

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
NATE WEBB, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE OKLAHOMA CREDIT
UNION ASSOCIATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my good friend and Executive Director of the Oklahoma Credit Union Association, Nate Webb, on his retirement. His dedication to bettering our great state is certainly commendable. I wish him well and an enjoyable retirement, but I am sad to see him go.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, on June 8, 2022, I was unable to be present for the recorded vote on Roll Call No. 235. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question (H. Res. 1153).

HONORING ERIN PIERONE FOR
HER CAREER OF SERVING THE
STATE OF NEW YORK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Erin Pierone on her retirement for faithfully serving the state of New York for over thirty years.

In 1989, Erin graduated from the State University of New York in Plattsburg with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. After she graduated, Erin dedicated her life to serving some of the youngest members of her community. For sixteen years, she worked as a Child Protective Services caseworker in both the Saratoga and Warren County Departments of Social Services. During this time, she worked tirelessly as an advocate for the children of Saratoga and Warren Counties. She conducted numerous investigations into abuse and maltreatment to ensure a better future for every child with which she worked. Following her career as a caseworker, Erin continued to dedicate herself to improving the lives of those in her community by working as a Crime Victim Specialist in the Saratoga County District Attorney's office and for the New York State Police. During this time, Erin worked relentlessly to provide victims emotional support, rights information, help in finding necessary resources and assistance in filling out crime-related forms. Erin also often accompanied victims and their family members throughout the criminal justice proceedings.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Erin was a board member with the Saratoga Center for the Family. For five years, she also served as vice president and president of the New York Crime Victims Assist-

ance Task Force. Erin received many well-deserved accolades throughout her career; including the Betty Martin award for Victim Advocacy through the Albany County District Attorney's office, awards for Victim Advocacy from the Warren County and Saratoga County District Attorney offices, the New York State Police Troop G Special Recognition award, and the New York State Police Superintendent's award.

As a Child Protective Services worker and Crime Victim Specialist, Erin has been an invaluable resource to law enforcement and her community. Her dedication and passion will be forever remembered by the countless people that she has helped throughout her 32-year career. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I thank Erin for her incredible service to our community and wish her a happy and blessed retirement.

HONORING RETIRED MAJOR GENERAL GARY HARRELL FOR 35 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Gary Harrell for 35 years of extraordinary military service and his recent induction as a Distinguished Member of the Special Forces Regiment by the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

Maj. Gen. Harrell has made immeasurable contributions to our great Nation and continues to personify the core U.S. Army values of honor, integrity, personal courage, and selfless service. He began his career in 1973 with the 82nd Airborne Division and retired in 2008 as the Deputy Commander of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

Over the course of his remarkable career, Maj. Gen. Harrell served as a special operations action officer, deputy commander, commander, and director among other positions in military operations around the globe. In some of his most notable assignments, he helped rescue American hostage Kurt Muse in Panama as part of Operation Just Cause, deployed with Joint Special Operations Command in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, served as Commander of Task Force Bowie and Assistant Division Commander for the 10th Mountain Division in Operation Anaconda in Afghanistan, and served as Commander of Special Operations Command where he oversaw more than 20,000 troops in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He continues to serve our military in retirement as an executive board member for the Task Force Dagger Foundation. Through this role, he has helped secure donations to benefit injured or ill special operations service members and their families.

On account of his exemplary service, Maj. Gen. Harrell received many of our Nation's most impressive distinctions and awards, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal with a Valor Device and Two Oak Leaf Clusters, a Purple Heart Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal and the Army

Commendation Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters among other awards and distinctions. He represents the best our nation has to offer, and we will look up to his leadership for generations to come.

As Fort Bragg's Congressman, I know I speak for our Nation and community when I say we are truly grateful for Maj. Gen. Harrell's exceptional service. There is no one more deserving of being named a Distinguished Member of the Special Forces Regiment. I would like to offer my sincerest appreciation and wish him and his family success in all their future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Major General Gary Harrell for 35 years of distinguished military service and leadership.

INTRODUCTION OF BRIDGE CORROSION PREVENTION AND REPAIR ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act," with Congressman ANTHONY G. BROWN (D-MD). Our legislation is endorsed by the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) and the Association for Materials Protection and Performance (formerly called the National Association of Corrosion Engineers and the Society for Protective Coatings).

This legislation would require all federally funded bridge projects to use certified contractors for any corrosion control work and employ industry-recognized standards for corrosion mitigation and prevention. Specifically, my legislation would prompt State, county, and municipal transportation departments to employ qualified, trained corrosion control professionals who have completed federally registered apprenticeship programs.

In July 2021, the House passed my "Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act" as Section 1116 from Chairman PETER A. DEFAZIO's (D-OR) "Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act," of which I was a cosponsor. While it was ultimately not included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), I plan to build upon Chairman DEFAZIO's work on corrosion prevention policy and promoting apprenticeships.

In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81), I secured Section 813 (Office of Corrosion Policy and Oversight employee training requirements) directing the U.S. Department of Defense to make use of federally registered apprenticeship programs for training military personnel, civilian employees, and military construction contractors on anti-corrosion activities. Under my amendment to the FY2022 NOAA, the DOD's Office of Corrosion Policy and Oversight Employee Training Requirements is charged with coordinating this work.

Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Congress and the Biden Administration are making the largest federal investment to modernize our nation's infrastructure since the Interstate Highway System was established in

1956. America's corrosion professionals and union painters are ready, willing, and able to do the job.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members of the House to join me in cosponsoring the "Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act."

