

On top of his professional role, he is a member of Rotary Club International, the City Liaison for Special Olympics Northern California, and co-founder of the Hercules Swim Club. Commander Koepp is a prime example of a community-focused officer who is committed to building vital ties with the community members whom he is protecting.

Madam Speaker, Commander Thomas Koepp is an outstanding law enforcement officer and model citizen who has served with honor throughout his nearly three decades of duty. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him today.

#### REMEMBERING MYRA STILES

#### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember my friend and a local and national Democratic Party stalwart, Myra Stiles, who passed on Friday at the age of 84. Mrs. Stiles was active in Democratic Party politics, joining the Volunteer Women's Roundtable shortly after arriving in Memphis with her husband, Robert, months after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968. She went on to become an officer, president, and treasurer of the Democratic Women of Shelby County, and served in positions with the Shelby County Democratic Executive Committee, as well as President of the Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women. She always had the Democratic women's annual Christmas Party at her home—a wonderful gathering of friends in the holiday season. Mrs. Stiles was also a longtime member and chair of the Shelby County Election Commission, first elected in 1987. No one in the last 30 years has done more guaranteeing access to the ballot and free and fair elections in Shelby County than Myra Stiles. She was also special assistant to William Farris when he served as chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party (1978–1981). Mrs. Stiles was active in the political campaigns of Harold Ford, Sr.; Harold Ford, Jr.; Beverly Marrero; Mary Wilder; and many others on the national, state, and local levels. She was instrumental in my campaigns going back to 1976, when I was a candidate for the state Constitutional Convention from the Midtown district. She was an enthusiastic supporter in all my subsequent races for the state Senate and later for Congress with her prominent and well-recognized yard signs on McLean. Mrs. Stiles attended four Democratic National Conventions and two presidential inaugurations. Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland proclaimed February 20, 2016 “Myra Stiles Day” for her dedicated service to the city and its citizens. Since 2003, Mrs. Stiles had been an active member of Mothers of the Nile, an organization which works to reduce the number of children entering the juvenile justice system. Mrs. Stiles loved politics, the democratic process and Democratic principles and her community will long remember her dedicated service. I extend my profound condolences to her children Allison, Sarah and Robert, and their families, and to her many friends and colleagues. She did important work and will be missed.

#### CELEBRATING CAIRO GEORGIA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Cairo, Georgia, located in Grady County, in my Congressional district, as they celebrate and commemorate their 150th Anniversary. The city was founded in 1835 and incorporated as a town in 1870 and a city in 1905. In 1906, it was designated as the county seat for the newly formed Grady County. It is an honor and a privilege to have represented the City of Cairo since my election to Congress in 1992.

There was a commemoration event held on Monday, October 26, 2020, at 6 PM during the Cairo City Council Meeting. The city has served as the catalyst to improve the quality of life for thousands of citizens.

The City of Cairo is a city that is steeped in a rich history and accomplishments that reflect the absolute best that our nation has to offer. Cairo, Georgia, was first settled in the early 1800s by William Hawthorne, a Baptist Preacher. Hawthorne cut a forty-mile trail through the area. Another early settler was Henry Miller, who moved to what was then Thomas County. He had a stagecoach stop. By 1860, The Atlantic and Gulf Railroad had bought land from residents Nancy and Malachi Collins, as well as from Phoebe and Washington Baggett. In 1866, H.H. Tooke and James H. Hayes sold land so that the town could be founded.

In 1862, Seaborn Anderson Roddenberry bought land from Mr. Miller and began his medical practice in a horse-drawn buggy by selling his open-kettle sugar cane syrup. By 1867, Roddenberry had a medical office and opened a general store and people from near and far bought syrup from large barrels and filled their own jars with his molasses. The nickname of the local Cairo High School is the Syrupmakers and Syrupmaids because of the importance of this industry in the formation and vitalization of this community. The Cairo plant of the Roddenberry Company was closed in 1993, and now serves as a regional community center.

The town council began meeting in 1871, and its first mayor was Wiley Pearce. Many dedicated men and women have served in elective office since the beginning of this historic town. The city is now led by Mayor Howard Thrower, III, and a five-member city council.

The city has not strayed from the foundation that was set by its early leaders with an attentiveness to the needs of the people above all else. Dr. George Washington Carver once said that “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life, you will have been all of these.”

