

Ms. Wheeler's quick actions, bravery, and dedication to service is a credit to her, her family, and Cape Fear Valley EMS. I know I speak for everyone in our community when I say we are truly grateful for her unwavering service and cannot thank her enough.

Ms. Wheeler is deserving of this honor, and I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation and wish her success as she continues to protect our communities.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Cape Fear Valley EMS Paramedic Kimberli R. Wheeler for receiving the Public Safety Valor Award.

HONORING HARRY WEDDLE

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Harry Weddle on receiving Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital's 2020 Advocacy Award.

Like many Americans, Harry has faced unprecedented challenges spurred by the coronavirus pandemic. Prior to his time at Encompass Health, Harry had spent over thirty days at UPMC-Altoona and another four weeks at Select Specialty Hospital. After these lengthy stays, he was transferred to Encompass. Throughout this ordeal, Harry also courageously battled COVID-19, while enduring isolation from family and loved ones.

Harry is a fighter. He beat COVID-19 and continued on the road to recovery. Thankfully, Harry was able to return home to his wife.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I am proud to honor Harry Weddle and celebrate his recovery. I wish Harry and his family every continued health and happiness in the chapters to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. THOMAS LAUBACH

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today, not only on behalf of Missouri's 5th Congressional District, but also on behalf of the Subcommittee on Monetary Policy. I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Thomas Laubach. Dr. Laubach dedicated his exceptional economic mind to serving his county and dedicated his life to serving the world at large. His was a powerful and touching life that was tragically cut short by cancer on September 2, 2020. He was just 55 years old. Dr. Laubach's legacy will live on in the work he did, the lives he touched, and the story he left behind.

Dr. Laubach began as an undergraduate in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany at the University of Bonn, where he graduated with a degree in economics in 1993. He then went on to receive a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University just four years later. At Princeton, Dr. Laubach's thesis advisor was none other than Ben Bernanke, who would go

on to serve as the 14th Chair of the Federal Reserve from 2006 to 2014. With an illustrious education under his belt, Dr. Laubach began his even more illustrious career. First making a name for himself in my home district as an Economist at the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank, Dr. Laubach started on a path to change the world of economics forever. After working at the Kansas City Fed for three years, Dr. Laubach became an Economist, and then Senior Economist, for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. He then took four years to teach and serve as Chair of Macroeconomics at Goethe University Frankfurt while taking research stints at Deutsche Bundesbank and the European Central Bank. He returned to the Board of Governors in 2012, this time as the Associate Director, before being appointed Director of the Division of Monetary Affairs in 2015. He served in that capacity until his death on September 2nd. At the time of his death, he was leading the central bank's new strategy to lower unemployment while responding to the changes brought on by the devastating pandemic that has so deeply affected our nation's economy.

Though his life in the economic world was impactful in countless ways, he is most well-known for two groundbreaking contributions. The first, of course, is Dr. Laubach's indelible mark on central bank interest-rate policy, which continues to affect both the U.S. Federal Reserve and central banks across the world. The second came in 2001, when Dr. Laubach co-authored a paper titled "Measuring the Natural Rate of Interest" alongside John Williams, who is currently serving as the president of the New York Federal Reserve. That paper set forth a transformational theory on the neutral rate of interest that will forever be known as the Laubach-Williams model.

Dr. Laubach wore many hats throughout his career: brilliant economist, dedicated researcher, bold thinker, curious student, and generous professor. A friend to many, he is also remembered as a kind, calm, and collegial presence. When critics attacked his ideas, Dr. Laubach responded with kindness and respect. When young economic minds sought his wisdom, he responded with patience and empathy. He was, above all, a beautiful soul who sought to employ his talents to alleviate suffering and serve others, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

When such a quietly influential figure passes on, I find myself wondering what I myself can do to help preserve their legacy. But in that respect, Dr. Laubach's own work will do much more than any tribute or eulogy could ever hope to do. His ideas, his writing, his influence is already a part of the fabric of the economic world. His legacy lives on in global monetary policy, in economics classrooms around the country, and in the thinkers he helped prepare to take on the crises of tomorrow. Madam Speaker, please join me, my district, and the Subcommittee on Monetary Policy for the House Financial Services Committee in honoring Dr. Laubach's memory and offering heartfelt condolences to his loved ones. We have lost a bright light, an irreplaceable mind, and a dedicated public servant, but we are blessed with the dark places his light illuminated, the theories his mind made crystal clear, and the lives his service helped touch. He was taken from us far too soon, so let us all carry his torch forward by committing our passions, skills, and talents to the service of others.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE WHITE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centennial Celebration of the White County Farm Bureau.

