

April 5, 1970, Officer Frago was one of four CHP officers tragically gunned down in a police shooting near Interstate 5. In remembrance of his sacrifice, a section of State Highway 99 in Merced is being dedicated to him and his colleague, Officer Roger Gore.

Born on December 22, 1946 to Augustine L. Frago and Rose M. Piovano, Officer Frago was the third of seven children in the family. He graduated from Our Lady of Mercy High School and later Merced College. In 1965, he married Nicola B. Dunaway, together they had two daughters Amorette and Gabriell. In 1968, he began his career as a CHP officer.

On April 5, 1970, Officers Frago and Gore were the first to respond to a suspect who had been reported brandishing a weapon. Upon pulling over a vehicle with two men, a gun fight ensued leaving Officers Frago and Gore, as well as Officers George Aleyn and James Pence dead. This tragedy is one still remembered by the law enforcement community and Merced County residents as Officers Frago and Gore were both born and raised in Merced.

In honor of Officer Frago's commitment to duty and sacrifice, the section of Highway 99 between Mission Avenue and Campus Parkway is being dedicated as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway. This location is fitting, as Campus Parkway will eventually connect Highway 99 to the University of California, Merced campus. This section of highway being dedicated will continue to ensure our local community and future generations remember and honor the sacrifice of these two young officers, each of whom lost their lives at 23-years-old on that tragic day.

The CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway symbolizes the sacrifice these two gentlemen gave for all citizens to help continue building a better future for our community and country. Furthermore, it will help bridge Merced County's past to its present and remind community members of the dedication to duty exhibited by these two fine officers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the duty and sacrifice of CHP Officer Walter Frago. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor him as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway is dedicated. I wish his family, the California Highway Patrol, and the Merced law enforcement community the best as this section of Highway 99 is dedicated in his honor.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BIKESHARE TRANSIT ACT OF 2019

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, America is in the middle of a micromobility revolution, with bikeshare and scooters changing the way that people get around. First introduced in the United States in 2010, more than 100 communities now have bikeshare systems, supporting a network of more than 100,000 bikes. Since bikeshare's launch in the United States, riders have taken more than 100 million trips, with the number of trips and systems increasing each year.

My community recently celebrated the third anniversary of its BIKETOWN bikeshare

launch. Since then, Portlanders and visitors have taken nearly 900,000 trips, covering more than one million miles and removing untold numbers of automobiles from city streets. The system's success has already led to its expansion, giving more communities access to efficient, carbon-free transportation.

The increased commercial investment around bikeshare stations and networks is driving economic development across the country. Systems are opening in communities of all sizes from Los Angeles and Cleveland to Topeka and Birmingham. While some existing bikeshare programs received federal dollars to develop their systems, the lack of an established funding source has proved an impediment to many other projects. Since the term "bikeshare" is not defined in U.S. code or described by law as a form of transit, existing bikeshare systems and departments of transportation are forced to operate in a gray area, creating challenges for funding, maintaining, and administering these programs.

Today, I am reintroducing the Bikeshare Transit Act of 2019, legislation that will eliminate this gray area by defining bikeshare in statute and making bikeshare systems eligible to receive funding to enhance related public transportation service or transit facilities. The bill allows federal funding to be used for acquiring or replacing bikeshare-related equipment and constructing bikeshare facilities. Bikeshare systems will also be listed as eligible projects under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program.

The Bikeshare Transit Act will remove significant barriers facing new and existing bikeshare projects applying for federal funding while underscoring that bikeshare programs drive economic development and add value to America's transportation system.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRAVO COMPANY, NEW BATTALION'S SERVICE IN BROWN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work, dedication, and outstanding service of Bravo Company, NEW Battalion in helping veterans in Brown County, Wisconsin.

In 2017, the citizens of Brown County were asked to create a new program to help veterans in Northeast Wisconsin transition from active duty to civilian life. As a result, a group of hardworking veterans and citizens formed Bravo Company, NEW Battalion, a non-profit veteran-to-veteran sponsorship organization. The veteran sponsorship program increases veterans' awareness of the educational, state, and federal benefits, as well as community resources that are available to them upon returning home from active duty.

