

Tennessee proud with all he's accomplished, and I wish him the best as he begins this next chapter in life.

HONORING THE WORK OF MR.
TROY HEITHECKER

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the exemplary work of Mr. Troy Heithecker of the U.S. Forest Service and to thank him for his service to the great state of Arkansas. For 25 years, Troy has dedicated his life to protecting our beautiful national forests, and we were privileged to have him for the last three years as the Forest Supervisor for the Ouachita National Forest in Hot Springs, AR.

As the only licensed forester in Congress, I can confidently say that Arkansas is blessed with one of the most beautiful, well-managed national forests in the country, and that would not be possible without leadership from individuals like Troy. Throughout the course of his career, Troy has achieved many major accomplishments through his work in national forests across the country. Notably, he worked with the State of Arkansas and other partners towards co-managing both forest and recreation resources on the Ouachita National Forest. He also led efforts to successfully restore the Red Cockaded Woodpecker habitat, established national hiring reform for the USDA Forest Service, and completed two collaborative landscape scale project decisions on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska.

Troy was recently selected to serve as the Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System in the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service in Washington, D.C. Arkansas's loss is certainly Washington's gain. I am grateful for Troy's service to the Ouachita National Forest, and I look forward to working with him in the future. I thank Troy for his dedication to leaving our forests better than he found them, so that they may be enjoyed by all Americans for generations.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS 22q
DELETION SYNDROME AWARE-
NESS MONTH

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, today I recognize DiGeorge Syndrome, or 22q Deletion Syndrome, awareness day and month.

22q Deletion Syndrome is a genetic syndrome caused by the deletion of a small part of chromosome 22 during a pregnancy, resulting in a wide-ranging scope of physical health issues and developmental delays for the child and leading to ongoing challenges for individuals diagnosed with 22q throughout their lives.

I would like to thank my constituent, Ms. Rebecca Osberg, for her impactful work on raising awareness for 22q Deletion Syndrome and for bringing this important issue to my attention. Ms. Osberg and so many families around

the country are leading the charge to shine a light on 22q Deletion Syndrome and related rare diseases. Thank you for your tireless advocacy.

This month is a time to celebrate individuals with 22q and their often-overlooked contributions to our communities.

HONORING STOCKTON FIRE
CAPTAIN VIDAL "MAX" FORTUNA

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Stockton Fire Captain Vidal "Max" Fortuna, who was tragically killed in the line of duty while responding to a fire in Stockton, California, on January 31st.

A beloved husband and father of two, Captain Fortuna was a 21-year veteran of the Stockton Fire Department. He was an active member of his local church and helped coach youth sports in his free time.

Captain Fortuna was known for his selflessness and dedication to the community he served. He loved his job and went out of his way to work with and mentor young firefighters, and he has been praised by many within the Stockton Fire Department as a model firefighter who inspired others. His colleague, Fire Chief Rick Edwards, fondly remembers him as having an addictive smile and the ability to make anyone laugh when they were feeling down.

Sadly, this is a tragic reminder of the dangers emergency responders face every day. Captain Fortuna's courage will not be forgotten, and I ask that you join me in honoring his life, his service, and his memory.

RECOGNIZING EMMA WHITE

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Emma White, who was my legislative assistant, for her service to Kentucky's Second District.

Emma, a native of London, Kentucky, graduated from Western Kentucky University with degrees in Criminology, Arabic, and Political Science. After graduating from college, Emma moved to D.C. to work as a staff assistant in my Washington office. Emma's extensive knowledge of Kentucky and strong work ethic made her a valuable member of the team. After a brief hiatus as a legislative staffer for another congressional office, Emma rejoined my office as a legislative assistant. Her ability to excel in many subjects in college was evident in how she excelled in handling her diverse legislative portfolio, including education and labor, transportation and infrastructure, small business, and natural resources policy. As my education staffer and as a proud Hilltopper, Emma worked with her alma mater and other education institutions in my district.

I want to thank Emma for her work for Kentucky's Second District through the multiple

roles she held in my office. I wish her the best in the next chapter of her career.

