

them for protecting one of Idaho's most important natural resources—the Snake River Plain Aquifer.

Now, current cleanup contractor Idaho Environmental Coalition led by a qualified management team and the same hard-working employees is setting its sights on the second phase of this project. A cover will be constructed over the entire 97-acre landfill to further protect the aquifer. This will be a massive undertaking that will require the Congress and the DOE to be in lockstep in terms of continuing to fund this critically important conclusion to the buried waste project.

The Cold War is part of this Nation's history. Idaho played its part in this country winning the Cold War. Employees of the Idaho Cleanup Project are helping to clean up the legacy of the Cold War. Again, please join me in thanking them for their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to protecting the environment in Idaho.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD
L. GUTIERREZ, SR.

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Richard L. Gutierrez, Sr., who proudly served his country in uniform in World War II and the Korean War.

Born August 15, 1925, in East Los Angeles, California, Mr. Gutierrez was the son of Frank F. and Esther L. Gutierrez. He attended Riggan Elementary School, Garfield High School, Compton College, and the University of Southern California.

Mr. Gutierrez fought in World War II, enlisting in 1943 as a Navy Seabee, assigned to the 4th Division of the Marines, Platoon 133 Seabee support, Company B. He participated in battles on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima where he earned the Purple Heart. He also served as a Marine in the Korean War, during which, he was recalled to Camp Pendleton and served as a Drill Instructor.

Mr. Gutierrez was married in 1948 to Virginia Lopez. This marriage lasted for 50 years. He leaves behind six children: Priscilla, Michelle, Richard Jr., Thomas, Aida, and Michael, who is a dedicated Catholic priest in La Puente; eleven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

After his military career and college training, he worked as an aerospace engineer for Douglas Aircraft, North American/Rockwell until he retired. During his professional career he was a team member who developed the Apollo and lead engineer on the command module of the Space Shuttle. Mr. Gutierrez died on March 6, 2022, in Duarte, California.

I extend my deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Richard L. Gutierrez, Sr., and I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Gutierrez's service to our Nation.

HONORING PAUL THIEM

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 104th birthday of Paul Thiem. Born on April 1, 1918, Mr. Thiem is a veteran and a resident of Wakefield, New Hampshire. During World War II, he answered the call of his nation and joined the U.S. Army Corps. Paul is an honorable member of our community, and is a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

As a young patriot, Paul went above and beyond the call of duty in his service to his country, but his service to others does not end there. Following his military service, Paul traveled around the world, building factories that made shoes for nurses. His travels brought him to places such as Poland, Italy, Spain and Korea.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to wish Mr. Thiem a happy 104th birthday and thank him for his service to our Nation. I hope that he has a wonderful celebration with his loved ones and fellow veterans. His sacrifice will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING A CRITICAL AND
STRATEGIC ASSET FOR MARINE
CORPS AVIATION AT MARINE
CORPS AIR STATION, CHERRY
POINT, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a critical and strategic asset for Marine Corps Aviation—Fleet Readiness Center East (FRC East) located in Havelock, North Carolina. Since 1943, FRC East on board Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina, has played an important role in securing the national defense of our great country. Their workforce has earned a reputation for excellence in providing world-class maintenance, engineering and logistics support for Navy and Marine Corps aviation, as well as other armed services, federal agencies and foreign governments.

FRC East has accomplished this vital mission while maintaining a safe and healthy work environment. The depot's Safety and Occupational Health programs have been recognized at the state and federal levels, as well as within the Department of Defense. FRC East closed out calendar year 2021 with the lowest number of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recordable mishaps in the command's nearly 80-year history. The depot's superior standard of safety has also earned recognition from the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). VPP highlights employers with effective safety and health management systems that record injury and illness rates below the average for their industries.