The White County Farm Bureau had its origin in 1920 when farmers organized an association to accomplish together what one farmer could not do alone. Following a mass meeting of area farmers at the White County Courthouse, and after many stirring speeches, the White County Farm Bureau was organized. The most important issue of the time was soil composition, and poultry was the most important industry in the county followed by dairy and livestock.

As is the case today, the strength of the early Farm Bureau laid with its members. For example, in 1925, a tornado crossed the county causing widespread destruction and death. The Farm Bureau worked closely with relief organizations to help neighbors get their farming work done and back on their feet.

The purchase of alfalfa seeds was a growing interest to the Bureau in the 1930s. And as the financial condition of White County farmers improved, so too did the value of the organization. Membership increased, especially with women, and in 1940 the White County Home Bureau was organized.

The Farm Bureau moved into its new building in 1947, paying the final loan installment in 1957. Through the 1960s and 1970s, the organization was involved in legislative, marketing, and membership policy development programs. Steady membership growth ensued, and member participation reached an all-time high.

In the 1970s, the Illinois and county Farm Bureau's successfully lobbied for legislation to reduce fees for farm truck and trailer license plates. In addition, the Bureau was busy studying taxation policy, concluding early on that property taxes needed reform.

Madam Speaker, the spirit of cooperation and hard work lives on in today's White County Farm Bureau, continuing a proud legacy filled with accomplishments and overcoming challenges. To celebrate this legacy, the Bureau plans to share historical photos and documents on social media, interview past leaders, compile a video presentation, produce a Centennial Booklet for members, and hold the 100th Annual Meeting in January 2021.

It is an honor to stand today to acknowledge the centennial anniversary of the White County Farm Bureau, and I wish the Bureau many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN PATRICK MULLINS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor John Patrick Mullins, who is retiring as Assistant City Manager and who served the

town of Hillsborough, California, for more than 17 years in various roles. To all of those roles, he applied exemplary commitment and passion, always resulting in improvements for the town and its residents. If there was a job Hillsborough needed to get done, John was the man to ask.

John started his public service in February of 2003 as Building Inspector I, working closely with homeowners and contractors to ensure safety and adherence to building codes. In 2004, he was promoted to Building Inspector II and in 2006 to Chief Building Official. In that role, John demonstrated remarkable leadership and mentorship passing on his passion for service and his superb knowledge of the town. He was instrumental in streamlining the permitting process and improving the image of the building division. He developed a model Green Building Ordinance and was the master architect of a customer relations management system that made communication and access to information easy and effective.

Frequently serving in interim positions, John always bridged transitions and helped out where he was needed. He was the Acting Public Works Director, Interim Assistant City Manager and Acting City Manager. No matter his position, he approached it with enthusiasm and injected a sense of collaboration and team spirit.

John came to public service from the building trades. He graduated from Skyline College with an Associate's Degree in Building Technology and began his career as a carpenter, plumber and electrician in 1977. He worked in residential and commercial construction until 1995, when the City of South San Francisco hired him to coordinate the aircraft noise insulation program. I speak from personal experience in my Congressional Office when I say that solving the problem of airplane noise and its detrimental impact on human health is not an easy task. John fully immersed himself in the issue and subsequently served as a Combination Building Inspector for South San Francisco's Fire/Economic and Community Development Building Division.

It is obvious from his work history that John is a hands-on guy and knows how to turn ideas into tangible objects. In his free time, he volunteers his talent and time to Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together Peninsula and, very fortunate for Hillsborough, the Beautification Foundation. He has been instrumental in building and maintaining more than 145 parks, parklets and medians, including Harvest Garden, Town Hall campus, the Veterans Memorial, the police station, two fire stations and five school sites. He is also an outstanding event organizer working behind the scenes to make everything go smoothly. He has worked on signature events such as Geri Lane Halloween, Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, Light Up the Town and the Centennial Celebration.

Other areas in which John has extensive knowledge are emergency preparedness, safety and technology. That has made him an invaluable asset to the town and prepared town staff for any emergency. In his capacity as Assistant City Manager, he served as the town's risk manager handling insurance and claims with the IJPA-PLAN and providing safety programs. He managed the town's information technology program by finalizing the IT Strategic Plan, implementing the council chamber upgrade, security and hardware improvements, updating the website and improv-

ing connectivity in different departments. John also served on regional committees including the Airport Noise Committee and SAMCAT, and he supported sustainability projects related to solar and lighting and community concerns such as pesticides, leaf blowers, right of way issues and park use regulations.