Earlier this year, the first set of veteran-to-veteran sponsors completed training, receiving education on the many veteran service organizations and resources available to veterans and their families in Northeast Wisconsin. After training, each sponsor is partnered with a recently discharged veteran to support the

veteran through the transition phase and connect him or her to support services in the area, like the County Veteran Service Office.

Since its creation, Bravo Company, NEW Battalion has already helped veterans in Northeast Wisconsin navigate and return to civilian life. I am confident the organization will continue to help many more returning veterans as its ranks grow.

The commitment to excellence, dedication and service that Elaina Koltz, Scott Katzka, Ken Corry, Dick Marbes, and Patrick Fauldes have shown is integral to the success of veterans transitioning to civilian life in Brown County. These founding board members of Bravo Company, NEW Battalion insure that veterans receive a warm welcome from active duty or deployment back home to Brown County. They truly demonstrate selfless service and are an asset to this community.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding Bravo Company, NEW Battalion, its board, and its veteran volunteer sponsors for their service to discharged veterans in Northeast Wisconsin. I am proud to have such an organization in my district, one which consists of many veterans whose service continues even after they remove their uniform.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank you as well as Chairman MALONEY, Ranking Member GRAVES, and Ranking Member GIBBS, for your leadership.

I rise in support of H.R. 3409, and applaud the inclusion of Title VIII, the Coast Guard Academy Improvement Act.

I have been honored to work closely with Chairman DEFazio and Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON, the Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, as well as with Congressman JOE COURTNEY, to address the troubling issues that have arisen at the Coast Guard Academy.

As Chairman of the Coast Guard Subcommittee from 2007 through 2010, I convened a series of hearings to push the Academy to ensure that its cadet corps reflects the diversity of the nation it is being prepared to serve. And progress has been made.

However, the recent Equity Scorecard evaluation has found profoundly troubling trends at the Academy.

Specifically, the review found that, "Black/African-American cadets have been consistently less likely to graduate than the all-cadet average" and, "Of particular urgency is Black/African-American cadets' disproportionately high share of disciplinary sanctions."

Then, in December 2018, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security issued a report finding that a Lieutenant Commander on the faculty of the Academy, "was retaliated against on the basis of her complaints, in violation of the Military Whistleblower Protection Act."

Chairman THOMPSON, Congressman COURTNEY, and I are continuing to conduct oversight

of the Academy's response to the Equity Scorecard findings, and we are investigating numerous disparities and shortcomings in how the Academy handles allegations of harassment and bullying.

However, one thing is already abundantly clear: Business as usual is simply not an option.

For that reason, in June, I was honored to join Chairman THOMPSON in introducing H.R. 3488, the Coast Guard Academy Improvement Act.

I appreciate the thoughtful revisions that have been made to that bill's text through close collaboration with the Transportation Committee and I thank Chairman DEFazio for including those revisions in the Coast Guard Authorization Act before us.

These provisions will require urgently needed assessments of and improvements in the Academy's outreach processes and institutional structures to foster expanded diversity.

I urge all Members to vote in favor of the Coast Guard Authorization Act.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 39 OF NORTH SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of American Legion Post 39 of North Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Shortly after the end of World War I, 15 veterans living around the village of North Saint Paul came together to discuss a new national organization called the American Legion that was dedicated to serving veterans and their families. These veterans decided to seek a charter for a local post, which was issued on August 1, 1919, beginning a century of service and support for Minnesota veterans, their families and the greater good of the surrounding North Saint Paul community.

The newly formed American Legion Post 39 quickly found its focus serving the community by leading a Safety First Committee which worked with businesses to improve safety around crossing guards and signals at rail and street crossings. To honor and support their fellow veterans, another part of their mission was to support the Minneapolis and Hastings Veterans Homes, the Veterans Rest Camp and the Fort Snelling Rifle Squad. The post also made investments in America's future by sponsoring Boy's State, Legionville school patrol camp and providing college scholarships for local students, as well as their American Legion Baseball team the 39ers.

