HONOR OF STEVE AND BECKY  
RIGGLE

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2019*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Steve and Becky Riggle's 50th wedding anniversary. Together, this couple has been a blessing to the Houston area. I am proud to call them my friends and recognize this significant milestone in their lives.

Now a seasoned pastor, Steve first became a licensed minister in 1969. Steve and Becky later joined Grace International Churches and Ministries, eventually starting a church in Livermore, California. For almost a decade they proudly served their church and grew the ministry into the largest Protestant church in the city—a truly incredible accomplishment.

After years of teaching others about God's mercy, Steve and Becky experienced it first hand. While ministering at a remote prison in the Philippines in 1978, they were attacked and held hostage by four prisoners. The situation escalated when Steve was stabbed seven times and Becky was shot and stabbed multiple times along her arms. Miraculously, through God's grace, the couple was able to leave the hospital and head back to California in just 18 days after the near fatal assault. Becky subsequently had five major surgeries, spent nine months in a body cast, and nine more learning how to walk again. As harrowing as this event was, Steve and Becky held steadfast in their faith, and have since praised God for his mercy for helping them survive and continue to serve.

Fortunately, for our community, the Riggle family made their way to the Lone Star State in 1983, where they started the Grace Community Church in Houston, Texas. After many years of growth, Grace Community Church now has four thriving campuses and is the church home to over 17,000 devoted individuals.

Steve currently holds the title of Founding Pastor at Grace, and serves as the Senior Pastor at the Grace Woodland's campus. Steve's service to our community does not stop at the pulpit. He also sits on the executive team of the Houston Area's Pastor Council, is a Board member of The King's University, and currently serves as the President of Grace International—a group of 3,500 churches with ministries in over 100 nations. Becky is also incredibly active in our community, and leads a local women's ministry and bible study. A gifted motivational speaker, she speaks at a variety of conferences for women, both across the country and internationally.