

CONGRATULATING THE QUAD CITIES VET CENTER ON 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Quad Cities Vet Center on 40 years of assisting the veterans of this community. As a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, I'm committed to serving the men and women who've worn our country's uniform—making sure they have the resources they deserve and have earned.

The Quad Cities Vet Center was established in 1979 as a response to the lack of services that veterans received after the Vietnam War. Today, the center provides a wide range of social and psychological services, such as individual, group, marriage and family counseling. I am proud to represent a community that provides such essential services to veterans and their families, and I look forward to the continuation of their program. I join the Quad Cities community to celebrate this milestone and commend them on all of their efforts to improve the lives of those who have served our nation.

It is because of philanthropic services such as this that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Quad Cities Vet Center on their 40th Anniversary and all that they do to enrich our community.

IN HONOR OF MS. SUE SWANN

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Sue Swann's forty years of service to the Essex County Department of Social Security.

Ms. Swann was known as a diligent and determined employee who gave everyone she worked with countless reasons to admire her work ethic. Not only did she dedicate four decades of her life to the Department, but she worked three years in other state offices as well.

At work, she was frequently requested personally by clients for face-to-face meetings to discuss the benefits entitled to them. She did her job with unmatched compassion and care. Over forty years, she decided to stay in her position and reject countless promotions. Had she chosen to move to other localities, she could have been a Benefit Program Specialist 4 or 5, but because of the passion she has for what she did, she remained a Specialist.

Ms. Swann plans to go into retirement now after decades of her tremendous work, and I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the service of this great woman, Ms. Sue Swann, to the people of Virginia's 1st District, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to the entirety of our great nation. May God bless

Sue and her family for her countless hours of labor in service to her country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, due to illness, I was physically absent from the House of Representatives on June 10, 2019. On that day, I missed 3 recorded votes. I include in the RECORD how I would have voted had I been present for those votes.

On Roll Call No. 242 on the Passage of H.R. 542, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call No. 243 on the Passage of H.R. 2539, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call No. 244 on the Passage of H.R. 2590, I would have voted "Yea."

CONGRATULATING RICH AND JUDY BUCHANAN

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rich and Judy Buchanan of Bloomington, Illinois who were among the honorees named as 2019 History Makers by the McLean County Museum of History.

Rich's career in public service started shortly after his marriage to Judy and spanned nearly fifty years. He was first appointed to the Regional Planning Commission in 1971 and shortly after was elected to the Bloomington City Council at the age of 31. He then served as Bloomington's mayor from 1977 to 1985. His final elected position was as a member of the McLean County Board from 2012 to 2017.

Judy was also active in politics at nearly every level: her own husband's campaign for mayor, state legislative races, congressional campaigns, and the campaign of former President George H.W. Bush, introducing him on his campaign stop in McLean County. Although, she is perhaps most well-known for her fierce advocacy on behalf of the Alzheimer's Association. Having lost her own mother to the disease at a young age, she spent countless hours at the Illinois State Capitol bringing awareness to mental health issues and funding for Alzheimer's centers across the state.

I am proud to call the Buchanans friends. They deserve to be recognized and thanked for their decades of leadership and service to their community.

Congratulations to Rich and Judy, on this wonderful accomplishment.

CELEBRATING THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MANISTEE FIRE STATION

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the City of Manistee Fire

Station upon the occasion of its 130th anniversary and designation as the "Oldest Continuously Manned Operating Fire Station" by Guinness World Records. Through its extraordinary history and commitment to the public good, the Manistee Fire Station has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

First constructed in 1889, the Manistee Fire Station has been manned continuously—24 hours a day, 7 days a week—ever since. The hundreds of firefighters that have since served in the station's 130 years fully devoted themselves to protecting the lives and well-being of the residents of Manistee, and the impact of their heroism cannot be understated.