Spouses, daughters and granddaughters of Post 39 have always been integral to the success of its work. Post 39 Auxiliary was formally chartered in May 1926 to work alongside the post and expand its community contributions, including support of Girls' State and Webster Elementary School. The auxiliary has also assisted important entities like the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans and the Veterans Administration Community Resource and Referral Center. The auxiliary has played a vital role in the success of the Post.

As a life member of the Post 39 Auxiliary, I know firsthand the many contributions that the post makes to our veterans, our state and our nation.

The sons and grandsons of veterans who comprise Squadron 39—Sons of the American Legion have supported among many programs the North St Paul Food Shelf, American Legion Baseball, the Silver Lake Splash and the Shop, Ship and Share program.

Just last year, Post 39 was a key supporter of the American Legion National Convention, held in Minneapolis—which marked the start of the 100th anniversary of the national organization. Through its support of the work and advocacy of the American Legion, Department of Minnesota as well as the National Organization, the North Saint Paul Post 39 epitomizes the Four Pillars of the American Legion—Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Madam Speaker, as veterans, families and members of the area communities gather on August 3, 2019 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of American Legion Post 39 of North Saint Paul, Minnesota please join me in honoring this major milestone and the generations of leaders and members of this veterans service organization.

RECOGNIZING MARTIN PURYEAR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Martin Puryear.

Martin Puryear, the eldest of seven children, was born in Washington, DC. He was raised in Southwest Washington and attended the then-segregated William Syphax Elementary School. His lifelong interest in the natural world and how things are constructed inspired a young Puryear to visit local institutions such as the National Zoo, the Museum of Science and Technology and the Museum of Natural History. The city's art museums left a profound impact on Puryear, and today some of those same museums—the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Hirshhorn Museum—hold some of his most significant works in their permanent collections.

After graduating from the Catholic University of America, Puryear spent two years in Sierra Leone teaching English, French and biology as a member of the Peace Corps. He continued his studies at the Swedish Royal Academy of Art in Stockholm and received his MFA from Yale University.

Puryear's approach to object-making has been influenced by the indigenous techniques and materials of cultures he has encountered on his travels. His sculptures are painstakingly constructed from materials such as wood, metal and stone. Their elegant, abstract forms reflect his deep interest in history.

Puryear received a MacArthur Foundation award in 1989 and the National Medal of Arts from President Obama in 2011. This year, he is representing the United States at the 58th Venice Biennale. The Museum of Modern Art

in New York and the Art Institute of Chicago have organized major retrospectives, and his work has been acquired by museums across the United States, Europe and Asia.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Martin Puryear for his outstanding accomplishments as an artist and honored DC native.

COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LECHASE CONSTRUCTION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of LeChase Construction.

Established in 1944 by Raymond F. LeChase, LeChase Construction is a full-service construction management and general construction firm. With humble beginnings, LeChase Construction began as a small family operation to fill the local demand for construction work during World War II. Today LeChase employs more than seven hundred and fifty employees and ranks among the nation's top contractors.

LeChase prides itself of offering the capabilities of a large firm while maintaining the personalized service of a small firm. For the last twenty years, LeChase's Southern Tier operations, headquartered in Corning, New York, has provided people from the region with the expertise and high quality of service that LeChase is known for. From Chautauqua to Elmira and down to central Pennsylvania, LeChase has earned the respect of repeat clients, who account for nearly ninety percent of the region's work. Vice President Fred Thompson credits that earned respect to their track record of delivering successful projects and the hardworking, down-to-earth people of the Southern Tier.

Seventy-five years of serving the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate LeChase on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of LeChase Construction.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHARLES SCOTT NEELY

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the distinguished career of Charles Scott Neely, Principal of Cypress Bay High School in my hometown of Weston, Florida.

Scott Neely is one of Broward County's longest-serving high school principals. He was the founding principal and served at the helm of Cypress Bay, Florida's largest high school, since it opened in 2002 and shepherded thousands of students—including my three children—through some of the most formidable years of their lives.