

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of the creation of the Homeland Security Committee and the Department of Homeland Security. It was in the aftermath of the heinous acts of 9/11, of which I was a Member of the United States Congress, and the description and actions are seared in my memory.

We organized the Homeland Security Department to be the front lines of security, to recognize, and to determine what would be the best way to function.

I will be introducing legislation about the security of the Homeland Security Department. The precipitous firings and resignations are putting this Nation in jeopardy and putting the men and women on the front lines for the work that they are doing, it is undermining that very important work.

So today I rise as a cofounder and co-chair of the Afghanistan Caucus, to ask my colleagues to salute those who just lost their lives in battle in Afghanistan, soldiers from across the Nation. Their families are mourning, and we owe them a recognition that they wear the uniform and they are able or willing to sacrifice for us.

I would ask my colleagues to take a moment of silence for those who died in the recent IED incident in Afghanistan. I ask now for a moment of silence for those soldiers who have fallen in battle.

HONORING THE PASSING OF THE LAST WORLD WAR II DOOLITTLE RAIDER

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, when I was reading the Cincinnati Enquirer online this morning, an article headline grabbed my attention: "Last WW II Doolittle Raider dies." Lieutenant Colonel Dick Cole was 103 when he passed away Tuesday in Texas.

There were 80 Raiders, and the fifth last to survive was Tom Griffin, from my Cincinnati, Ohio, district, who was 96 when he died a couple of years ago. I had the honor of getting to know Tom well over the years. He was a wonderful guy, and, yes, he was a hero.

That is a term that gets used quite frequently nowadays; but Tom Griffin, and Dick Cole, and the other 78 brave Americans who took off that night from the USS *Hornet* truly were heroes.

Only months after the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor, their daring feat gave America a much-needed shot in the arm that was a first and major step in winning that war.

Now these 80 courageous, gallant, patriotic Doolittle Raiders are all gone, but they will never be forgotten.

□ 1200

NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

(Mr. PANETTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Day of Silence that is going to happen this Friday, April 12. That is a day when people around the country and in my community on the central coast of California take a vow of silence to raise awareness about the issues faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer students.

One of those students will be Oliver Cantrell, who lives in Santa Cruz and is transgender and bisexual. As president of the queer-straight alliance at Harbor High, Oliver works to build bridges between students and school staff through education and outreach.

When Oliver transferred to Harbor High, he was met with support. However, we know there are students at other schools who may not be so lucky. That is exactly why Oliver is taking a vow of silence to highlight the struggle for acceptance by LGBTQ youth.

Many students will take that vow of silence this Friday. That is why we as leaders should continue to speak up and step up every day to ensure that all Americans are respected and appreciated for who they are.

HONORING CARL LAMM

(Mr. ROUZER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, after 72 years on the air, Carl Lamm, whom many know as the voice of Johnston County, retired as America's longest continuous radio broadcaster on Friday, March 29.

Mr. Carl, as many of us affectionately call him, has been co-owner and operator of WTSB-AM radio in Smithfield, North Carolina, since 1958. His daily programming was revered by millions throughout the State, Nation, and world who listened to him on the radio and online throughout the course of his career.

In more than seven decades on air, he brought some of the greatest musicians, top athletes, professionals of all stripes, and national political figures and commentators into the homes and businesses of his listeners to discuss current events and politics, to preach the Word of God, and much more.

He has witnessed the evolution of radio from the glory days of the Grand Ole Opry to the digital age of the 21st century.

Mr. Carl's many notable recognitions include North Carolina's highest civilian honor, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, as well as membership in the North Carolina Broadcasters Hall of Fame. However, what I admire most is his loyal faith in our creator.

Suffice it to say, we will all miss listening to Mr. Carl on the air at WTSB radio. It is not often that you get to know a legend in their own time. Mr. Carl is just that and a very dear friend to many as well.

As he enters this new chapter of life known as retirement, may God always continue to bless his path.

HONORING MAYOR RAYMOND BAGSHAW

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mayor Raymond Bagshaw, who passed away March 10.

Mayor Bagshaw's service to our community and to helping small businesses was unwavering. As the mayor of the city of Edgewood, he brought what was called boundless ingenuity to his city where he started numerous projects, including transforming a vacant, desolate lot into a beautiful park. Today, the park, which bears his name, hosts numerous events and family-filled activities.

A true public servant, Mayor Bagshaw was never afraid to roll up his sleeves and work in the trenches. During natural disasters, it was natural for him to pitch in to clean up debris or direct traffic around downed power lines.

Mr. Speaker, I join Mayor Bagshaw's family, the city council, and citizens of Edgewood in celebrating his life and legacy and thanking him for a job well done.

CONGRESS' SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the nation of Israel for holding its national elections yesterday.

As the sole democracy in the Middle East, it not only sets an example to its neighbors, but it is a key ally in spreading peace, democracy, and prosperity throughout the world.

I also want to recognize the thousands of people who traveled to Washington recently for this year's AIPAC conference.

It has been an honor to work with so many of my colleagues on legislation that will not only help secure Israel militarily but also allow it to thrive economically. Countries in the region should take note of what is possible when they work in good faith and, most importantly, seek peace.

As NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said in this Chamber last week, it is good to have friends. I am honored to count Israel as one of our closest and greatest friends.

I look forward to working with a united Congress to support the Jewish state and to spread democracy wherever tyranny exists.

HONORING NIPSEY HUSSLE

(Ms. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the House of Representatives to formally recognize and honor the legacy of Ermiyas Asghedom, known to his community and the neighborhoods of south Los Angeles and beyond as Nipsey Hussle.

