

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to honor Joseph Johns (Schantz) as the founder of Johnstown and a visionary leader in our community. This recognition by the Cambria Regional Chamber and Junior Achievement of Western PA is a well-deserved honor and will continue to promote his remarkable legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE RENAMING OF THE VA ANN ARBOR MEDICAL CENTER IN HONOR OF LT. COLONEL CHARLES S. KETTLES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the occasion of the renaming of the VA Ann Arbor Medical Center in honor of Lt. Colonel Charles S. Kettles. His lifetime of service to our Nation and his heroic legacy makes this an occasion worthy of commendation.

Lt. Colonel Kettles was born on January 9, 1930, in Ypsilanti, Michigan. His father, Grant, was a pilot during World War I and II, so it was no surprise that, during his time in high school at the Edison Institute at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, he took to frequenting the school's Ford Motor Company flight simulator. After graduating from the Institute in 1949, he enrolled at Michigan State Normal College to study engineering but was drafted into the United States Army after two years. He later returned to the school, now Eastern Michigan University, to teach and develop the aviation program.

Lt. Colonel Kettles completed basic training at Camp Breckinridge and attended Officer Candidate School at Fort Knox. On Feb. 28, 1953, he earned his commission as an armor officer in the U.S. Army Reserve. He graduated from the Army Aviation School in 1953, before serving active duty tours in Korea, Japan, and Thailand. During the Vietnam War, Lt. Colonel Kettles heard the call and volunteered for active duty and was trained to fly. In 1966, he was assigned as a flight commander with the 176th Assault Helicopter Company, 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and was deployed to Vietnam.

During the Vietnam War, Lt. Colonel Kettles was credited with saving the lives of 44 men when he selflessly flew into enemy fire in Duc Pho, South Vietnam, four times with a damaged aircraft to rescue his fellow soldiers. For this act of bravery, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in 1968. On July 18, 2016, President Obama awarded him the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration in the United States.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Lt. Colonel Charles S. Kettles and celebrate the renaming of the VA Ann Arbor Medical Center in his honor. Lt. Colonel Kettles was a humble man, but due to his heroic actions, soldiers were able to return home safely to their families. With this medical center now bearing his name, it will ensure that his legacy and his bravery is remembered forever.

CONGRATULATING THE BARBERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL LADY EAGLES ON THEIR FIRST SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Barbers Hill High School Lady Eagles Softball Team for winning the 2021 Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) 5A High School Softball State Championship.

The Lady Eagles finished the 2020–2021 season, winning 37 consecutive games with a record of 42 wins and two losses. In the playoffs, Barbers Hill faced Manvel, Angleton, Friendswood, Waller, Montgomery, Lake Creek, and Hallsville before facing Aledo for the State Championship. On June 5, 2021, the Lady Eagles beat the Aledo Bearcats by a score of four to one winning their first state title.

Sophia Simpson, a senior Pitcher, was named the State Tournament Most Valuable Player capping off a 22–0 senior season. Six Eagles were selected by the Texas Girls Coaches Association to play on the Conference 5A All-Tournament Team: Sophia Simpson, Estela Garza, Faith Guidry, Reagan Duty, Delaney Dunham, and Samantha Landry.

I would like to personally recognize each individual that contributed to this team's winning season. Players: KateLynn Cooper, Brookelyn Livanec, Sophie Naivar, Samantha Landry, Harper Gonzalez, Amber Thibodeaux, Lauren Cliff, Brynn Hooper, Kenlee Vaughan, Kaylee Hornberger, Kaitlyn Dutton, Sophia Simpson, Delaney Dunham, Destiney Yoder, Faith Guidry, Reagan Duty, Maddie Glover, Chesnee Clements, Jacklynn Ortiz, Estela Garza, and Raegan Malone. Head Coach: Aaron Fuller. Assistant Coaches: Lacey Eads and Jared Smith. Athletic Trainers: Gina Pace, Adam Carroll, and Ha Nguyen. Student Trainer: MJ Stevens. Managers: Cheyenne Borden and Lauren Culppepper. Superintendent: Dr. Greg Poole. Athletic Director: Tom Westerberg. Principal: Rick Kana.

I wish each of these young ladies continued success in the classroom and athletics. Go Eagles.

HONORING GILES COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service of all the selfless men and women of law enforcement in Giles County, Virginia who ensured Noah Trout was brought home safely.