IN MEMORY OF SCOTT TARWATER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Scott Tarwater, a man whose life was marked by excellence and deep influence within his community. Over the years, Tarwater developed a profound reverence for the state of Texas and committed his life to encouraging the growth of North Texas whilst preserving its storied past. During his childhood, Tarwater watched the land around him transform as the Army Corps of Engineers began the development of Lake Grapevine along his family farm property. Tarwater and his wife, Donna, were married on the third step of the family's historic farmhouse, which showcases not only the union of two individuals as one married couple, but the union of reverence for the past and hope for the future which defined Tarwater's life. He watched and participated as a young man alongside his family as they partnered with Peter Paul Stewart, a landman who developed the treasured family farm into Lakeside Village. The Tarwater family farm now also serves as the grounds for Lakeside Tower, which has facilitated travel and business to the Flower Mound community. In March 2020, the Tarwater farmhouse was transported from Flower Mound to Grapevine, to make room for the influential Lakeside Village and to be enshrined forever as a historical landmark and testament to the Tarwater's investment in North Texas. Mr. Tarwater's professional life began with picking tomatoes on the farm and as he furthered his career, he kept his family's joy of continually serving their community close at heart. Following his graduation from Stephen F. Austin State University, Tarwater pursued a series of remarkable business successes in the hospitality industry. He worked as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing from 1982 to 1985 at American International Rent a Car, Inc., managing global accounts and developing his skills as a salesman of international renown. In the following years he became Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Windsor Hospitality Group, dedicating 10 years of his life to the company between 1990 and 2000. Tarwater spent the largest portion of his career with John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts. Hammons Hotels & Resorts was considered at one point to be the largest private owner and hotel management company in the U.S., due to John Hammons' skill as well as his foresight in selecting Scott Tarwater to work as his close associate and business partner. Tarwater spent the final part of his career as Executive Vice President of Development Services with New Stream Capital. In his collective professional life, Tarwater managed the sales and marketing efforts of over 101 upscale hotels over the course of 15 years with both Windsor Hospitality and Hammons Hotels & Resorts. Throughout this great international success, Tarwater also kept Grapevine and Flower Mound in mind. In his work at New Stream Capital and Hammons Hotels,

Tarwater established the first hotel in Flower Mound, the Flower Mound Courtyard River Walk, and Grapevine's Embassy Suites Hotel. Though Tarwater lived a life of travel and adventure, he never lost sight of North Texas and its rich history. Tarwater embodies the best of Texas as a trailblazer and dedicated family man. Acquaintances and coworkers of Tarwater alike have appreciated his sincere friendship and the joy with which he approached life and work. Scott Tarwater has fundamentally propelled Grapevine and Flower Mound into a force on the world stage and preserved its historical integrity for years to come. I am honored to recognize the life of Scott Tarwater and his exemplary service to North Texas. I thank Mr. Tarwater for his excellence and dedication to the community we all hold so dear. I offer my condolences to the Tarwater family and Scott's loved ones and hold his example close to my heart.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF PAUL LAMISON

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Paul Lamison, a beloved member of the Tampa Bay community, who passed away on August 4, 2022. Raised in Lakeland, Florida as one of seven siblings, Paul took great pride in his roots. Paul's dedication to journalism and sharing moments in history, big and small, that chronicled and defined our Tampa community is worthy of recognition. His devotion to family also is a great example of the quiet heroes in our lives everyday who deserve praise and honor.

As Chief Photojournalist for Tampa's WFLA News Channel 8, Paul was a familiar voice and face for viewers and News Channel 8 staff alike throughout the course of his nearly 30-year career. Working firmly behind the camera for much of his career, Paul went on to be known as the man with 'the best seat in the house' when he transitioned to his integral role on the morning team and as News Channel 8's 'eye in the sky' in the Eagle 8 news helicopter. Reporting on events from the daily morning commute to celebrations of sports championships to the Gasparilla parade and special episodes in the lives of Tampa Bay area residents, Paul connected the community with professionalism and good cheer. Those who knew Paul loved him, describing him as a passionate, fun-loving person and a light that lifted up everyone around him. Paul's energy and joy was a constant, experienced both on and off screen. His authenticity and commitment have left an immensely positive impact on a generation of journalists, as well as his family and friends. Paul's legacy will continue to live through his siblings along with his wife, Nerissa, and their daughters Emily, Kate, Ava, and Emma.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor Paul Lamison for his lifelong dedication to journalism and to sharing stories of all the great people and places that make up our community. We are all eternally grateful for his immense contributions. His legacy

will live on and inspire many others in the Tampa Bay community and beyond for years to come.

