

CONGRATULATING PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT CHIEF KEVIN MCGEE ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize an individual who has made an incredible mark on our community. This year marks the retirement of Chief Kevin McGee from the Prince William County Fire and Rescue Department. This will conclude an almost 40-year career for Chief McGee, all with the Prince William County Fire and Rescue Department.

Chief McGee joined the Fire and Rescue Academy in 1979 and rose through the ranks, becoming Battalion Chief in 1991, Assistant Chief in 1998 and was appointed Chief of the Fire and Rescue Department in 2007. Chief McGee also holds the distinction of having served at every rank of the Fire Department, enlisted and officer, on his way to serving as Chief. His tenure as Chief saw significant benefits for Prince William County including the reduction of false fire alarms by 82%. Chief McGee also led a review of Prince William County's emergency operations plans in order to adapt them to better respond to the threat posed by terrorism. He helped to modernize the department with the introduction of Geographic Information Systems, a computer-aided dispatch system, the Public Safety Radio Communications System and the E-9-1-1 and fire and rescue mobile data systems. All of these improvements helped the Fire and Rescue Department better serve the residents of Prince William County.

Chief McGee's efforts have been recognized by numerous entities and his leadership has led to the Department receiving several awards and citations, including the Governor's Award for Outstanding EMS Agency in 2003 and the 2019 Northern Virginia EMS Council's EMS Agency Award.

I was first elected to Congress shortly after Chief McGee was appointed Chief of the Fire and Rescue Department. I had worked with him previously during my time as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on various regional boards and commissions. The partnership that we had built during my time in local government continued in Congress.

I was fortunate to do several ride-alongs and facility tours with the Chief and saw firsthand his dedication to the men and women who served with him and to the residents of Prince William County. One case in particular will always stand out. Chief McGee and I worked together to get federal benefits restored to a Prince William County first responder who fell in the line of duty. The Justice Department had originally denied the claim, but working with Chief McGee we were able to get that decision reversed and make whole in one small way the family members of that first responder.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Kevin McGee on his almost four decades of service to Prince William County and to Northern Virginia. Though he may be retiring, I suspect that he will continue to remain engaged on the causes that are close to his heart and he will never be

far from a fire station in Prince William County. I wish him all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH

HON. ANTONIO DELGADO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. DELGADO. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.

At its core, Juneteenth is a bittersweet celebration of deferred liberation.

While the Civil War ended at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, it took more than two months for word of General Robert E. Lee's surrender to reach Texas. When General Gordon Granger, stationed in Galveston, heard the news on June 19th, he issued a proclamation that announced the freedom of 250,000 slaves in the state. By that time, more than two and a half years had passed since the Emancipation Proclamation took effect on January 1, 1863.

Speaking at Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln had prophesized that the Civil War would bring a new birth of freedom to America. However, for the quarter of a million slaves in Texas that freedom would come much later. And for millions of black Americans, the end of slavery meant new forms of oppressive labor practices, racial violence, police brutality, and the Jim Crow era.

While there have been tremendous strides for racial equality in the last 70 years including Brown v. Board of Education, the Civil Rights Act, affirmative action, and the election of our first black president, we know that we have a long way to go. We must continue to uphold our enduring commitment to equality and strive for a more just society for people of all creeds and colors.

On Juneteenth, we remember the untold millions who suffered the horrors of slavery and celebrate the liberation of a people. We do so while keeping our eyes toward tomorrow, knowing that our best days as a nation are still ahead of us.

IN HONOR OF U.S. ARMY COLONEL WILLIAM HENRY SHAW, III

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of U.S. Army Colonel William Henry Shaw, III. Colonel Shaw was born on May 16, 1962, in Vidalia, Ga., the eldest son of William Henry Shaw, Jr. and Nancy Peterson Shaw. Having received a Distinguished Military Award while attending North Georgia College, Colonel Shaw joined the Army in 1984 as a 2nd lieutenant in the infantry and reported to Fort Benning Georgia. As an Infantry Officer he served in both a Mechanized Infantry Battalion and as the Commander of an Airborne Pathfinder Detachment. After leaving Ft. Benning he transferred to Special Forces. Colonel Shaw retired after serving for 30 years with 25 years in the Special Forces.