On May 2, 2021, 2-year-old Noah Gabriel Trout was abducted from his church nursery. Within a day, he was located by the police and securely returned to his mother. The Giles County Sheriffs Office and the Virginia State Police Department handled the case with great care and diligence. Virginia local and

state police partnered with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Marshals Service, Pearisburg Police Department, and National Center for Missing & Exploited Children to fulfill this duty to the best of their abilities.

Southwest Virginia is lucky to have law enforcement officers that hold their jobs to the highest regard and fight vigorously to keep the people of our region safe.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND REPLENISHMENT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Restaurant Revitalization Fund Replenishment Act. This bipartisan, bicameral legislation will replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund with \$60 billion in additional funding.

The restaurant industry has been uniquely devastated by the COVID–19 pandemic, accounting for a quarter of all job losses. The pandemic has cost restaurants and bars more than \$280 billion in sales and left devastating impacts on the entire food supply chain. Ninety-thousand restaurants have permanently closed and hundreds of thousands more have significantly scaled down their operations.

The Restaurant Revitalization Fund, created in Section 5003 of the American Rescue Plan Act (Pub. L. 117–2), provided \$28.6 billion for restaurants, bars, food trucks, caterers, tasting rooms, and taprooms to recover from the COVID–19 pandemic. Within days of opening the Fund, the SBA received requests for more funding than was available. Just three weeks after opening, the SBA received more than 362,000 applications requesting more than \$75 billion in funding—nearly triple available funding. Due to unprecedented need and a lack of funds, the SBA closed the application portal on May 24, 2021, meaning there is nearly \$50 billion in outstanding need that will go unmet unless Congress acts.

Even with months of positive steady job growth, restaurant and bars are still nearly one million jobs below their pre-pandemic averages. Dining restrictions still exist in 27 states, and consumer hesitancy threatens to prolong the hardship with 36 percent of diners saying they won't resume their regular dining behavior until at least after September 2021. Without congressional action, tens of thousands of beloved restaurants and bars simply won't survive.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund and work to get this battered industry back on its feet.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. JOHN SAMPSON

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Mr. John Sampson of Fort Wayne.

As the President and CEO of the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership, John has been indispensable in making possible the economic growth and general welfare that Hoosiers in northeast Indiana have enjoyed the last 15 years and will continue to enjoy for a long time to come.

John led the partnership since its founding in 2006. Prior to the partnership's creation, cities and counties in the region competed, more than did they cooperate, for investment. The region was experiencing a declining per-capita income and change was needed.

Thanks to John's leadership and his vision to make northeast Indiana a globally competitive economy, investment started coming in and the region began a transformation.

In his own words, "Working together, our region has overcome challenges and achieved major milestones many thought not possible. In collaboration with our partners from the private and public sectors throughout the 11 counties, we have built a foundation of regional strength and momentum that will serve the residents of Northeast Indiana for years to come."

John has been described as having "Unabashed passion for all things Northeast Indiana." Anyone who has met him agrees.

As John retires, I wish him the best for all that he has done after a long and distinguished career. This record is testament to his service for which northeast Indiana is grateful.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF JOHN LEONARD, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the esteemed career and public service of John V. Leonard, Jr, who retires from General Dynamics Electric Boat as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer on July 6, 2021. While John retires from a career in the private sector, his outstanding leadership and dedication as a senior employee at Electric Boat holds merits for maintaining the public interest as he has helped oversee an economic boon at Electric Boat, creating thousands of jobs for the hard working residents of eastern Connecticut while simultaneously advancing our national security priorities.

Having earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from the nearby University of Rhode Island, John was always meant to apply his expertise toward the betterment of our local community. Before dedicating his career to Electric Boat, however, John first went on to serve in the Marine Corps, achieving the rank of Captain, then going on to attend Columbia University where he earned an MBA in numerous areas of concentration. From there, John joined Electric Boat in 1980—first as a Financial Analyst—where he ultimately carried out the company's mission for more than 40 years.

John's track at Electric Boat has been defined by loyalty and an ever-increasing degree of responsibility. Receiving one of his first major promotions in 1995 to Vice President of Finance, John seized upon the opportunity to prove his leadership capabilities. In 1998,

when Electric Boat was experiencing an era of downsizing and uncertain financial sustainability, John envisioned a path where others had not and earned the company the Block I contract with the Navy for two Virginia-Class attack submarines. His mastery of unconventional problem solving and deep understanding of the engineering thought processes led John and Electric Boat to lay the groundwork that has allowed the company to meet today's high demands from the Navy.

