

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JOHN CHRISTMAN

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, this month, I had the pleasure of attending a ceremony where World War II veteran John Christman was presented a Congressional Gold Medal. John is one of the nine surviving veterans who served as a soldier in the U.S. Army's 23rd Headquarters Special Troops tactical deception unit, more popularly known as the "Ghost Army." This 1,100-man unit has a very unique mission. The Ghost Army's mission is to impersonate other Allied Army units in order to deceive our enemy. The Ghost Army has staged more than 20 battlefield deceptions, often operating very close to the front lines. I would like to thank John for the bravery and selflessness that he displayed while serving our country in the Ghost Army. God Bless John, and I thank him for his exemplary service, and God Bless our America.

HONORING THE OPENING OF THE
OCALA, FLORIDA VA CLINIC**HON. KAT CAMMACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, we are proud to recognize the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Ocala VA Clinic on June 22, 2022. This clinic is a tremendous triumph for our veteran community in North Central Florida and will serve thousands of veterans with excellent care. This project has been a long-time coming and I am pleased to see its completion. Congratulations to the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System on another job well done on behalf of our Nation's heroes.

HONORING GREG JASEK AND THE
HIGHLAND COMMUNITY BAND'S
30TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. FRANK J. MRVAN**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I take this time to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Highland Community Band and to honor Greg Jasek, principal conductor. Due to the global pandemic, the anniversary celebration was cancelled in 2020, but a concert and presentation will take place this year on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at Main Square Park in Highland, Indiana.

Born and raised in the Hegewisch neighborhood of Chicago, Greg Jasek first heard the

siren's call of music in third grade when he began taking trumpet lessons. Those lessons were supplemented with visits to Chicago Symphony Orchestra performances, as well as watching Leonard Bernstein on television. He continued his studies in conducting with Michael Morgan, then-assistant conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Later, he was accepted to Tanglewood, which is the summer home of the Boston Symphony. While at Tanglewood, Greg studied with noted conductors such as Andre Previn, Leonard Slatkin, Maurice Abravanel, John Williams, and Leonard Bernstein.

In 1991, Greg became assistant conductor for the Northwest Indiana Youth Symphony Orchestra, and in 1992, he was named cover conductor for the International Arts Chamber Orchestra. By 1994, Greg arrived at Carnegie Hall to attend the Solti Orchestra Project; however, Maestro Georg Solti had a different plan in mind and asked Greg to assist with the Bartok Concerto for Orchestra during recording sessions for London-Decca. Subsequently, Maestro Solti and Greg collaborated in the orchestration of Bartok's Romanian Christmas Carols.

Prior to these outstanding achievements, Greg had already begun to make what would prove to be an indelible mark on the Highland community. It was in 1989 that a young baritone player named Michael Griffin approached Greg Jasek with an idea to begin a community band in Highland, Indiana. Musicians from Northwest Indiana and Northeastern Illinois gathered together, and the Highland Community Band gave its first concert in July 1990. As fate would have it, Greg met his wife, Kerry, a flute player in the band, during this time. The couple would later add two wonderful children, Benjamin and Samuel, to their family.