In his well-deserved retirement, John is looking forward to enjoying more time with his wife Melissa and their daughters Lauren and Kailey. We thank them for sharing him with the residents of Hillsborough, who have greatly benefited from his expertise, dedication and hard work.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing John Patrick Mullins, an outstanding public servant who I have admired and whose contributions will continue to shine and reflect the welcoming and innovative character of our town. I am confident we will see his familiar face at many parades, picnic and parties for years to come.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER JUSTIN WHITE AS A RECIPIENT OF THE VALOR AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize City of Fayetteville Firefighter Justin White as a recipient of the Public Safety Valor Award, presented annually by the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Award is a prestigious honor presented to men and women of the Fayetteville region who perform acts of heroism under extreme risk. An outstanding member of the Fayetteville Fire Department, Firefighter White went beyond his call of duty on March 22, 2020.

After responding to a motor vehicle accident alongside Lieutenant Joe Bumgarner and Captain Jason Hulon, Firefighter White heroically rescued a victim from a burning vehicle that was pinned to a tree. Remarkably, this feat was accomplished within two minutes and fifteen seconds of arriving on the scene.

While Captain Hulon and Firefighter White got dressed in PPE, Lieutenant Bumgarner attempted to free the victim wearing only his turnout coat. When his superiors were pushed back by the intensity of the flames, Firefighter White saw an opening and pulled the victim to safety just as the vehicle's dash was encased in fire. He sought medical attention for the victim before successfully containing the remaining blaze.

Firefighter White's quick actions, bravery, and dedication to service is a credit to him, his family, and the entire Fayetteville Fire Department. I know I speak for everyone in our community when I say we are truly grateful for his unwavering service and cannot thank him enough.

Firefighter White is deserving of this honor, and I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation and wish him success as he continues to protect our communities.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating City of Fayetteville Firefighter Justin White for receiving the Public Safety Valor Award.

HONORING MISSY MELLOTT

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Melissa Mellott for receiving the Encompass Health Rehab Patient Achievement Award.

After her tumor removal surgery and subsequent complications, Melissa entered rehab at Encompass. At the time, she exhibited weakness in her left side, double vision, pain, and decreased strength and coordination. As a result of these symptoms, she often required assistance to do daily tasks and needed to wear a neck brace.

Thankfully, Missy worked hard in rehab and experienced incredible progress. As a testament to her perseverance and hard work, Missy was able to walk out of the facility unassisted. Now at home, she has resumed many of the activities she enjoyed prior to the surgery, including gardening and walking.

Missy's recovery journey is a shining example of hope and hard work. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Missy Mellott on her remarkable work towards recovery, and I wish her every continued success.

CONDEMNING UNWANTED, UNNECESSARY MEDICAL PROCEDURES ON INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT THEIR FULL, INFORMED CONSENT

SPEECH OF

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include these transcriptions of letters I received from my visit to the Irwin ICE Detention Center for the RECORD. The first letter was signed by 24 detained women. The second one is from another detainee. I am also including text from a drawing I received during the visit that is asking for compassion and mercy.

LETTER NO. 1 SIGNED BY 24 WOMEN FROM IRWIN COUNTY DETENTION CENTER—SPANISH TRANSCRIPT

¡Hola! ¿Como están? Nosotros estamos mal. Si estamos mal, porque nadie en estas condiciones puede decir que está bien. Yo quería decirles un bonito discurso. Pero le voy a hablar con la verdad y con el corazón. ¿Por qué habéis tardado tanto en venir? Si desde hace tiempo pedíamos a gritos "AUXILIO". Ustedes no saben todo lo que hemos sufrido. Alguien debe de pararlo. Alguien debe de responder por esto. Si nos tienen encerradas, nos han separado de nuestras familias, los jueces nos han negado todo. ¿Por qué nos castigan más? Mandándonos con un "loco", despiadado que mutila cuerpos. Y nos deportan para que nadie diga NADA y no se portan para que nadie denuncie NADA. Alguien debe de parar esto. Alguien debería de responder por esto. Y que no venga ICE y quiera limpiarse las manos si son ellos quienes lo "autorizan".

Ustedes no saben el trauma psicológico y la indignación que sentimos al ver tantas mujeres "operadas". Las hemos visto llorar