INTRODUCTION OF THE LOCAL TASK FORCES ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Local Task Forces on 21st Century Policing Act, which would assist localities in carrying out the recommendations of the federal Task Force on 21st Century Policing and the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, both of which have detailed the need to strengthen relations between local communities and local law enforcement. The bill would provide grants to local governments to create local task forces on 21st century policing to bring police, representatives of the community and public officials together to identify best policing practices for local police and other ways to strengthen relations between the community and police departments. No new funds are needed. Existing funds from the Department of Justice would support local governments establishing the task forces by listing these task forces as an acceptable use of Byrne Justice Assistance Grants. Given the continuing controversy surrounding police shootings of unarmed African American men, with no solutions in sight, this bill is timelier every day.

The task forces, modeled after the federal Task Force on 21st Century Policing, would allow local communities to identify the best ways to create an effective partnership between local law enforcement and the communities they serve, while reducing crime, increasing trust and combating racial profiling. The task forces could create a partnership to implement practical policing practices acceptable to all concerned.

The creation of task forces could be an important step toward easing the tensions between local law enforcement and many communities. In addition, the task forces could serve to engage local law enforcement and local stakeholders in a transparent public problem-solving process instead of the current situation that encourages parties to choose sides.

I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING KEVIN SPRAGUE FOR HIS 30-YEAR CAREER WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Kevin Sprague for his 30 years of service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Over the last three dec-

ades, Kevin's steadfast devotion to the Soo Locks and the Upper Peninsula has ensured the economic and operational success of the locks and made him an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

A graduate of South Lyon High School and Lawrence Technological University, Kevin worked as a mechanical engineer in the private sector before joining the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in June 1992. Throughout his 30-year career with USACE, he served as surveyor, Assistant Chief of the St. Mary's River Section, Chief of Soo Lock Operations, Chief of Facility Maintenance Branch, Assistant Soo Area Engineer, and Soo Area Engineer—a position he has held for 12 years.

Kevin's efforts have played a crucial role in the success of the Soo Locks, which is a vital infrastructure system for not only the Great Lakes region, but the entire country. His leadership overseeing the operations and ongoing expansion of the Soo Locks have greatly benefited the region.

In addition to this project, Kevin worked diligently to improve the Soo Area Office to benefit his coworkers and community. This included reorganizing the local office to provide more opportunities in professional development, improving budgetary capabilities, and addressing safety concerns for workers. Over the pandemic, he also assisted in converting three storage containers into intensive care units (ICUs) for those affected by COVID-19. These efforts brought needed relief and assistance to the local community, and USACE's collaboration with local medical exports helped this project become a huge success.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Kevin Sprague for his 30 years of service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated and selfless citizen. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Mr. Sprague all the best in his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE JOHN F. DEBRUHL

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of the Honorable Judge John F. DeBruhl of Galveston, Texas.

John F. DeBruhl was born a slave on November 14, 1841, in Columbia, South Carolina. He was later sold and brought to Texas. In June 1861, he married Alice V. Taylor from Parkersburg, WV, and together, they raised and educated seven children in Galveston.

John DeBruhl was well known and respected in his community and was appointed one of the first black Reconstruction Justices of the Peace in Galveston, Texas. He also served as County Court Judge and twice served as a Galveston City Alderman alongside luminaries like N.W. Cuney. He was a prominent member of the Republican County, State and National Conventions. His leadership efforts led to his nomination as a candidate for the United States Congress.

John DeBruhl presided over diverse court cases with important issues during Recon-

struction Era Texas and had a substantial impact on the early history of Galveston, Texas. Numerous state newspapers reporting on his judicial rulings, official meeting notes, op-eds and community speeches are still available to read today.

When the Grand Lodges of the Negro Free Masons were expanding into the South, John DeBruhl was a founding member and officer of the Galveston Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons of Texas.

John DeBruhl was also instrumental in organizing the "docks" of Galveston to ensure black men could work and in better conditions. Moreover, John DeBruhl was a founding member of the "Black Stevedores" in Galveston.

Judge John F. DeBruhl is remembered as a man of purpose, honor, and an unwavering determination for the betterment of African Americans during one of the most tumultuous times in American history, the Post-Civil War Reconstruction years.

Judge DeBruhl's enduring legacy as a champion for education, equality, activism, and duty was passed on to his family. The phenomenal life of the Honorable John F. DeBruhl was nearly lost to history without the persistent and intentional efforts of his great-granddaughter Dr. Nanette DeBruhl. The research done revealed a life of extraordinary accomplishments and whose influence has reached across time to impact today's Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE CONGREGATION KNESETH ISRAEL OF ELGIN, ILLINOIS ON THEIR 130TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the Congregation Kneseth Israel (CKI) of Elgin, Illinois for their 130th anniversary. The Congregation provides spiritual support to a diverse and growing Jewish population throughout areas in and around my district, including Kane, McHenry, DuPage, DeKalb, and Northwest Cook Counties. Marking CKI's 130th anniversary is a fitting way to honor the lasting impact of its exemplary efforts to build and strengthen community, foster inclusive environments, and give back to those in need.

CKI has been a spiritual anchor for the community since 1892 when a small group of Jewish residents organized the first Illinois synagogue west of Chicago. However, the roots of the Jewish community in Chicagoland go back even further. In making Illinois their home, Jewish settlers were a critical part of the group of farmers, merchants, and tradesmen that laid the groundwork for the region we are so proud of today. CKI is an important part of this history, and I am honored to stand here in recognition of the Congregation's continued efforts to meet the needs of the surrounding community.

Since its founding 130 years ago, CKI has demonstrated a commitment to serving others that stands as an example to all of us. Through education initiatives for adults and children, youth and senior interest groups, and through its worship services, CKI positively