

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Conor Allen Littleton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF DANIEL STEWARD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Daniel Steward on his recent retirement from a remarkable fourteen-year career as first selectman for the town of Waterford, Connecticut. This tenure makes Dan the longest serving first selectman since the founding of the town in 1801 and ensures his legacy will last forever.

Dan was born and raised in Waterford and worked in the southeastern Connecticut region his entire adult life. He honed his managerial skills at Southern New England Telephone Company where he worked for twenty-eight years and then spent another three years as supervisor in information technologies at Dominion Energy's Millstone Power Plant, Connecticut's largest electrical energy producer. While still employed in the private sector, he began his impressive career of public service working to improve the town's public schools, first as president of the Parent Teacher Organization, and then when he transitioned to the Waterford board of education where he rose to the position of chair. In 2005, the people of Waterford elected Dan as their First Selectman, and he hit the ground running. This win was especially significant for Waterford, as they now had the leadership of one of their own, a true Lancer. This first-hand knowledge proved crucial for the growth and success of the town. Not only did Dan make structural improvements such as building five new schools; he also paid close attention to the individual problems of Waterford's residents. Dan's vested interest in the town enabled him to connect with everyone as his peer. He took the concerns of his constituents personally; his biggest gripe with the job being only that "he wanted to make everyone happy."

During his time as first selectman it became obvious that Dan had a gift for strong leadership and embracing change, something he knew all too well. His own father sold their family's dairy farm to developers who would go on to build the local Lowe's hardware store, giving Dan personal experience with the cyclical economies of small towns. When Dominion Energy's Millstone Power Station, a backbone of the current economy, was re-negotiating with the state, Dan remained a fierce advocate for Waterford. Dan's personal knowledge of the company gave him a unique and well-rounded perspective to facilitate a sustainable, long-term plan for its continued operation.

As the Congressman for Waterford during the bulk of Dan's tenure, I had the pleasure of working with him and the town on a number of issues, such as the memorial at Arlington National Cemetery to Vietnam hero and U.S. Army Captain Arnie Holm, a beloved son of Waterford, the development of a long term dredging plan for eastern Long Island Sound, and the recapitalization of the New England

Central Railroad, to name just a few. I found Dan to be extremely thoughtful and positive, always focused on the big picture of making southeastern Connecticut's future strong and healthy. Although we are from different political parties, he approached the job of governing from a non-political, practical point of view which I believe is a refreshing example elected officials at every level of government should follow.

Dan's presence will be sorely missed at Town Hall, although he has certainly earned this next, hopefully more restful chapter that I'm sure he will spend with his wife, Kathy, his four daughters, and his nine grandchildren. Luckily, Waterford residents won't have to look far as he will still support the community by going door to door for the census. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Dan for his service and congratulating him on his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND OPENING OF OZONE HOUSE'S YOUTH FACILITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the grand opening of Ozone House's youth facility.

The Ozone House is a community-based, non-profit organization that has been devoted to helping youth in crisis for the past 50 years. In Washtenaw County, nearly 1,300 youth experience homelessness annually due to situations that arise from neglect, abuse, mental illness, or other crises. In 1969, Ozone House was established to address this problem and help young people in the community learn how to lead safe, healthy, and productive lives. Each year, the Ozone House provides refuge for over 800 young people and arranges over 4,000 hours of professional counseling services at two locations in Ann Arbor and a drop-in center in Ypsilanti.

Today, we celebrate the opening of Ozone House's new youth facility. The opening of the newly-constructed 19,000 square-foot building demonstrates the organization's continued unrelenting commitment to youth in Michigan, as it allows the organization to improve its services and counsel more youth than ever before. The facility will provide more space and privacy to youth navigating trauma and crisis and will afford them a new sense of security, stability, and consistency. In addition to 16 private bedrooms that can sleep 32 young people, the facility will offer counseling rooms, an expanded food and necessities pantry, three kitchens, and laundry and shower facilities. Ozone House's new facility will positively impact the lives of hundreds of youth throughout our community and empower them to get through even the toughest of circumstances.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the grand opening of Ozone House's new youth facility. In their commitment to providing a safe space for young people to help them grow and recognize their talents, the Ozone House continues to be an asset to the community. I am grateful for Ozone House's positive impact and wish the organization continued success in the years to come.

HONORING NOAH JAMES RIECKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Noah James Riecker. Noah is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1412, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Noah has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Noah has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Noah has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Noah James Riecker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ROE V. WADE ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I am pro-life, pro-family, and pro-child. While my beliefs are rooted in my Christian faith, I am not naïve enough to believe that everyone shares that connection between faith and the sanctity of life.

Yet, no matter what someone believes or doesn't believe, everyone understands that life is precious, and it is a gift. I believe that as Members of Congress and as citizens, we are called to protect the vulnerable. This is one of my core beliefs.

But being Pro-Life comes with responsibilities. It's not enough to say that you are Pro-Life and then walk away. "Just say no" isn't enough when it comes to abortion.

Women who find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy need support. Sometimes they need a loving shoulder to cry on. And sometimes they need help to find adoption resources.