In 2019, FRC East became the first Naval Aviation command to achieve OSHA VPP Star Status. The depot is one of only 21 VPP Star

recognized sites in the entire Department of the Navy. FRC East was recently chosen as one of five sites for a Department of the Navy and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health study aimed at evaluating VPP's effectiveness in reducing noncombat injuries. FRC East has also been recognized by the North Carolina Department of Labor. The depot was presented with two "Million Hour" awards and its fourth consecutive "Gold Award." Million Hour safety awards are given to organizations that accumulate one million employee hours with no injuries or illnesses involving days away from work. To meet the Gold Award standard, an organization must have had no fatalities during the award year, and also post a Day Away, Restricted or Transferred (DART) rate at least 50 percent below the industry average.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing FRC East for its unwavering commitment to workplace safety. FRC East's culture of safety ensures the depot's most valuable resource, the highly skilled men and women who work there, are protected. I would also like to express my appreciation to the outstanding employees of FRC East for their dedication and continued service to our nation, our allies, and the Eastern North Carolina community.

IN RECOGNITION OF KAYLA
HAMEDI AND HER SERVICE TO
THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COM-
MITTEE AND NY'S 10TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank Kayla Hamedy for her service to the House Committee on the Judiciary and to my office.

Kayla first worked for me as an intern, serving the people of New York's 10th Congressional District, as she finished up her studies at the George Washington University, where she received her bachelor's degree. She continued to work in the federal policy field after her internship ended, working for Active Policy Solutions and Rep. KRISHNAMOORTHY of Illinois. During this time, she also received her master's degree from the George Washington University's College of Professional Studies.

A little more than two years after her internship with my office had concluded, my staff and I excitedly welcomed Kayla back as a full-time staff member. Due to her strong work ethic and intellect, Kayla moved up several times in my office, first from Staff Assistant to Press Assistant/Legislative Correspondent and then to Legislative Assistant/Press Assistant. In these capacities, she staffed my front office, communicated with my constituents, handled press and digital communication, and worked on several policy portfolios. Notably, she helped assist my office during my campaign to become Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee.

In November 2019, Kayla transitioned from my personal office to the Committee, where she first served as Deputy Press Secretary and was then promoted to Deputy Communications Director. Kayla joined the committee

during a particularly busy time, as we geared up for the first impeachment of President Trump and played an instrumental role in our communication work surrounding the impeachment, including helping book TV interviews, as well as the second impeachment a year later.

Kayla played an integral role in communicating to the public the work the Committee was doing for the American people. In addition to making sure every statement went out to the press as it was delivered, Kayla worked with other committees and other member offices to coordinate press releases, press conferences, and communication strategies; coordinated briefings with reporters ahead of major breaking news events; and worked with national and international reporters on a range of issues before the committee. She also worked with our chief counsels to shape and perfect their messaging prior to the start of numerous hearings and worked on communication campaigns relating to a range of judiciary issues, including but not limited to our work on voting rights, prohibiting forced arbitration for sexual harassment claims, and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Kayla helped roll out the Staff Report on our Antitrust Subcommittee's Investigation of Competition in Digital Markets, served as our primary point of contact for all press inquiries and communication efforts for several months when we transitioned between Communication Directors, and served as our primary digital staffer when we transitioned between Digital Directors.

For more than four years, I have been fortunate to count Kayla among my staff. I, and the American people, have greatly benefited from her work ethic, intellect, and strategic thinking. Kayla is calm in even the most stressful situations, always willing to lend a hand whenever one is needed, and brings a positive energy and a good spirit to everything she does. She has played a critical role in both serving New York's 10th Congressional District and informing the American people of the work of my office and the Committee on the Judiciary. We will greatly miss Kayla as she embarks on the next chapter of her career on Capitol Hill.

We thank Kayla for her service to the Committee and wish her the best of luck with this new chapter.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN ROSS A. REYNOLDS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the late Captain Ross A. Reynolds. A United States Marine and constituent of mine from Leominster, Massachusetts, Captain Reynolds, along with three other Marines, tragically lost his life in a NATO training exercise near Bodoë, Norway on March 18, 2022. At only 27 years old, Captain Reynolds had accomplished so much and yet had so much life ahead—for that I'm heartbroken.