As noted in the record I will be submitting shortly, Nipsey Hussle used the platform he created with his music to lift our community as he climbed.

In his business ventures, his investments, his philanthropy, his community engagement, every step of the way, he had a sole purpose of bettering the community he came from.

A humble visionary, he saw the overlooked and welcomed the dismissed. He reminded our community that the power we hold is the power of where we come from and that awareness of that power can never be taken from us.

He will be remembered by south Los Angeles as a protector, an inspirator, a father, a brother, and an unabashed son of south Los Angeles.

For all he was given, he gave back. And for that legacy, south Los Angeles has been changed forever.

Mr. Speaker, I will now be submitting this record honoring his legacy.

CONFIRM DAVID BERNHARDT

(Mr. GOSAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of David Bernhardt's nomination to be the next Secretary of the Interior.

Members of the Western Caucus strongly support his nomination.

David Bernhardt loves his country and has served her well as a model public servant for over 15 years. David has already been confirmed twice by the U.S. Senate, once to be the solicitor and the top legal mind of the country on these issues and the second time to be the Deputy Secretary. Just last week, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee advanced his nomination by a strong bipartisan vote of 14-6.

During his tenure with DOI, David has worked diligently to increase hunting and fishing access, ensure clean water for future generations, and empower local decisionmaking. David is a champion for sportsmen and rural communities.

Mr. Bernhardt is the most qualified candidate we have ever had as the Secretary of the Interior. Simply put, David Bernhardt is the leader the Department and the American people deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to vote tomorrow based on David's credentials, leadership, and principles. If that occurs, I have no doubt he will be confirmed with a strong bipartisan vote.

Confirm Bernhardt.

CELEBRATING FIRST-EVER IMAGE OF BLACK HOLE

(Mr. CASE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the groundbreaking contributions of the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope and Submillimeter Array, located on the 13,803-foot summit of Mauna Kea on my home island in Hawaii, and to celebrate their contributions to a truly international effort producing the first-ever image of a black hole.

Part of the Event Horizon Telescope Collaboration, the JCMT and SMA joined six other telescopes around the globe to form an Earth-sized telescope of unprecedented power and resolution able to photograph the supermassive black hole in the M87 galaxy. Hawaii's key contribution was to place world-class telescopes in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

Astronomers partnered with renowned Hawaiian language and cultural practitioner Dr. Larry Kimura to suggest the Hawaiian name "Powehi," meaning embellished dark source of unending creation.

These Hawaii observatories pioneered the study of black holes, and thanks to powerful new capabilities, perfect conditions atop Mauna Kea, and dedicated personnel, we can all look forward to more of JCMT and SMA's cutting-edge discoveries in the future, in addition to the continued growth and reputation of Hawaii as a world leader in exploring our heavens.

RECOGNIZING THE VOGELPOHL FAMILY, ARKANSAS FOREST STEWARDS

(Mr. HILL of Arkansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of Ray and Theresa Vogelpohl, who were recently named 2018 Arkansas Forest Stewards of the Year by the Arkansas Agriculture Department's Forestry Commission.

The Forestry Stewardship Program recognizes and rewards landowners who are managing privately owned forest land for multiple uses. Arkansas is home to more than 1,200 certified forest stewardship landowners. The Vogelpohls first enrolled in the Forest Stewardship Program in 1996 and later became certified as forest stewards in 2016.

They operate the Diamond TR Ranch, a 350-acre working ranch on the Perry-Pulaski county line. Their forest management efforts include prescribed burns, tree plantings along the Maumelle River, forest thinning, and planting of native grasses.

Ray and Theresa's dedication to forestry and environmental conservation has safeguarded Arkansas forestland for generations to come.

I join all Arkansans in congratulating them.

SUPPORTING UNITED STATES-REPUBLIC OF KOREA ALLIANCE

(Mr. SUOZZI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 301, which expresses the importance of our country's alliance with the Republic of Korea.

A hundred years ago, the Republic of Korea declared itself sovereign, formed a provisional government, and set the wheels in motion for it to become the vibrant, prosperous, and free society that it is today.

The United States and South Korea have developed a special bond formed in shared strategic interests and cemented by a commitment to democratic values. Our alliance is central to advancing democracy, free markets, human rights, and the rule of law in the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the world.

South Korea is now home to around 30,000 American military personnel who are sworn by our mutual defense treaty to help our ally defend herself from external aggression. South Korea is also one of our largest trading partners.

Trade and security are not the only cornerstones of our relationship. Nearly 2 million Korean Americans live across our country, enriching all aspects of the fabric of our society.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to continue to strengthen the diplomatic, economic, and security ties between the U.S. and our vital ally, South Korea.

CONFIRM DAVID BERNHARDT

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for the nomination of Mr. David Bernhardt as the next Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. Bernhardt is uniquely prepared to ascend to this position after a career spent leading several of the Department's wings as chief of staff to the Secretary, as director of congressional and legislative affairs, and as a Senate-confirmed solicitor under President Bush. These positions encompass the policy, managerial, intergovernmental, and oversight roles any sitting Secretary needs to master.

He is ready to hit the ground running as one of the most knowledgeable and upstanding Secretaries in the Department's history.

As a Colorado native, Mr. Bernhardt has repeatedly demonstrated a capacity to translate his vast knowledge of water, public lands, and other Western resources into policies that work in our home State and throughout the West. He understands our issues, and I know