Being pro-life means not just pro-birth but being interested in the welfare of that child during their entire formative years.

That's why I am not only a long-time member of the Pro-Life Caucus, but also a co-chair of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption.

We must speak up on behalf of the millions of babies aborted since Roe v. Wade, but also speak up for the children who have been saved by mothers who chose life.

Let's work together to find new ways to protect the most vulnerable amongst us—to advocate for families to adopt children or become foster parents, and then promote the underlying structures that support these families.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank President Trump and his Administration for the work they have done to defend the unborn, including changing the rules for Title X and expanding the Mexico City Policy.

I look forward to the day when there are no more abortions because there are no more unwanted children.

RECOGNIZING TIM PETROSKY FOR HIS SERVICE AT CMS ENERGY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Tim Petrosky for his service at CMS Energy. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to the public good, Tim has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Tim first joined CMS Energy as the spokesman for Big Rock Point Nuclear Power Plant in 1991. This historic power plant in Charlevoix, first opened in 1962, was the first nuclear power plant in the state of Michigan, the fifth oldest in the nation, and is designated as a Nuclear Historic Landmark by the American Nuclear Society. While Big Rock Point was decommissioned in 1997, Tim's work as spokesperson continued. This included accompanying a large piece of radioactive equipment by rail car to a southern U.S. storage site by rail—giving him the nickname "Boxcar Tim."

In 2005, Tim became NW Area Manager, Community Affairs, where he was responsible for media, communication, and community activities in three counties of the northwest Lower Peninsula. In this capacity, Tim has helped CMS Energy communicate and hear from the public—helping reach those in need during winter power outages, working with local communities to promote public safety and environmental protection, and hearing from members of the community on issues that matter most to them. With today's ever-evolving world, the work of industry leaders like Tim has been critical in supporting the common good and ensuring the public trust. His impact on the state of Michigan cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Tim Petrosky for his decades of service at CMS Energy. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Tim all the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMCAST XFINITY ON THE DATE OF ITS STORE'S GRAND OPENING

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Comcast Xfinity and their employees on the date of their store's grand opening in Taylor. Comcast Xfinity has become an important component of our Michigan community by utilizing our current infrastructure and workforce to deliver more affordable, efficient, and accessible internet services to consumers statewide.

Originally established in April 1981 as Comcast Cable, Xfinity has grown significantly

and transformed the southeast Michigan community. While employing thousands of individuals across Michigan, Xfinity has simultaneously developed new infrastructure to provide countless businesses and residents alike with quality cable and internet access. Their facilities have improved our region, showcasing it as a competitor in the market of technology and innovation. Xfinity's continued commitment to our state is exemplified in the company's expansion into the Taylor community.

Comcast Xfinity's investment in opening a Taylor facility underscores the city's reputation as a center for growth, innovation, and advancement. With this new store, Xfinity will provide residents and businesses with the ability to access the latest technologies, products, and services. Xfinity's new store will significantly contribute to Michigan's telecommunications industry in the coming years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Comcast Xfinity during the grand opening of the Comcast Xfinity Store in Taylor. This critical investment will provide Michigan's ambitious workforce and residents with access to the newest technologies in cable and internet services.

HONORING MARTIN GEORGE STILL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Martin George Still. Martin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1412, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Martin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Martin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Martin has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Martin George Still for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMEMORATING 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, on Monday, January 20, the nation observes for the 35th time the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Each year this day is set aside for Americans to celebrate the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America.

The Martin Luther King Holiday reminds us that nothing is impossible when we are guided by the better angels of our nature.

Dr. King's inspiring words filled a great void in our nation and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles.

Yet, Dr. King knew that it was not enough just to talk the talk; he knew that he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible.

And so, we commemorate on this holiday the man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day.

We honor the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats and beatings, and even bombings.

We commemorate the man who went to jail 29 times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness.

"Life's most persistent and nagging question," he said, is "what are you doing for others?"

And when Dr. King talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on February 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life:

"I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life . . . to love and serve humanity."

We should also remember that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was, above all, a person who was always willing to speak truth to power.

There is perhaps no better example of Dr. King's moral integrity and consistency than his criticism of the Vietnam War being waged by the Johnson Administration, an administration that was otherwise a friend and champion of civil and human rights.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929.

Martin's youth was spent in our country's Deep South, then run by Jim Crow and the Ku Klux Klan.

For young African-Americans, it was an environment even more dangerous than the one they face today.

A young Martin managed to find a dream, one that he pieced together from his readings—in the Bible, and literature, and just about any other book he could get his hands on.

And not only did those books help him educate himself, but they also allowed him to work through the destructive and traumatic experiences of blatant discrimination, and the discriminatory abuse inflicted on himself, his family, and his people.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that we celebrate here today could have turned out to be just another African-American who would have had to learn to be happy with what he had, and what he was allowed.

But he learned to use his imagination and his dreams to see right through those "White Only" signs—to see the reality that all men, and women, regardless of their place of origin, their gender, or their creed, are created equal.

Through his studies, Dr. King learned that training his mind and broadening his intellect effectively shielded him from the demoralizing effects of segregation and discrimination.