In 2011, Greg was initiated into the Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity as a National Arts Associate, which is a national recognition for distinguished contribution to the arts. Later, in 2021, in recognition of his 30 years as principal conductor of the Highland Community Band, Greg was honored with the Distinguished Hoosier Award by Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Greg Jasek and in celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Highland Community Band. For his musical influence and innovation and his dedication to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, Greg Jasek is one man who most truly can be called maestro, and he is worthy of our admiration and the highest commendation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, due to personal reasons I was unable to make votes this week.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 188; NAY on Roll Call No. 189; YEA on Roll Call No. 190; YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; NAY on Roll Call No. 193; YEA on Roll Call No. 194; YEA on Roll Call No. 195; YEA on Roll Call No. 196; YEA on Roll Call No. 197; YEA on Roll Call No. 198; YEA on Roll Call No. 199; YEA on Roll Call No. 200; YEA on Roll Call No. 201; YEA on Roll Call No. 202; YEA on Roll Call No. 203; YEA on Roll Call No. 204; YEA on Roll Call No. 205; YEA on Roll Call No. 206; YEA on Roll Call No. 207; NAY on Roll Call No. 208; NAY on Roll Call No. 209; YEA on Roll Call No. 210; NAY on Roll Call No. 211; NAY on Roll Call No. 212; YEA on Roll Call No. 213; YEA on Roll Call No. 214; YEA on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; YEA on Roll Call No. 217; YEA on Roll Call No. 218; YEA on Roll Call No. 219; NAY on Roll Call No. 220; NAY on Roll Call No. 221; NAY on Roll Call No. 222; YEA on Roll Call No. 223; YEA on Roll Call No. 224; YEA on Roll Call No. 225; YEA on Roll Call No. 226; YEA on Roll Call No. 227; YEA on Roll Call No. 228; NAY on Roll Call No. 229; NAY on Roll Call No. 230; YEA on Roll Call No. 231; and NAY on Roll Call No. 232.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PAUL
JOSEPH IANNI**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, in honor of the life of Paul Joseph Ianni, I include in the RECORD the following letter written by his former platoon leader during the Vietnam war, Brice H. Barnes.

TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF SGT PAUL IANNI: It has been brought to my attention by a fellow Veteran, Mr. Russ Vibberts, that our mutual friend, Mr. Paul Ianni, has transitioned from this world and now rests in the Mighty Arms of our Savior. In 1967, I had the distinct honor of being Paul's Platoon Leader in Vietnam, and knew him as a gentleman and professional soldier. Paul was highly instrumental in our successful exploitation of the largest ammunition and weapons cache ever discovered in the entire Vietnam War, as a volunteer that explored the vast underground tunnel and storage complex. His reports to me were accurate and thorough, enabling us to successfully complete the mission as assigned. For his actions, I nominated Paul for the Bronze Star

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Medal for meritorious service. Later in his tour of duty, Paul participated in another significant battle during the Tet Counter-offensive in Vietnam. At the risk of personal injury or death, Paul delivered highly effective fire upon several enemy positions, thereby enabling his platoon to advance and occupy security positions that guarded a vital road intersection. It is without doubt that Paul's actions saved the lives of many of his fellow platoon members. As a result of his actions, Paul was awarded the Silver Star, our Nation's third highest award for valor and bravery in combat operations. One of his other awards was the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the most prestigious award ever to be bestowed upon an Infantryman.

On some rare occasions, I was able to telephonically visit with Paul, and always thanked him for his service, and for making me a better leader of other Warriors. Although news of his passing has brought me some personal sadness, I am rejoicing that he is now free of the prejudices and pain that he experienced, and will enjoy the peace and freedom that he so richly deserved.

BRICE H. BARNES,
Colonel (Ret) U.S.
Army, Honorary
Colonel, 47th Infantry
Regiment.

GUPPI

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last week, I had the pleasure of attending the official storefront opening of Guppi in Wildwood, New Jersey. Driven by a young entrepreneur, Abby, Guppi aspires to reduce the plastics that pollute our oceans by creating eco-friendly apparel, bags, knick-knacks. Since launching her brand in 2018, Abby has created all her products by hand via screen-printing with ecofriendly inks and embroidering with threads made from recycled plastics. I am so impressed by Abby's work ethic, as well as her continued commitment to make our South Jersey community a safer and more eco-friendly environment. Abby truly exemplifies ambition, and I am excited to watch Guppi continue to grow. God bless Abby and all the other hard-working employees at Guppi, and God Bless our America.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 400 SOUTHERN AVENUE SOUTHEAST IN WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AS THE "DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS POST OFFICE"

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that would name the post office at 400 Southern Avenue SE in the District of Columbia as the "District of Columbia Servicemembers and Veterans Post Office."