John's success and contractually-focused perspective most recently earned him the appointment of Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in 2019, which has come after his promotion to the Chief Financial Office in 2003. As Senior Vice President, John has been responsible for a wide range of functions at Electric Boat, including finances, contracts, tax, strategic planning, IT management, oversight of the facility master plan, Applied Physical Sciences and the Washington Engineering Office.

Madam Speaker, John's presence and expertise at Electric Boat will be sorely missed. Our region and Electric Boat, however, can at least find solace in what his leadership has helped create: a healthy backlog of submarine construction and the highly sought after Columbia Build I contract, meaning that Electric Boat will be responsible for building out the nation's first ever, next generation sea-based strategic deterrent. This bright future for Electric Boat means great things for the second district's local economy and even more for the security of our national defense. We owe a lot of thanks to John Leonard's leadership abilities. To that end, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating John on his well-earned retirement, where he now goes on to spend more time with his wife Julia and adult sons Adam, Jack, Mason and Max.

COMMEMORATING 225 YEARS OF
TENNESSEE STATEHOOD WITH
THE KICKOFF CELEBRATION IN
JONESBOROUGH

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 225 years of Tennessee statehood. June 1, 2021 began a year-long celebration which will rightfully begin in the oldest town in Tennessee, Jonesborough, located in the First Congressional District and which was established seventeen years before Tennessee was granted statehood.

The original territory of Tennessee consisted of six counties—Washington, Sullivan, Greene, Davidson, Sumner, and Tennessee (later Montgomery & Robertson)—under the jurisdiction of North Carolina from 1777 to 1788. The counties requested protection from Native Americans and the right to navigate the Mississippi River but North Carolina neglected these territories so, in 1784, dissatisfied East Tennesseans formed the breakaway state of Franklin, or "Frankland," under the direction of John Sevier, the newly named governor. As North Carolinian officials discovered the territory's attempted independence, they slowly reasserted their authority over the area. Dis-

agreements among rival factions, coupled with the North Carolina resistance, doomed the state of Franklin, which passed out of existence in 1788. The following year, North Carolina gave its Tennessee lands to the Federal government which designated it as the Territory of the United States, South of the River Ohio, also known as the Southwest Territory. William Blount governed the territory and, in 1795, called for a constitutional convention in Knoxville to begin the process of joining the Union. Tennessee became the first Federal territory to apply for statehood and, after a close vote on June 1, 1796, became the 16th state of the Union.

Our Governor, Bill Lee, has declared the theme for this yearlong celebration "Untold Tennessee." He has encouraged Tennesseans to share their untold stories of people, places and events that have shaped our state since its beginning. With Jonesborough being the oldest town in Tennessee, established seventeen years prior to statehood, and home to the International Storytelling Center, it is only fitting that those stories begin to be told here.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Great State of Tennessee on 225 years of statehood and Jonesborough, located in the First Congressional District, on being the site of the kickoff of the yearlong celebration. I am proud to be a Tennessean and, even more so, to represent the people of the First District who will all be part of the next 225 years of stories that will continue to shape our state.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
EDDIE GOSSAGE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 11, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime accomplishments of Eddie Gossage, President and Manager of Texas Motor Speedway. Mr. Gossage retires following a career spanning over 25 years at Speedway Motorsports, LLC. It is my privilege to commend him for his tremendous support of North Texas and the creation of one of Fort Worth's most famous landmarks.

Mr. Gossage was personally instrumental in the founding, management, and ultimate success of Texas Motor Speedway. Since the facility's groundbreaking in 1995, it has not only become a go-to sporting destination for countless North Texans, it has also hosted the largest single-day crowd in Texas sports history. In addition, Mr. Gossage's motorsports accomplishments include hosting the first ever Indy night race. TMS has been the site of major music festivals and venue for countless civic and corporate events.

I applaud Mr. Gossage for his philanthropic efforts in bolstering the health and wellbeing of our community. Mr. Gossage serves on the Board of Directors for Speedway Children's Charities, and, most recently, offered the speedway as a "super" venue for distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine. Texas Motor Speedway's partnership with the Denton County Public Health Department resulted in the administration of over 375,000 vaccines from early February to mid-May. Thanks to Mr.