Efforts to receive recognition from Guinness World Records were spearheaded by Fred LaPoint, who first joined the fire department in 1979. The approval process required more than two years of verification and was only possible thanks to the tireless effort of community leaders like Mark Fedder, executive director of the Manistee County Historical Museum. The fire station was finally awarded the title of "Oldest Continuously Manned Operating Fire Station" on its 130th anniversary—the very first time Guinness World Records has ever made this award designation.

Madam Speaker, the celebration of the Manistee Fire Station's 130th anniversary and designation as the oldest continuously manned operating fire station is the perfect opportunity for us to appreciate its unique history, cultural impact, and significance to Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take immense pride in knowing that the First District is home to such an important landmark. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the City of Manistee Fire Station all the best in its future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RUPERT M. BARKOFF

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and work of Rupert M. Barkoff, a leader in Atlanta and the franchise business community.

Rupert M. Barkoff was born May 7, 1948, in New Orleans, Louisiana, to Martha and Samuel Barkoff. He graduated from the Isidore Newman School in New Orleans and later went on to graduate from the University of Michigan Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan Law School.

After graduating from law school, Barkoff moved to Atlanta where he practiced law for 46 years with Kilpatrick Townsend and established himself as a prominent and beloved member of the firm. With his creation of the Fundamentals of Franchising program and book, Barkoff transformed the way in which lawyers new to franchising are introduced to the business model.

Known for his generosity of spirit and knowledge in franchisor and franchisee practices, Barkoff taught a franchise law course at the University of Georgia. He was devoted to his students and took a personal interest in each and every one. He even made a point of meeting with them individually to discuss their interests and mentor them toward their goals.

Barkoff was not only a mentor to his students, but also to so many involved with the franchise bar. Countless lawyers admired his leadership in guiding them through the franchising business model. Those who had the pleasure to work with Barkoff will remember him for his gentleness, intelligence, and great sense of humor.

As an early pioneer of franchise law, Barkoff laid the fabric of franchising in Atlanta. The Southeast Franchise Forum, of which he was a founding member, is a regional organization in Atlanta as part of the International Franchise Association, established to foster professional relationships throughout the franchise community and to enhance the reputation of franchising through the exchange of information, ideas and solutions.

Our home state of Georgia is a thriving franchise hub containing 26,500 establishments, creating 275,800 jobs, and producing \$22.7 billion in economic output. There are 345 franchise companies headquartered in Georgia today, and Barkoff directly contributed to this economic boom in our city by ensuring these well-known brands operated with the highest standards of compliance in franchising.

Rupert will always be remembered by his family, friends, and colleagues as a trusted friend, a great mind, and a devoted family man. His children and his grandchildren, who affectionately called him "Umps," cherished the many Michigan football games they attended together. He is survived by his wife Susan, his two sisters, his three children and their spouses, and his many grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Our condolences go out to Rupert's family and friends.

HONORING THE WORK OF LONNIE G. BUNCH III

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lonnie G. Bunch III in his new position as the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, one of the highest positions in the museum world. He will be the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian, responsible for 19 museums, nine research centers and the National Zoo, together employing 7,000 people with a \$1.5 billion budget annually.

On June 16th, Bunch will begin his tenure as Secretary, leaving his position as the director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). He is the ideal person to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the Smithsonian.

Bunch is owed the lion's share of the credit for the creation of NMAAHC. What started as a broad mandate from Congress, one staff member and no collection, NMAAHC has grown to become one of the great gems in the nation's capital. NMAAHC has had over 4 million visitors since its doors opened in 2016. Bunch's political and fundraising talents brought \$270 million in federal money and \$317 million in private donations for NMAAHC before it opened in 2016.

Bunch began working for the Smithsonian in 1989. He spent 11 years at the National Mu-

seum of American History, where he worked, in part, as the museum's associate director for curatorial affairs. He left to work as the president of the Chicago Historical Society and later as the curator of history and program manager for the California African American Museum.