While it is important that our country honor all servicemembers and veterans, our country owes a special debt of gratitude to D.C. servicemembers and veterans, who serve or have served their country without voting representation in Congress or full local self-government. It is remarkable that they serve a country that denies them basic democratic rights—rights they have often been sent overseas to defend.

D.C. residents have served in every war since the Revolutionary War. There are approximately 30,000 veterans who live in D.C., and almost 200,000 D.C. residents have served in the military since World War I. This bill is one way to recognize their service and sacrifice. Six hundred thirty-five D.C. residents were casualties of World War I, a casualty figure greater than that of three different States during that war. Three thousand five hundred seventy-five D.C. residents were casualties of World War II, a casualty figure greater than that of four different States during that war. Five hundred forty-seven D.C. residents were casualties of the Korean war, a casualty figure greater than that of eight different States during that war. Two hundred forty-three D.C. residents were casualties of the Vietnam war, a casualty figure greater than that of 10 different States during that war.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THELMA C. CHILDERS

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the outstanding life and service of Thelma C. Childers.

Thelma was born on March 31, 1922, in Clover, South Carolina. Her doctor told her mother she would not live past the age of 2 due to a heart murmur, but Thelma proved that doctor wrong and just celebrated her 100th birthday.

Raised on a farm by a single mother, Thelma understands the value of hard work. During the day, her mother worked as a makeup artist at the local cemetery, and at night, she tended to the cows and other farm animals. Despite growing up during the Great Depression, Thelma never knew she was poor—she just knew she was happy and loved.

Thelma was married to the late Joe Childers for over 50 years. Joe was in the Navy and fought in the South Pacific during World War II. Throughout their joyful and prosperous marriage, Thelma helped Joe run his own life insurance business. The two were also big supporters of St. Jude Children's Hospital and members of the Travelers Protection Association, an organization that helps communities through travel safety issues, children safety programs, and various community service projects.

A proud mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Thelma is the epitome of a family matriarch. After attending Northside Baptist Church for most of her life, she now enjoys attending Eastside Baptist Church with her grandson Justin as often as she is able.

Thelma's secret to her health and long life is "working hard in my yard, because all I

have known my whole life is hard work and hard work hasn't ever hurt nobody." In addition to spending time with her family, her true passion is spending time outside digging in her flower beds.

On behalf of the Fifth District of South Carolina, it is my most sincere pleasure to recognize and celebrate the incredible life of Thelma Childers. May her life continue to be filled with joy, good health, and family.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIFEREH ISRAEL CONGREGATION OF NEW BEDFORD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Tifereth Israel Congregation of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

As the Jewish population of New Bedford grew in the 1920s, so did the need for a new synagogue. On November 17, 1921, the Tifereth Israel Congregation was chartered and has continued to serve the Greater New Bedford area for over 100 years. The original Tifereth Israel Synagogue still stands at 42 South Sixth Street; however, in 1966, during a two-week celebration, elders of the congregation moved sacred Torahs to the newly constructed synagogue on Brownell Avenue with over 800 people attending the dedication ceremonies.

Today, the Tifereth Israel Congregation remains a pillar of the community offering a variety of programs, including Bar and Bat Mitzvah classes, the Minyan Breakfast Club, the United Youth Program, as well as the Tifereth Israel Sisterhood and Men's Club. The Tifereth Israel Congregation—currently led by Rabbi Raphael Kanter, who has served as the congregation's spiritual leader since 1997—is known for being a kind and welcoming place of worship, promoting the message of respecting all, even when beliefs may differ.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the 100th anniversary of the Tifereth Israel Congregation. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their invaluable service and wishing them all the best in the many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following roll call votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 218; YEA on Roll Call No. 219; NAY on Roll Call No. 220; NAY on Roll Call No. 221; YEA on Roll Call No. 222; YEA on Roll Call No. 223; YEA on Roll Call No. 224; YEA on Roll Call No. 225; YEA on Roll Call No. 226; YEA on Roll Call No. 227; YEA on Roll Call No. 228; NAY on Roll Call No. 229; NAY on Roll Call No. 230; YEA on