

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

Roll Call No. 231; and NAY on Roll Call No. 232.

DOGS OF HONOR

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 the New Jersey Dogs of Honor graduation in Maurice River Township, South Jersey. New Jersey Dogs of Honor started with a dog named Gunnar, who was the service dog of Diana Pitman, a former army nurse dealing with post-traumatic stress. Through Gunnar, Diana learned first-hand how a service dog can change a veteran's life. Diana then collaborated with Ted's Pet Country Club and Patti and Gordon Gross to establish New Jersey Dogs of Honor. Since then, these service dogs have been changing the lives of veterans in the South Jersey community by performing tasks to help veterans with disabilities. At the graduation this month, Meet, King, and Maggie all graduated and will now accompany three of our nation's veterans. God Bless both these dogs and veterans, and God Bless our United States of America.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA'S PRESIDENT DR. FUCHS

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I honor the service of Dr. Kent Fuchs, the 12th President of the University of Florida, who will be retiring later this year. Dr. Fuchs has served for 37 years as an academic leader and faculty member at four different national research and land-grant universities, including the University of Florida in my district where his leadership and support will be sorely missed.

Dr. Fuchs has been a steward for public good and will go down in Florida's history as a testament to public service. Founded to serve the citizens of a growing state, the University of Florida (UF) has since become one of the nation's top public universities.

Born on an Oklahoma farm in 1954, President Fuchs spent much of his youth in Alaska before moving to Miami, where he graduated from Miami Killian Senior High School. Dr. Fuchs eventually made Florida his home, where his indelible impact is seen to this day.

During his tenure, UF has become a national leader in preparing the next generation of students for success. It was always his belief that public higher education was the incubator for personal growth and scholastic enrichment. Today, the University continues to be one of the most affordable universities in the nation, with UF's average cost of attendance lowest of the top 10 public universities. With his personal warmth, sense of humor and affection for students—personified in his annual April Fools' pranks and friendly, light-hearted presence on social media—Dr. Fuchs has become a beloved figure on campus, with students lining up to take selfies with him wherever he goes.

Most notably during his tenure, the university reached its longtime goal of joining the nation's top public universities, rising to join the top five in 2021.

Dr. Fuchs has strived to ensure Florida's bright future. In 2020, UF announced a groundbreaking partnership with NVIDIA that will catapult UF's research strength and build a workforce trained in the tools of Artificial Intelligence (AI). UF's creation of a model for addressing society's grand challenges through interdisciplinary collaboration is positioning Florida as a global leader in AI and attracting more high-wage jobs and industry to our state.

Today, UF has 4,642 full-time faculty, up more than 25 percent from 2014. Faculty have steadily increased their research excellence with research spending projected to approach \$1 billion this fiscal year. Under Dr. Fuchs' leadership, UF's faculty and staff have enhanced the university's educational, research, extension and clinical excellence, by increasing public and private financial support—all progress that continued despite the challenges of the pandemic in the past two years.

Over his long and distinguished career, Dr. Fuchs was appointed by President Obama to the National Science Board and served on the Internet2, Association of American Universities and Association of Public and Land-grant Universities boards of directors. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and the Association for Computing Machinery, and has received numerous awards for teaching and research. President Fuchs earned his doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Illinois, and a Master of Divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

On behalf of the Florida Congressional Delegation in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 117th Congress, we want to congratulate Dr. Kent Fuchs on his retirement after eight years of service with the University of Florida and thank him for his of public service to Florida and our Nation.

RECOGNIZING MRS. ALICIA CONDE

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Alicia Conde for her 26 years of service to the Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District.

Since 1992, Mrs. Conde has served as a dedicated public servant, working tirelessly on behalf of the Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District. She has done critical work, such as overseeing the annual district crop survey program, managing the water billing and District Exempt Land Assessment tax installments, and maintaining the district's correspondence.

For decades, Mrs. Conde has been the first point of contact for anybody with business in the district. She has long been an excellent representative of the district, and a welcoming presence for those coming into the office. She has built longstanding relationships with landowners in the area and guided many of them through difficult regulatory changes over her years of service.

The loyalty and commitment to service by Mrs. Conde has been an inspiration to us all. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Alicia Conde for her decades of public service and contributions to the Central Valley community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on May 18, 2022, for Roll Call Vote No. 218, Roll Call Vote No. 219, and Roll Call Vote No. 220. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote No. 218, Nay on Roll Call Vote No. 219, Yea on Roll Call Vote No. 220.

COMMEMORATING DR. COY HOLCOMBE FOR 21 YEARS OF SERVICE AS SUPERINTENDENT OF EUSTACE ISD

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the leadership and commitment of Dr. Coy Holcombe, who serves the Fifth District of Texas as Superintendent of Eustace ISD. An essential figure and true asset to our community, Dr. Holcombe is retiring after 21 years of service.

Dr. Holcombe began his career as an educator and coach in 1984 before joining Eustace ISD in 2001. His brilliance in finance and his leadership skills have not gone unnoticed in the community, especially during the trials of COVID-19. Dr. Holcombe has successfully maintained a healthy fund balance within the school district and navigated the community through student population growth over the years. His leadership during the pandemic was stellar in ensuring students' education, health, and well-being were properly monitored and prioritized. His dedication to every student within Eustace ISD will leave a legacy of excellence and compassion in the Fifth District of Texas.

I commend Dr. Coy Holcombe for his commitment to the students and families of Eustace ISD and for 21 years of hard work and service as Superintendent.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EARL PAUL KING, JR.

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Earl Paul King, Jr., a man of great distinction whom I was honored to serve.

Earl was born in Dublin, Texas, July 8, 1944. He attended school and played football