

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN
OF TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the service, dedication, and sacrifice of the members of the 60th Air Mobility Wing, the 349th Air Mobility Wing, the 621st Contingency Response Wing, and their partner agencies at Travis Air Force Base, which I have the distinct privilege of representing as part of California's Third Congressional District. They exemplify the best of America, and their tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

For eighty years, Travis Air Force Base has stood as a pillar of strength, projecting peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region and providing support to American troops around the world. This mission is only accomplished thanks to the blood, sweat, and fortitude of the 18,000 airmen and their families that maintain the highest levels of readiness and capability. Every single day this all-volunteer force provides essential aerial refueling, airlift operations, aeromedical evacuation, highly-specialized rapid response contingency operations capabilities, and unmatched support to produce and execute rapid global mobility in support of our national defense.

Last year alone the men and women of Travis Air Force Base met a challenge of colossal scale when they played a pivotal role in completing the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. Team Travis aircrews evacuated 12,962 Afghans while managing security and operations at the airport in Kabul.

The valor and heroism displayed by the men and women of Travis was imitable and worthy of recognition. Last month, I spoke with Captain Kayleigh Migaleddi, who helped evacuate 117 orphan children from the region during Operation Allies Refuge. She spoke about how she would have been at the Abbey Gate the moment a suicide bomber killed 13 Americans had it not been for an orphaned child who needed her assistance elsewhere on base. With tears in her eyes, she told me that she owed her life to that child, who she later helped reach safety and begin a new life. Captain Migaleddi's story is just one of the many stories I heard that exemplify the character leadership, and bravery that is cultivated at Travis Air Force Base. Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed by these men and women. They put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many. I am grateful every day that I have the opportunity to represent such an upstanding community in Congress.

This total force effort of active and reserve airmen directly enabled the largest non-combatant evacuation operation in known world history, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. Simply put, Travis Air Force Base is the very best our nation has to offer. Its strategic importance stands as a beacon of hope to our allies and a stern reminder of American resolve to our enemies. On behalf of a grateful nation and all the constituents of California's Third Congressional District, I would like to thank the men and women of Travis Air Force Base and express my sincere gratitude for

their sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great nation.

RECOGNIZING JAMES BROGNA,
UNICO NATIONAL SCRANTON
CHAPTER'S UNICAN OF THE
YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James Brogna who will be named the UNICAN of the Year for the UNICO National Scranton Chapter. He will be recognized at the Chapter's annual Charity Ball on February 26.

James is the son of Frank and the late Marie Lombardo and the brother of Frank, retired Lieutenant Colonel of the U.S. Marine Corps. He attended Bloomsburg University where he earned his BA in mass communications and public relations, and he earned his MS in organizational management from Misericordia University.

James began his career in television and radio, spending five years at WVIA Public Broadcasting and working at WGGY-FM and part time at WBRE TV. In 1999, he joined Allied Services Integrated Health System as the Director of Development. He currently serves as the Vice President of Strategic Partnership for the organization.

James has been fiercely dedicated to serving his community. He is a current board member of the Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber and Leadership Wilkes-Barre, and he was elected to the Crestwood School District's Board of Education in 2019. His expertise in the health and human services industry helped guide Northeastern Pennsylvania during COVID-19 through his service on the Luzerne County Pandemic Task Force and the S.O.S. NEPA Nursing Home Pandemic Task Force. He is a past member and former board member of the Rotary Club of the Abingtons and the Kiwanis Club of Mountain Top. He has been active with both Catholic Social Services of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties and the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) as a past Chair and Board Member.

In 2010, he co-founded WNEP-TV Ryan's Run Campaign which has raised more than \$4 million for Allied Services. James himself has finished ten marathons, including the New York City, Scranton, and Marine Corps Marathons. James is also an effective fundraiser, championing veterans' causes like Catholic Social Services' St. Francis Commons for Veterans and Team Red, White & Blue, establishing a local chapter of the organization that helps veterans thrive in their transition from military to civilian life.

His sharp business acumen and his unyielding generosity with his time have earned him recognition as a Top 40 under 40 in Business in 2008 and the Outstanding Alumni Award from Leadership Wilkes-Barre. He was also named an Outstanding Fundraising Professional from the AFP and a Paul Harris Fellow Award recipient by Rotary International. He shares his extensive knowledge as a guest lecturer at the University of Scranton, Marywood University, and Misericordia

University for undergraduate and masters level courses in marketing, non-profit leadership, and health care management.

