

Mayor Beverly O'Neill. Doris became the first African American and only the third woman to serve on the five-member port commission in its nearly 80-year history. During her tenure at the port, which included a year as board president in 2005, she was instrumental in the expansion of the port's Small Business Enterprise Program. Doris also helped to develop the port's Green Port Policy, which helped to reduce the negative environmental impacts of port operations. Doris later called her five years on the commission, "some of the most challenging and rewarding of my career."

Doris remained a tremendous force in the community throughout her life. She was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Eta Phi Beta Business and Professional Sorority, National Association of Civil Service Commissioners, National Council of Negro Women, and California Probation, Parole and Corrections Association. She also served on the Board of Trustees of St. Mary Medical Center, the Executive Board of the Children's Dental Foundation at Memorial Medical Center, and the Community Advisory Board of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

She co-founded the African American Heritage Society with Indira Hale Tucker and others to raise money for educational materials on African Americans. In 2010, the Micro-Enterprise Charter Academy was renamed the Doris Topsy-Elvord Academy (A Micro-Enterprise School) in her honor.

In addition, she was featured in the 1997 book "No Mountain High Enough: Secrets of Successful African American Women" by Dorothy Ehrhart Morrison. Doris was one of the Long Beach, California, pioneering dozen, chronicled in a 2015 collection of historical profiles, *BREAKING THROUGH* Lighting the Way, edited by Sunny Nash with foreword by Carolyn Smith Watts. "This project introduced our community to local women with a mission similar to that of Rosa Parks," said Nash.

"Mother Doris," as she was so often referred to by the community, paved the way for Long Beach's diverse city council. She was the city's first black woman councilmember, Vice Mayor, and remains an inspiring parental figure to many.

Doris Topsy-Elvord's inspiring life included travels and explorations to every continent except Antarctica. She had a rich family life with husband, Ralph, three sons, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT PATRICK SIANO

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Shelby County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Patrick Siano on his retirement after 34 years of service to our community. Lieutenant Siano's uncle Ralph used to tell him that if you really love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life. Lieutenant Siano loved his work and said he's never had to work a day in his life. He also said that the decision to retire was a tough one since he'd gone into law enforcement to help people.

His desire to help people was the subject of a "Strolling with Eldon Roark" column in the

Memphis Press-Scimitar in the 1970s, when the lieutenant was still a teenager and was singled out for helping a couple repair a blown radiator hose.

December 30 was his last day with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in the Civil Division. Over his more than 30-year career, Lieutenant Siano was assigned to Courts, Metro DUI, Detectives (including homicide, child protective services and domestic violence), Reserve, Emergency Services, Uniform Patrol and Fugitive Divisions. He often interacted with new recruits as a field training officer and DUI instructor.

Lieutenant Siano is the middle child of seven children of Jerry and Edna Aikens Siano. His late father was a native of Chicago who came to Memphis as an entrepreneur and founded Jerry Siano Foods. A native of Memphis, Lieutenant Siano attended St. Michael School, Christian Brothers High School and the then-Memphis State University before a driving work ethic led to his father's Honda of Millington dealership, where he sold motorcycles. But he always wanted to be a sheriff's deputy and began as a reserve officer in 1984, working 100 hours a month for almost four years before attending the academy and becoming a deputy in 1988.

Always known for his respect for the law and for his kindness, his service to Memphis and Shelby County will be valued and deeply missed. I am pleased that he can now spend a pleasant retirement with his wife of 12 years, Susan, his two children and six grandchildren, his fellow deputies, and his many friends. He truly made Memphis a better and safer place to live.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH "JOE" EGGLESTON GARDNER, JR.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Joseph "Joe" Eggleston Gardner, Jr., who passed away on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at the age of 72, in San Antonio, Texas.

Joe was born in Washington, D.C., on March 26, 1949. However, he was raised in Corpus Christi, Texas. He graduated from Sewanee Military Academy and earned degrees at both the University of Texas and Texas A&M University.

Joe contributed generously to civic organizations by serving on the Texas Water Development Board, the Nueces River Authority, and the Del Mar College Board of Directors. He also co-founded the Animal Rescue Foundation in Seguin, Texas. Joe was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Corpus Christi and I was a board member of Saint Joseph's Anglican Church in New Braunfels.