Some of his assignments included assistant to the commandant at his alma mater; professor of military science at Auburn University where he earned a master's degree; missions to establish refugee camps for our Kurdish allies in the Gulf War; commander of Charlie Co. Europe based in Stuttgart, Germany; commander of SF forces in Djibouti, Horn of Africa; Battalion Commander / Deputy Commander of Combined Forces Special Operations Command (Afghanistan); and the Commander of Afghanistan National Army Special Operations Advisor Group. His last assignment was in Stuttgart as liaison between U.S. special operations and our European embassies.

During his distinguished military career, Colonel Shaw received the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, six Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, two Joint Service Achievement Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, the Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Freefall Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Canadian, Israeli, British Airborne Badges, and Ranger and Special Forces tabs.

Colonel Shaw was a Ranger, Pathfinder, and Green Beret who loved skydiving. Nothing was ever more important to Billy than his beloved family connections as well as his countless friendships. He had the unique ability to connect with people from all walks of life and to keep those friendships strong throughout the years. Billy was a Christian, a Rotarian, N.G.C. girls' basketball trainer, an avid hunter and sportsman, a trustee of the Ligon Foundation, and an avid supporter of many veterans' organizations. He will be remembered for making a difference in this world.

IN HONOR OF TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY'S CELEBRATION OF TEXAS' CENTENNIAL RATIFICATION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Texas Woman's University centennial celebration marking Texas' ratification of the 19th Amendment.

On June 28, 1919, Texas became the ninth state in the nation to ratify the 19th Amendment, which granted women the constitutional right to vote. First introduced in the U.S. Congress in 1878, the 19th Amendment prohibits the restriction of voting rights based on gender. Texas was the first state in the south to ratify the amendment, which was adopted nationally in 1920.

From its inception, Texas Woman's University (TWU) has sought to educate women from Texas and across the country. The university opened in Denton, Texas in 1902 as an all-girls school, and was primarily attended by young women from rural areas seeking vocational training. For more than a century, TWU has led significant advances in education, pioneering multiple academic programs for women entering the workforce. In 1994, TWU became fully co-educational, yet continues to focus on women's education.

Historically, TWU has been long connected to the women's suffrage movement in Texas.

Mary Eleanor Brackenridge served as an early regent for the College of Industrial Arts, now known as TWU. A pioneer for women's rights, Ms. Brackenridge helped form the Texas Women's Suffrage Association in 1913 and served as its president. Additionally, Eliza "Birdie" Johnson and Hellen Stoddard, both members of the Texas Women's Suffrage Association, were instrumental leaders in the women's suffrage movement who played significant roles in the founding and governing of TWU.

In honor of this shared history, today TWU will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Texas' ratification of the 19th Amendment and the role TWU played in the women's suffrage movement. As we mark this milestone, I am grateful to the leaders of TWU—past and present—who have made indelible contributions to the North Texas community.

IN HONOR OF ABBY DOLLIVER ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Norwich Superintendent of Public Schools, Abby Dolliver, on a career in education spanning 33 years, including 25 in the city of Norwich. Her history of passionate leadership is rooted in a lifelong dedication to public service and has positively impacted the lives of countless students, faculty, and administrators.

Her commitment to Norwich Public Schools began in 1986 as a social worker. Abby assumed the role of Director of Student Services and Special Education in 2007 before her appointment to the position of superintendent in 2010. Her tenure has been marked by an enthusiasm for inspiring leadership in others and utilizing the unique qualities of those she oversees. As superintendent, Abby is proud of developing internal committee structures to encourage a greater sense of engagement among faculty. She regards helping to create a strong team and surrounding herself with talented, experienced members of the school community as her greatest accomplishment. Though major challenges included tighter budgets, the closing of three elementary schools, and the restructuring of the city's middle schools, Abby maintained an unwavering devotion to the needs of her students. In the midst of that turmoil she actually implemented innovative, successful magnet programs using state and federal resources to keep Norwich public education healthy and high quality.