I am honored to join with the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National in recognizing James for his commitment to his community and the work he does to uphold Allied Services' mission. May he continue to feel inspired and moved to work on behalf of the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

CALLING FOR BALANCED BUDGET

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, the House is set to take up a third stopgap funding bill since the fiscal year started back in October 2021.

Let me phrase that differently. We are nearly halfway into fiscal year 2022 and Congress has yet to fund the government.

America is flat broke. Last week the Treasury Department announced that our national debt exceeds 830 trillion, reaching a calamitous level and tripling in the last decade. Inflation is at a historic 40-year high. Yet Congress cannot do its basic job and pass a budget on time.

Instead of addressing real issues facing our nation, the House of Representatives is once again kicking the can for three more weeks to give Congress additional time to try to pass another bloated budget.

Congress cannot spend its way into prosperity, and we must end the frantic habit of governing from one crisis to another. Instead of running up bills we can't pay for, we should be funding the common-sense priorities of the American people, including securing the border, adequately funding our military, reducing taxes and eliminating job-killing regulations.

Today, I reiterate my call for a balanced budget. If we cannot balance the budget rationally, we need a balanced budget constitutional amendment that would force Congress to live within its means, like everyone else.

I have spent my time in Congress trying to reduce spending and stopping this nonsense. I will be voting against this irresponsible kick-the-can-down-the-road continuing resolution. Spending more money that we don't have will not solve our nation's fiscal problems.

All of us will pay the price in the future. Unfortunately, our children and grandchildren will be most impacted. This is immoral to harm future generations but that is what today's continuing resolution does.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
STEPHEN ANTHONY HARTGEN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, along with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Senator JIM RISCH, I rise to call attention to the outstanding life of Stephen Anthony Hartgen, long-time editor and publisher of the Times-News in Twin Falls, Idaho, five-term Idaho

State legislator, community businessman, and Magic Valley cultural historian. Steve, as he was called by his family and friends, passed away on December 31, 2021, at 77 years old.

Steve was born on September 30, 1944 in Baltimore, Maryland, one of twin sons of Vincent and Frances Hartgen. He grew up in rural Orono, Maine, spending his young years in the state's forests, and along its trout streams and coastlines. He graduated from Hebron Academy in Hebron, Maine, in 1962, and from Amherst College in 1966. He later earned an MA degree from Brandeis University in 1968, and a PhD from the University of Minnesota in 1976, both in American history.

He began his newspaper career while in college as an intern reporter at the Bangor Daily News in Bangor, Maine. He went on to work as a reporter and editor at The Minneapolis Star, and later at the San Diego Union and the Casper Star-Tribune as managing editor. He also taught journalism, media history and public affairs reporting at the University of Minnesota and Ohio State University.

Steve came to Twin Falls in 1982 as editor of the Times-News, working alongside then-publisher William E. Howard and general manager Richard High as Howard publications expanded across the country. By 1990, he was promoted to publisher of the Times-News.

In his years at the Times-News, Steve's leadership raised the newspaper's visibility and impact, making it one of the state's leading conservative newspapers. His common-sense and fiscally responsible editorial perspectives earned him much respect among business leaders, public officials and the community. It was during his time at the Times-News when we had the opportunity to meet and talk with Steve during our many interviews with the editorial board. We greatly enjoyed our lively visits with Steve.

Not one to be idle, Steve continued his involvement in the Magic Valley community after he left the newspaper in 2005. He became Executive Director of Business Plus, a Magic Valley economic development group, which brought hundreds of new jobs and more than \$2 billion investment dollars to the valley. The growth was so spectacular that then Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter called it the "Magic Valley Miracle."

Steve was a stalwart member of the Twin Falls County Republican Central Committee where he served as state committeeman for more than a decade, from 2008 to 2019. He also served on the Idaho Capitol Commission from 1998 to 2016, a group which oversaw the renovation and remodel of Idaho's premier public building.

In 2008, Steve was appointed to the Idaho House of Representatives by Gov. Otter where he served until 2019. While in the legislature, Steve chaired the Commerce & Human Resources Committee. He retired from the legislature for health reasons at the end of 2018 and was replaced by his wife Rep. Linda Wright Hartgen.

Following his retirement, Steve wrote extensively on the cultural history and patterns of life in the Magic Valley and southern Idaho, publishing "Tradition & Progress: Southern Idaho's Growth Since 1990" in 2019, and "Spirit of Place: Southern Idaho Values Across Generations" in 2020. Additionally, he wrote columns for several Idaho newspapers and blog sites on southern Idaho politics and cul-

tural changes. His books and columns frequently reflected his love of the Magic Valley, which he often called the best region in the best state in the best nation on the planet.