Captain Reynolds joined the Marine Corps in 2017 and served as an MV-22 Osprey pilot until the time of his death. During his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service

Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, and countless other certificates and letters of appreciation. These accolades exemplify Captain Reynolds' commitment to the ideals of this nation and to serving a cause greater than himself.

Often described as an exceptional leader and an even better friend, Captain Reynolds was known for his smile and the joy he brought into any room. From a young age, he exhibited pride for his country and a desire to be of service to others. As an Eagle Scout, Captain Reynolds often volunteered to hold up the American flag at community events and his good spirit was infectious as a camp counselor at Camp Wanocksett in Dublin, New Hampshire. His presence was a light in the lives of everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

Madam Speaker, Captain Reynolds lived a life fuller than the one I can paint with these words. His service to his community, his country, and the people he loved cannot be understated. Captain Reynolds was compassionate, caring, and showed up every day as good Marine, son, husband. He was the best version of the kind of people and citizens we all should aspire to be—put simply, Captain Reynolds was a good man. My wife Lisa and I extend our deepest condolences to his family, and we will keep them in our prayers.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and the entire Second Congressional District of Massachusetts, I extend my deepest regrets to everyone who has been impacted by this terrible tragedy. May Captain Reynolds' loved ones find peace in knowing that so many people across the Nation join them in remembering his life and service during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING EQUITY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Government Advertising Equity Accountability Act, which would require all federal agencies to include in their annual budget requests to Congress the amount they spend on advertising contracts with small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs) and businesses owned by minorities and women. Federal agencies would be required to provide prior and projected total expenditures for such contracts. The Committee on Appropriations, at my and Representative BARBARA LEE's request, has been requiring such information from many agencies for the last several years, but my bill would codify this requirement and apply it to all federal agencies.

In 2007, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined spending on advertising contracts with minority-owned businesses by five agencies—the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of the Interior and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration—and found that only five percent of the \$4.3 billion available for advertising contracts went to minority businesses. In light of these concerning find-

ings, several Members of Congress and I sent a letter to GAO in April 2016 requesting updated information on the amount of federal advertising dollars spent with SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women. That GAO report, released in July 2018, showed that in fiscal year 2017, only 16 percent of the federal government's advertising contract obligations went to SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women.

The federal government is the largest advertiser in the United States, and it has an obligation to ensure equitable access to its contracts for SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women. The GAO's findings demonstrate that there is still much progress to be made.

The regular collection of information on federal advertising contracts with SDBs and businesses owned by women and minorities, along with the provision of this information to legislators and stakeholders, is essential to bridging the gap between what current statistics show and a more inclusive advertising landscape. This bill would achieve these goals while also promoting transparency and encouraging federal agencies to strive to reach minorities, who often receive the news from smaller media outlets that serve communities of color. The requirement that agencies submit prior and projected information regarding the amount of advertising dollars spent with SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women would allow federal agencies to evaluate their progress over time. The regular collection of this information would also demonstrate that the promotion of equity in advertising, and in all areas of government, should be a continuous effort that is important to the mission of every agency.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

COMMEMORATING THE 11-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONFLICT IN SYRIA

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 28, 2022

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, last week marked the 11-year anniversary of the beginning of the conflict in Syria. Now over a decade old, the crisis in Syria grinds on. Despite claims to the contrary, Bashar al-Assad has not won or extinguished the revolution. But he continues to weaponize and steal UN humanitarian assistance, something the United States must work to stop. Thousands remain in detention, including American citizens Majd Kamalmaj and Austin Tice, subject to brutal torture. The Caesar photos provided heart wrenching and damning proof of Bashar's crimes in regime jails. And more, Assad is flooding his country and the surrounding region with the lethal drug, Captagon, turning Syria into a narco-state. It is why I introduced legislation with my colleague to require the U.S. to prepare an inter-agency strategy to combat Captagon.

Congress cannot remain silent on the atrocities of the Assad regime. To that end, we must remain dedicated to preventing the rehabilitation of the regime. Bashar al-Assad and his henchmen must be held accountable for the genocide they are carrying out on the Syrian people. It is why I am proud to serve as