Joe and I first met 40 years ago when we served on the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners together. Joe was the first public member ever appointed, and I was the youngest dentist ever selected for the board. We were the new guys, but I knew dentistry, and Joe knew "Robert's Rules of Order," a guide of parliamentary procedure, and it was not long before we made our mark.

We had much in common, and our friendship endured long after our Dental Board tenures. He was a student of history and an astute political mind. Since his teenage years, Joe was an active member of the Republican Party. He was on the staff of Senator John Tower, the first Republican Senator elected from Texas since the Civil War. Joe also served on the Congressional Republican Caucus, and he was, at one time, a candidate for U.S. Congress. He did not win, but he never gave up, and he never gave in on his strong conservative beliefs.

Joe is preceded in death by his mother, Neely Laura Procter Gardner of Houston, Texas, and his father, Joseph Eggleston Gardner, M.D., of Greenwood, Mississippi. He is survived by his daughter, Rebecca Sarah Gardner of Savannah, Georgia; his son, Joseph Eggleston Peyton Gardner of Austin, Texas; and his brother, William Frank Gardner of Houston, Texas.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to honor my friend Joe Gardner today on the House floor. He was one-of-a-kind, always faithful, funny, and someone you could count on in good times and bad. I will be forever grateful for his friendship and will miss him dearly. My heartfelt prayers remain with his family and friends during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE STORMING OF THE U.S. CAPITOL ON JANUARY 6, 2021

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the United States Federal government's involvement, provocation, and cover-up pursuant to their role in encouraging protestors to enter the United States Capitol building on January 6, 2021. I include in the RECORD the following links so the American people can review the involvement and protection of Federal assets before and after the storming of the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021

<https://www.revolver.news/2021/10/meet-ray-epps-the-fed-protected-provocateur-who-appears-to-have-led-the-very-first-1-6-attack-on-the-u-s-capitol/>.

<https://www.revolver.news/2021/12/damning-new-details-massive-web-unindicted-operators-january-6/>.

<https://www.revolver.news/2021/06/stewart-rhodes-oath-keepers-missing-link-fbi-unindicted-coconspirator/>.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MCINTIRE-STENNIS ACT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the McIntire-Stennis Act District of Columbia Equality Act, which would correct an apparent oversight in the exclusion of the District of Columbia from eligibility for funding under the McIntire-Stennis Act (Act).

The Act provides the states and certain territories with formula funding to support state-designated institutions' cooperative forestry research programs. The funding available under this Act assists the states and territories in carrying out forestry research programs at state forestry schools and colleges and developing a trained pool of forest scientists capable of conducting needed forestry research.

District of Columbia residents pay full federal taxes, and with few exceptions, the District is treated as a state under federal programs. This Act defines "State" to include Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam, whose residents do not pay full federal taxes. The District's absence from the Act makes it ineligible for federal funding that would support research at the District's public university, the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). The College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences at UDC, the nation's only urban land-grant university, offers programs that complement D.C.'s ongoing forestry efforts and serve individuals in my district and beyond. Rectifying the District's exclusion from this Act would ensure its equitable treatment and provide UDC a fair share of resources.

The District should be eligible under this Act just like the states and territories. This bill would allow students and researchers in the nation's capital to benefit from this important forestry program. I urge support for this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. JOHN SCHOUTEN

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Schouten for his contributions to the dairy industry and congratulate him on his retirement.

John Schouten's passion for the dairy industry started over 35 years ago and led him to World Wide Sires, which started out in Hanford, California. He completed German language school shortly after starting and quickly built relationships in the international dairy scene that would last decades. His enthusiasm and desire to put farmers first has created numerous opportunities for U.S. genetics worldwide.

While at World Wide Sires, Mr. Schouten became known for his remarkable work ethic and empathy for others. He started as an Area Director of Marketing and went on to become VP of Marketing from 1993 to 2001, eventually becoming CEO in 2001. Mr. Schouten's leadership allowed his team to grow as they traveled to over 70 countries, sharing their knowledge and helping farmers.