Beyond his media work and his public service, Steve maintained an interest in western history, particularly the settlement of southern Idaho. He was also an avid fly fisherman, an outdoor activity he learned as a young man in Maine.

In his later years, Steve developed health problems, but he continued to serve in public roles and did not think of himself as disabled in any way. Steve is survived by his devoted wife Rep. Linda Wright Hartgen and his family.

While we will miss Steve's common-sense approach to public issues, fiscal policy and statewide public affairs, we will miss his friendship the most. Rest in peace, good friend, and loyal servant.

HONORING QUINLAN-HAMMOND HALL OF HONOR

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, today we celebrate the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor is a state-of-the-art facility that represents the University of Southern Mississippi's commitment to honor our nation's heroes. The dedication ceremony will honor Joe Quinlan, USM alumnus and lead benefactor for the Hall of Honor, as well as U.S. Army Major General (Retired) Jeff Hammond, USM alumnus and former Golden Eagles Football Team Captain and Quarterback. These two gentlemen have earned this recognition for their service to the Golden Eagle community.

The University's Center for Military Veterans, Service Members and Families provides guidance and support to Student-Veterans in their academic and professional pursuits. Major General Jeff Hammond, who serves as the Center's Director, has led the University of Southern Mississippi to earn numerous prestigious recognitions, including the top Military Caring University across the State of Mississippi, designation as a Purple Heart Institution, and ranking No. 1 in the Southeast by Military Times in its "Best for Vets: Colleges 2021 Rankings."

The new Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor will provide more than 1,700 USM Military Students and Student-Veterans with a home of their own that is commensurate with the honor of which they are deserving.

Today is a special day. The dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor symbolizes the University of Southern Mississippi's continued commitment and gratitude to our nation's heroes for their unwavering dedication to our country. As a Marine veteran and USM alumnus, I want to thank the University's Administration, the USM Foundation, and the more than 150 USM alumni donors who made the construction of the new Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor possible for their commitment to honor those who serve. SMTT.

Semper Fidelis.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, on February 7, I was absent for recorded vote No. 32 on agreeing to the amendment on the Buck of Colorado Part B Amendment No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

IRAN UNVEILS MISSILE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the clearest revelation of Iran with duplicitous intent in the insane nuclear agreement discussions is uninterrupted missile development designed for nuclear attacks on Israel and the United States.

The murderous boasting of capabilities is confirmed by a Reuters report by Parisa Hafezi published by February 9, 2022. While negotiators blather with meaningless deadlines, the delivery systems continue unabated.

It is crucial we stand with Saudi Arabia and our Arab Gulf partners.

I appreciate the efforts of the America Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) to alert the American people of the growing threats. President Betsy Korn and South Carolina Midlands coordinator Dr. David Kulbersh are crucial for raising the alarm over Iran's murderous intent. I am also confident the venerated American Jewish Congress led by Jack Rosen will raise awareness of the growing threat.

[From Reuters, Feb. 9, 2022]

IRAN UNVEILS LONG-RANGE MISSILE AS
VIENNA NUCLEAR TALKS RESUME

(By Parisa Hafezi)

DUBAI.—Iran unveiled a new domestically-made missile with a range of 1,450 kilometers on Wednesday, state TV reported, a day after Tehran and Washington resumed indirect talks to salvage a 2015 nuclear deal.

Iran, which has one of the biggest missile programmes in the Middle East, says its ballistic missiles have a range of up to 2,000 km (1,200 miles) and are capable of reaching its arch-foe Israel and U.S. bases in the region.

State TV displayed the new surface-to-surface "Kheibar Shekan" (Kheibar buster) missile, which refers to an ancient Jewish oasis called Kheibar in the Arabian Peninsula's Hijaz region that was overrun by Muslim warriors in the 7th century.

"This long-range missile is domestically manufactured by the Revolutionary Guards (IRGC). . . . It has high accuracy and is propelled by solid fuel and is capable of penetrating missile shields," Iranian state media reported.

Tehran regards its missile programme as an important deterrent against the United States, Israel and other adversaries. It has rejected Western demands to halt its ballistic missile work.

"Iran will continue advancing its ballistic missile programme," Iran's armed forces chief of staff Major General Mohammad Bagheri told a ceremony at an IRGC base