As a student, he attended American University in Washington, D.C. and received his master's and bachelor's degrees in History. He will be the first historian to be Secretary of the Smithsonian. He is also the first African American to lead the Smithsonian in its 172-year history and the first museum director to be named Secretary in 74 years.

Among Bunch's many accomplishments is writing various books, ranging from the black military experience to the American presidency to diversity in museum management. He has taught at several universities over the years, including American University and George Washington University, and has traveled both domestically and abroad for lectures and presentations.

In 2002, Bunch was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House and re-appointed by President Barack Obama in 2010. In 2005, he was named one of the most influential museum professionals of the 20th century by the American Association of Museums.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lonnie G. Bunch III for his many achievements and in congratulating him on his new role as the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

HONORING AVIS WARNER, LEON SMITH, JOHN PLANTIER AND PATRICE CIANCI FOR THEIR DEDICATED COMMUNITY SERVICE AND FOR BEING AWARDED SENIOR OF THE YEAR

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize four North Country residents for their selfless dedication to their communities. Each of these individuals was awarded the Senior of the Year recognition by their respective Warren and Hamilton County Offices at their annual Office for the Aging Luncheon on June 7, 2019.

Avis Warner of Hamilton County has been a tireless volunteer with the Wells Volunteer Ambulance Corps where she currently serves as its Captain. Additionally, she volunteers with the Wells Senior Club, the Wells Volunteer Fire Company, the Wells Improvement Club, the Wells Fish and Game Club, the Wells Snowmobile Club, The Wells Central School Board and The Wesleyan Church.

Leon "Lee" Smith, also of Hamilton County, organized a redemption center to raise money for the Wells Volunteer Ambulance Corps (WVAC). Thanks to his vision, they were able to raise \$60,000 which allowed the WVAC to purchase a new ambulance. Mr. Smith also volunteered with the Town of Wells to create a directory for local events, businesses, and organizations. Finally, Mr. Smith volunteered with the Algonquin Snowblazers, the Cub Scouts, and the Wells Fish and Game Club.

John Plantier of Warren County has served the Hadley Luzern Library for over two decades. He spent many of those years as the library's President and as a member of the board. As President, he exhibited a very hands-on management style that saw him performing tasks at all levels. He was just as often presiding over board meetings as he was helping with routine maintenance. He was always ready to literally go the extra mile; giving rides to doctors' appointments to those without transportation, and delivering books and meals to homebound residents. John is also a member of the Lions Club and the Hadley Luzerne Historical Society.

Patrice Cianci volunteers with the Bolton Health Committee to deliver meals to homebound seniors in the northern Lake George area. She also helps deliver gifts to these seniors during the holiday season. Patrice has made herself a crucial asset to the team at the Warren County Office for the Aging that helps ensure seniors around the Lake George area can comfortably remain in their homes.

These four individuals have made a lasting impact on their communities and have positively impacted the lives of many North Country residents. I am proud to serve such amazing and generous people in Congress and I hope to live up to their example every day. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to thank Patrice, John, Lee, and Avis for their service to the North Country and congratulate them on this well-deserved award.

COMMENDING THE AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TENNIS TEAM

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to commend the Auburn High School girls tennis team, which captured the Virginia High School League (VHSL) Class 1 team state title on June 8, 2019. The Eagles put on a first-rate performance, defeating an excellent team from Rappahannock High School by a score of 5–4.

This marks the second consecutive season in which the Eagles have captured the VHSL Class 1 state championship. A victory from Auburn's No. 1 doubles pair Haley Gordon and Molly McMichael clinched the title, capping off just under 5½ hours of competition on the day between the two squads. I applaud the hard work and dedication of all members of this year's Auburn High School girls tennis team, and congratulate the administrators, teachers, coaches, parents, students, and fans. In particular I would like to recognize the contributions of the team's seniors, and their head coach Conrad Nester. Congratulations on a great end to the season.

HONORING OONI ADEYEYE ENITAN BABTUNDE OGUNWUSI, OJAJA II

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor His Imperial