The City of Cairo, Georgia, has overcome storms and difficult situations, but has stood the test of time. Through dedicated community servants, they have sought to meet the needs of their community and to move it forward for the betterment of all of its citizens. This city holds dear to the values that make this com-

munity and our country great—God, country, and family.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent this community in Congress and I look forward to seeing their growth and progression in the years to come. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating the City of Cairo for 150 years of dedicated service to God, the citizens of Cairo, and humankind.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE ARMED FORCES DEFERRED TAX RELIEF ACT

#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Armed Forces Deferred Tax Relief Act, legislation that will require the Department of Defense (DoD) to cover any additional taxes incurred by our brave servicemembers as a result of President Trump's reckless Presidential Memorandum issued on August 8, 2020.

President Trump's Memorandum instructed the Secretary of the Treasury to use his authority to defer Social Security payroll taxes between September 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020. The resulting Internal Revenue Service Notice postpones the collection of these taxes until the period beginning on January 1, 2021, and ends on April 30, 2021. This will result in our servicemembers paying double the tax, or 12.4 percent, each month of the first quarter of 2021.

Many private businesses have opted out of the deferral, but the DoD has forced our servicemembers to participate, sticking them with a large tax bill coming due in the new year. My legislation will require the DoD to reimburse our servicemembers for any additional taxes withheld as a result of this Administration's willful ignorance.

#### REVEREND SH'KUR FRANCIS

#### HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Sh'Kur Francis of the New Hope United Methodist Church. This church was founded 136 years ago, and Rev. Francis represents a new optimism for the New Hope Church.

With an upbringing from Charleston and Gullah-Geechee roots, Reverend Francis represents the Lowcountry well in upstate South Carolina. He will celebrate his sixth year of ministry there on November 15, 2020. Reverend Francis has been able to help the congregation grow and challenge previously held thoughts, to great success. Since his tenure as minister, the church attendance rate has nearly tripled.

Reverend Francis has been an activist his whole life and uses his ministry to talk about important social justice issues. His devotion calls to mind Isaiah 1:17, where we are told, “Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, and please the widow's cause.”

Reverend Francis has done impeccable and meaningful service to our state, and I wish him many more years of ministry. At only 26, he has made quite the impact on his community, and I look forward to seeing his growth in the years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2020 AS "PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a resolution today with my colleague from California and Chairwoman of the Health Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO. Our resolution raises awareness about pancreatic cancer and the importance of increased Congressional funding for research by expressing support for the designation of the month of November 2020 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. I am also pleased that our colleague in the Senate, Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE of Rhode Island, has introduced a Senate companion to this resolution. I am grateful for Congresswoman ESHOO and Senator WHITEHOUSE's leadership in helping to combat pancreatic cancer.

This year alone, pancreatic cancer has killed two American icons: our colleague Congressman John Lewis and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Pancreatic cancer recently killed baseball legend Bob Gibson, and it continues to sicken thousands of Americans fighting every day to survive this disease. This includes our colleague, Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS, who is currently fighting a courageous battle against this horrible cancer. Accurately described as a silent killer, this disease does not have an early detection test, so unfortunately, by year's end, pancreatic cancer will have killed an estimated 47,050 Americans and is the third largest cause of cancer-related death in our country. As COVID-19 continues to rob us of more than 222,000 of our fellow Americans, pancreatic cancer continues to devastate thousands of American families and communities. In my home state of Indiana, nearly 1,000 Hoosiers will be killed by pancreatic cancer by year's end, and almost 2,000 Hoosiers will be newly diagnosed with this terrible disease. Nationwide, an additional 57,600 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year.

These horrific statistics highlight how few tools exist to detect this disease and, as a result, the immense pain and suffering it causes. Alarming, pancreatic cancer still has no early detection test to quickly and accurately determine the presence of this cancer. As a result, it is very difficult to detect this cancer before it has advanced to later—and more deadly—stages. Tragically, sixty-six percent of pancreatic cancer patients live less than one year following their diagnosis. This was the case for our colleague Congressman John Lewis, who was killed by pancreatic cancer less than a year following his diagnosis.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also highlighted how longstanding health disparities and lack of access to care results in disproportionate numbers of infections and deaths from this virus in communities of color. Sadly, the same is true with pancreatic cancer. The incidence rate for pancreatic cancer among Black Americans is twenty percent higher than that of any other racial demographic and the death rate is seventeen percent higher for Black men than for white men. In this way, the lack of pancreatic cancer early detection research accelerates the racial inequities in our health care system, with devastating consequences for minorities.