Abby's background as both a social worker and lifelong resident of Norwich has enabled her to better understand the diverse perspectives of more than 3,500 students who speak over 25 different languages. Her legendary father, Stanley Israelite, instilled in her a devotion to public service that was focused on the best interests of Norwich's children. Abby describes the Norwich school district as "student-driven with kindness as the focus." The city of Norwich has benefited greatly from this history of dedication, and I am confident Abby will find new ways to serve the community for

years to come. I ask my colleagues to please join me in wishing her a happy retirement.

REINTRODUCING THE SERVICES
FOR ENDING LONG-TERM HOME-
LESSNESS ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Services for Ending Long-Term Homelessness Act, legislation that will help our nation address the long-term homelessness crisis.

Since the first Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness was launched in 2010, rates of homelessness among veterans, families, and chronically homeless individuals have fallen significantly. Our country has successfully taken thousands of individuals and families off the streets. Unfortunately, last year, the homeless population in the United States increased for the second year in a row since the inception of the Federal Strategic Plan. According to the annual U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Point in Time count, there were about 88,484 chronically homeless individuals and 8,429 people in households with children, for a total of 96,913 chronically homeless.

Allowing men, women, and children to live on the streets is not a standard America should be willing to accept. Unstable housing impacts the lives of millions of Americans every year and addressing this problem forthrightly, as this bill does, will help get chronically homeless individuals and families off the streets. I ask that you join me in prioritizing these efforts to combat long-term homelessness in our country.

Madam Speaker, this important legislation addresses our country's homelessness problem in the following ways:

Requires the Secretary of HHS to design national strategies for the establishment of supportive housing services and programs to assist in ending chronic homelessness and to implement programs that address chronic homelessness.

Requires the Secretary of HHS to make matching grants to eligible entities to provide services promoting recovery and self-sufficiency and augment the HUD-administered McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants.

Requires the Secretary of HHS to report performance outcome data on the projects carried out under the Act.

Madam Speaker, as you know, the most recent data available shows us that more than a quarter of those currently living without permanent shelter are chronically homeless. We must continue to invest in the needs of these vulnerable and marginalized members of society, which will result in healthier, safer, and more productive communities.

I urge my colleagues to join me in working to end homelessness across our nation by supporting this important piece of legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 BLACK AND
GOLD SCHOLARSHIP BALL
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Joyce-Gillespie-Harrington Educational and Charitable Foundation and the Zeta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on the occasion of their 39th annual Black and Gold Scholarship Ball.

The Joyce-Gillespie-Harrington Educational and Charitable Foundation was incorporated in 2001 and was formed to provide financial support to the educational initiatives developed by the Chapter and Fraternity. It increases opportunities for achievement for young African-American men and women through scholarships, mentoring, and charitable services. The Foundation was named in honor of three community leaders and fraternity members, James Burwell Gillespie, Roosevelt Harrington, and Henry Louis Joyce who were dedicated to the ideals of "Scholarship, Community, Service and Love for all Mankind." Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars to local youth to assist them with continuing their education.

The programs offered by the foundation are vital to the success of our students. This year's Black and Gold Scholarship Ball will support scholarships for ten college-bound high school students. During the last nineteen years, one-hundred students have received scholarships awarded by the foundation and have attended some of the top colleges and universities in the country. With the typical college graduate's debt averaging about \$30,000.00, the Foundation's continued support of these students is absolutely critical.

I am pleased to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2019 scholarship winners:

Andrews Boateng—Stone Bridge H.S.; Jacklyn Bostic-Clarke—Broad Run H.S.; Ariana Frazier—TC Williams H.S.; Alexander Harvey—Freedom H.S.; Kevin M. Jackson—Lake Braddock S.S.; Abigail Jegels—Broad Run H.S.; Sydney Jenkins—Briar Woods H.S.; Cameron Miller—Broad Run H.S.; Andrew Otchere—Rock Ridge H.S.; Derrick L. Pough, Jr.—Loudoun County H.S.; Jonathan G. Williams—Tuscarora H.S.

Madam Speaker, these students represent our country's next generation of gifted leaders who will have great impact on our society and future. I thank the Joyce-Gillespie-Harrington Charitable and Education Foundation and the Zeta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for their dedicated commitment to fostering success in our youth and commend all of the scholarship winners for their academic excellence. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these talented students and in wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.