Mr. Schouten became CEO at a time of rapid growth and change in the industry. Thanks to his vision, his team launched Global Dairy Solutions along with setting up six global subsidiaries. Mr. Schouten has set a great example of what hard work and compassion can accomplish. His energy to keep innovating has led him to become one of the most recognized and respected members of the U.S. AI community.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. John

Schouten for his contributions to the dairy industry and wishing him the best in retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBIN HEBERT

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Robin Hebert. Robin was a beloved wife and a Gold Star mother.

She passed away on September 13, 2021, after an extended battle with bone marrow cancer at age 63.

Robin was an active and compassionate member of her community.

On August 1, 2003, Robin lost her son, Army Specialist Justin Hebert when his vehicle was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Robin fought her battle with cancer with the same honor and courage as Justin.

Robin volunteered as a trial patient for an experimental bone marrow transplant. While she could not donate her organs, she proudly donated her information to researchers to save lives even after she passed.

Robin will be remembered by friends and family for her resilience and tenacity. She will be missed greatly.

HONORING AND COMMENDING THE WONDERFUL LIFE OF VERA ELIZABETH "RITCHIE" BERTSCHE, ON HER 100TH BIRTH- DAY

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the wonderful Mrs. Verna Elizabeth "Ritchie" Bertsche. Verna Elizabeth was born on December 28, 1921, in the era of the Great Depression, and during the presidency of Warren G. Harding. She grew up during the time of the roaring twenties and during prohibition.

Ritchie excelled in her academic studies, graduating from the University of Cincinnati, where she was also chosen to serve as president of her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha. She married a decorated officer, Carl I. Bertsche, who served in Europe during World War II, having known him since their kindergarten days. She enjoyed her time serving as a pre-school teacher, before her children came along, and then worked part-time in Carl's business, PESCO, where she made a hugely valuable contribution in both an official and unofficial capacity. Well-known in her community as a dedicated volunteer, she has selflessly given 20 years of service at the Good Samaritan Hospital.

In addition to her service to her community, she has been a generous, loving, and supportive mother to her two children, Patricia B. Deis-Gleeson (who shares Verna's birthday), and Carl I. Bertsche Jr, both of whom are proud to call her Mom. Greater still are her

five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, to whom she is always showing a genuine and proud interest in their lives and achievements.

Verna's wonderful memories of Jeeme Hipad, a club consisting of Doie and Bob Stacy, Betty and Nick Weisgarber, Helen and Bob Dhonau, Verna and Carl Bertsche, and Dottie and Phil Spiess. The club's name derives from the letters of their middle names and all the ladies in the club are also members of Zeta Tau Alpha. The club began meeting just for fun but ended up meeting right through the remainder of many of their lives. Jeeme Hipad activities encompassed World War II, the growth of their families, adapting to empty nest syndrome, right through to the passing of their spouses. A truly unique and special group.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Verna Elizabeth "Ritchie" Bertsche's devotion to all that is good and wholesome in this life. May God bless Verna on her 100th Birthday.

RECOGNIZING MR. SEAN MULLIN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition and appreciation of Mr. Sean Mullin, upon his completion of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program. Mr. Mullin served as a Knauss fellow in my Washington, D.C., office during the 2021 calendar year.

As an integral member of my legislative staff, Mr. Mullin assisted my work on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, particularly my work on the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment and the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management pertaining to natural disasters. Over this past year, he worked closely with my personal office staff in developing several pieces of legislation. He revamped my "Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act" from previous Congresses into bipartisan legislation (H.R. 6059) I reintroduced on November 19, 2021. He also developed the "End Palm Oil Deforestation Act" (H.R. 5863) from an outline into actual legislation and reworked the "Stop the Spread of Invasive Mussels Act of 2021" (H.R. 5692), of which I assumed sponsorship from former Congressman Ben McAdams (D-UT).

Mr. Mullin received his doctorate in geobiology from the California Institute of Technology in 2020, and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science in microbial biology in 2011. While his fellowship with my office has ended, I am very pleased that Mr. Mullin's public service with California's Congressional delegation will continue as he joins the office of U.S. Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN (D-CA).

I have no doubt that Mr. Mullin's innate curiosity and aptitude for navigating complex policy problems to develop actionable solutions will serve him well in this new role. Mr. Mullin will remain a deeply valued member of Team Garamendi, and we look forward to continuing to work with him.