To help detect pancreatic cancer earlier and to help address racial inequities, the 116th Congress has a unique opportunity to make historic investments in pancreatic cancer research at the Department of Defense (DoD). Congress can do this by enacting the \$15 million in pancreatic cancer research funding—first introduced through my amendment with Congresswoman ESHOO—and then passed by the full House. Within this research funding, DoD will include early detection research as a major funding priority to help more patients detect this deadly disease early. In fact, if diagnosed early, the five-year survival rate for pancreatic cancer patients is above 80%. However, our provisions have not yet passed the Senate, and current pancreatic cancer research funding remains at a fraction of the level that our fellow Americans struggling with this disease deserve. That's why it is so critical that we raise awareness about how deadly and destructive this cancer is to our American family, and why increasing pancreatic cancer research is critical to lowering this disease's deadliness.

Moreover, at a time when our country is having a national conversation about the deep disparities in access to health care for Black and Brown people during the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress must do everything within our power to improve health outcomes through research and treatment, and that includes pancreatic cancer. And in order to ensure that we improve outcomes, we need to raise awareness with the American public and our colleagues in Congress about just how deadly this cancer is and why we need to find early detection tools, effective treatments and reduce this disease's disproportionate impact on communities of color.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this resolution, and I urge my colleagues in the Senate to support our companion resolution introduced by Senator WHITEHOUSE.

HONORING RONNIE LOPEZ

**HON. GREG STANTON**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Ronnie Lopez, who passed away on Sunday, August 23, 2020, at the age of 73. Ronnie was an Arizona trailblazer; a champion for the Latino community; and a consequential leader who broke economic, social, and political barriers to forge a stronger path forward for our state.

Born in the spring of 1947, in Miami, Arizona, Ronnie was quick to seize new opportu-

nities and moved to Phoenix, Arizona, at the age of 20, where he investigated discrimination cases for the Arizona State Civil Rights Commission. Ronnie's passion for public service took many forms—from helping launch influential organizations, such as Chicanos Por La Causa and Valle del Sol, to serving as a Justice of the Peace and eventually becoming the chief of staff to then-Governor Bruce Babbitt. He was always at the forefront of change, breathing life into ideas conceived from the purpose of placing people above all else.

Ronnie cherished his role as a father, grandfather, and husband—and to him, family extended beyond relatives to include friends and neighbors, and he wove those values deeply within his work to strengthen the bonds within our community. He committed himself to the causes and people he believed in, meeting every opportunity "all in," as he would say. It's what made him unique—a leader who stood with us regardless of the challenge, the friend we could count on, and the mentor we all looked up to. Ronnie's relentless advocacy was inimitable, and it led to his lifelong friend, the late Representative Ed Pastor, being elected as the first Hispanic American to represent Arizona in Congress. While Ronnie credited others for his successes, insisting he stood on the shoulders of giants, he was always the first hand to reach out and lift others up with him.

His legacy will forever be a part of Arizona, reminding us of how much stronger we all stand when we are "all in." I thank Ronnie, and Godspeed.

ANGELS IN ADOPTION: MARGARITA AND EUGENE DAWSON III

**HON. DAN NEWHOUSE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 27, 2020*

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Today, I rise to celebrate and honor the exceptional contributions of Margarita "Maggie" and Eugene Dawson III. This year, I was honored to nominate Maggie and Eugene for the 2020 Angels in Adoption award, which recognizes the efforts of Americans who advocate for children in need of a family.

Maggie and Eugene experienced an unimaginable family tragedy. They welcomed their eight nieces and nephews to live in their home just two days after the children's mother lost her life at the hands of their father. The couple knew their nieces and nephews would need a home surrounded by family to heal from this trauma.

Together with their two biological children, Maggie and Eugene have created a safe place and secure family unit, ensuring the children have a chance to grow up with their siblings and cousins. In 2017, Maggie and Eugene were given permanent custody of the seven minors.

Now, as a family of 12, the Dawsons serve as an inspirational example of how families can thrive, even in the darkest of times. They represent the very best of Central Washington. I am proud to represent them in Congress, and I encourage all Americans to look to the Dawsons as an example of what makes our community strong.