HONORING SENIOR CHIEF MICHAEL BELINKIE

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Senior Chief Michael Belinkie after twenty years of service in the United States Navy. Born and raised in Richmond, Virginia, Senior Chief Belinkie grew up in a musical family with generations of cantors leading religious services at prominent synagogues in Richmond and New York. He further refined his talents as a classical tenor while earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in music and economics at the University of Virginia where he also performed with the Virginia Glee Club, Coro Virginia, and in the university's renowned acapella group, the Virginia Gentleman. While in college, Operafestival di Roma invited Senior Chief Belinkie to spend a summer abroad training and performing with other promising young opera singers from around the world.

Acknowledging the challenges of pursuing a successful career in music, Senior Chief Belinkie graduated from George Mason University's School of Law. During his legal studies, he continued to perform locally in northern Virginia, and he ultimately auditioned for an opening for a tenor in the United States Navy Band. He learned he passed the Virginia Bar Exam a few weeks before shipping off to boot camp.

Senior Chief Belinkie enlisted in the United States Navy in 2002 and has had the honor of performing for presidential inaugurations, state dinners, state funerals, and for foreign dignitaries. An avid sports fan, the United States Navy Band also allowed him to sing at two Super Bowls, the World Series, and countless other professional sports events. Known by fans throughout the United States for his incredible vocal range and high falsetto, videos of his renditions of a "Jersey Boys" medley, "White Christmas," and others quickly went viral on social media, garnering more than 100 million views. In 2005, Senior Chief Belinkie sang the world premiere solo of "A Season of Miracles" by Marvin Hamlisch at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, with Hamlisch accompanying on piano.

I give my heartfelt congratulations to Michael Belinkie, a lifelong Virginian, on his distinguished career and retirement from the United States Navy Band. I wish him well in his next endeavors and hope he continues to lend his talents to the great state of Virginia.

HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE RANDY NIX

HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, and a self-

less public servant, State Representative Randy Nix of LaGrange, Georgia. Representative Nix was born in Holtville, Alabama. He attended local schools and graduated from Troy State University with a degree in business. Following graduation, Randy served as a chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Army Reserve for five years. He went on to serve seven years in the Alabama Air National Guard, where his final assignment was a role as the weapons system officer flying the RF4-C Phantom aircraft. He was honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

Representative Nix also had a successful career in the financial services industry. He is currently a pastor at the Hillcrest United Methodist Church in LaGrange. Along with his service to the district in the Georgia General Assembly, Randy is very active in the local community. He previously served as president of both the Boys and Girls Club of West Georgia and the West Georgia Technical College Foundation Board, and is currently a Rotarian.

As Representative Nix approaches his retirement, I would like to recognize the sixteen years of unwavering service he has provided to the citizens of District 69. Serving his community is his passion, and his retirement is hard earned and well deserved. May God continue to bless Representative Nix and his wife, Debra, and their children, Julie and Jess, in the years to come.

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY 2022

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in honor of Women's Entrepreneurship Day, which is celebrated around the world each year on November 19th.

Women-owned U.S. firms make up nearly 20 percent of all firms that employ people and this number is growing. There are nearly 13 million women-owned firms in the U.S. alone and they employ close to 10 million people. As a testament to their success, women-owned firms reported revenues of nearly \$1.8 trillion. This is truly astounding and shows you how vital women are to the economy. I applaud these women entrepreneurs and their economically vital businesses.

I also applaud the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement, which is spearheaded by Wendy Diamond. Since it launched in 2013, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization has annually funded one thousand impoverished women with microloans to start their entrepreneurial journey, hosted a nationwide entrepreneurship training program for 60,000 female college students and early-stage entrepreneurs in Saudi Arabia, supported Restart Academy, which provides educational services for 13–21-year-old students in transitional settings, provided financial literacy education to one thousand rural women in the Philippines, and partnered with a Uruguayan university to offer scholarships to young women.

Women's Entrepreneurship Day is now celebrated in 144 countries and 65 universities and colleges internationally, with numerous global ambassadors. The Women's Entrepreneurship Day mission is to empower the nearly four billion women worldwide to be catalysts