

Islands while nuclear tests took place. After his service, Joe returned to Virginia to earn a bachelor's degree at Emory & Henry College, my alma mater as well, and a law degree at the University of Richmond.

In 1960, Joe started practicing law in Abingdon. Five years later, he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. Joe served on the House Police and Militia Committee and was a ranking member of the Roads Committee and the Insurance and Banking Committee. Traveling between Abingdon and Richmond was more time-consuming then than now, so in 1969 Joe chose not to run again in order to help his wife Ann raise their three children Mary Jo, Joe III, and Sage. From 1971 to 1989, he served as a substitute judge for the 28th General District Court.

Twenty years after leaving the House of Delegates, he was elected to it again and retained his seat until retiring in 2014. He served on the Finance, Courts of Justice, Commerce and Labor, and Rules Committees. As a delegate from 1994 to 2011, I saw firsthand how effective Joe could be. In his unfailingly friendly manner, he championed the needs of Southwest Virginia. He worked to set up and served as a member of the Virginia Tobacco Commission, was a major contributor to establishing the community college system, and helped establish the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon. Although a Democrat, he was well-liked by colleagues on both sides of the aisle, including me. After his passing, Republicans who served with him or succeeded him have been effusive in their tributes to this gentleman who did so much for our region.

In addition to his service as an elected official, Joe led or was involved in numerous civic and community organizations. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 12 in Abingdon and served as post commander. As a loyal alumnus of Emory & Henry, he served on its Board of Trustees for fourteen years, chairing the board for eight. At the Abingdon Baptist Church he devoutly worshipped at for more than 45 years, he taught Sunday school and served on the Council of Deacons. He was a president of the Washington County Bar Association and a member of the Virginia Bar Association. Other organizations he was a member of included the Abingdon Civitans, Abingdon Masonic Lodge No. 48, Kazim Shriners, Abingdon Chapter No. 182 Order of Eastern Star, and McCabe Lodge No. 56 Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mary Allison "Ann" Johnson, Joe's beloved wife of 64 years, passed away just weeks before her husband on July 19. He is survived by daughter Mary Jo Neal and husband Lewis of Abingdon; sons Joseph P. Johnson, III, and wife Kim of Charleston, South Carolina, and Judge Sage Brannon Johnson and wife Bethany of Abingdon; grandchildren Mary Lewis Huffman and husband Chad, Ashley Brooke Hemmer and husband Peter, Mary Catherine Clark and husband Justin, Joseph Zachary Johnson and wife Gracin, Finn Alexander Johnson, and William Pickett Johnson; great-grandchildren Emma Grace Clark, Isley Ann Clark, and Joseph Beckett Johnson; brother James S. Johnson and wife Diana of Abingdon; sister Louise Litwin of Abingdon; and nieces and nephews. I offer them my condolences on the loss of this kind and faithful servant of Southwest Virginia.

## CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF THE LAUREL HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 12, 2022

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church and congratulate its congregation for 250 years of service to God and their community in southwestern Pennsylvania.

The Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church was built in 1772 by Scotch-Irish immigrants, and the original log structure was the first Presbyterian Church west of the Allegheny Mountains. The church was rebuilt in 1782, 1852, and 1898 as the congregation grew. Where the church once featured beeswax-coated windows, its sanctuary is now home to 110-year-old English stained-glass windows and an ornate chimney.

In 2012, Pittsburgh's Heinz History Center featured the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church for its profound influence on southwestern Pennsylvania. During the 19th and 20th centuries, the church funded the Laurel Hill Academy. William A. Clark attended this private school and later became a United States Senator from Montana.

The church's cemetery serves as a testament to the history of the region and our Nation. The 7-acre burial ground is the final resting place for veterans of the French and Indian War, with several graves belonging to Native Americans. Other headstones mark the resting places of those who joined the fight for independence during the American Revolution. The Laurel Hill Cemetery is also home to Americans who fought to preserve our Union during the Civil War. The headstones of these veterans serve as a reminder of the struggles that strengthened our great Nation.

Madam Speaker, the story of the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church is uniquely American. The church has stood as a testament to its faith for 250 years, and I look forward to what the next chapter has in store for its congregation and community.

## RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF SAN JACINTO GIRL SCOUTS

### HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 12, 2022

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize 100 years of the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council, in the 29th Texas Congressional District.

The Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council was founded in 1922 by Corinne Fonde and Frances Mann Law. This year, 2022, marks a full century of the council empowering girls across my district. The San Jacinto Council is a community-based organization and is one of the country's largest girl scout councils, with more than 35,000 girl members and 14,000 adult members. It serves 26 counties across Southwest Texas, including Houston and Harris counties and aims to build girls of "courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place."

The Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council provides girls of all backgrounds the opportunity to explore the outdoors, STEM-based learning, entrepreneurship, and valuable life skill lessons. Through these girl scout programs, Texan girls of all ages establish strong relationships and abilities that they will carry with them beyond their girl scout years. Girls are encouraged to find their passions, tackle a wide range of challenges, and express themselves through various activities and programs. The council is also committed to diversity and inclusion, and works to engage in critical conversations with members about how to ensure inclusivity through Girl Scout values.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council for 100 years of service to girls across local Texas communities, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

## HONORING STANLEY LANG

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 12, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Stanley Lang.

Pastor Stanley Lang is the oldest son of 7 children. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Rosie and Charlie Lang. Presently, he is the Industrial Training Coordinator for Coahoma Community College, in Clarksdale, MS, and Pastor of the local community church for the past 26 years. He has held other jobs in his career including Director of the Montessori School in Jonestown, MS; Lead counselor for offenders in the Mississippi's penitentiary; Supervising Social Worker for the Department of Children Services in Memphis; and 4th grade teacher at Norris Elementary in Memphis, TN. He was recently selected to serve as Board Alderman for the Town of Marks in the absence of a member who passed.

Stanley possesses (3) Master degrees- in Child Protection, Pre-school Education and Leadership. Recently, he completed a period as the Dislocated Workers Coordinator, where he worked with City Aldermen to get the city of Marks a grocery store, formerly a food desert; and provided the store with ready employee who completed his employment training two weeks program. He is recognized amongst family, his community, and his colleagues as a man of integrity, service, compassion, and outstanding spirit. He regularly attends, serve, and Minister at the Anderson Street Community Church of Christ, Marks, MS.

Stanley attended and graduated from the then Quitman County High school (1980).

He attended Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, MS, as a Sociology Major. For a few years after graduating from Mississippi Valley State University, Stanley worked as a manager for McDonalds, Pizza Hut, and Krystal's while simultaneously working for the Department of Correction in Parchman, MS.

Stanley enrolled in graduate school at Nova Southeastern University in 2009. He also worked as a teacher at Norris Elementary School in Memphis, TN. After 23 years in

Memphis, Tennessee, Stanley returned to Marks to be closer to his ailing grandmother and family.

In 2016, Stanley was hired as the Director of the Montessori school in Jonestown, MS. In 2018, he was hired as GED/BASIC skills instructor for Coahoma Community College (Adult Basic Education Program). During the next several years, Stanley would be promoted to Dislocated Workers Coordinator and then Industrial Training Coordinator. Stanley is County Team Leader at Coahoma Community College/Adult Basic Education Program and served on many planning boards including some in Coahoma and Quitman Counties.

In 2019, Stanley was chosen as the chairperson for the Quitman County Democratic party. Although he no longer holds that position, he is still involved. Stanley is currently working on pursuing his Doctorate in Leadership in August 2023.

Although he excelled in his employment, Stanley aspires to become more involved in his community as a pastor and public servant.

Stanley is married to Ontania Wane'ka Lang (27 years of joyful marriage). He has 3 children (Stanika, Pedro and Rashad), all live in North Mississippi area.

Stanley's leadership, passion, dedication, reliability, and service have made him synonymous with being one of the best community leaders in the state of Mississippi. When all is said and done, Stanley is recognized for his service to God, his family, his country, his community, and the people that seek his help.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Stanley Lang for his dedication to serving this great state and country.

#### HONORING BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

#### HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 12, 2022*

Mr. LaMALFA. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force and the positive contribution of Beale Air Force Base to the Yuba Sutter Community since 1942.

For 75 years, American Airmen and women have excelled as they execute the Air Force mission to fly, fight, and win—delivering airpower anytime, anywhere in defense of our nation.

Airmen and women are called to “innovate, accelerate, and thrive” as the U.S. Air Force and Department of the Air Force approach their 75th anniversaries on September 18, 2022. Airmen and women will always be there to provide America with the airpower it needs to defend the Nation, deter or defeat our adversaries, reassure our partners and allies, and help diplomacy proceed from a position of strength.

Airmen and women continue to push technological and cultural boundaries which make America the leader in airpower and space power. Innovation is an integral part of how we train and employ our squadrons, develop our capabilities, and continue to move toward an even more effective Air Force.

From their inception 75 years ago, the U.S. Air Force and Department of the Air Force

have excelled at keeping pace with rapid changes in technology and in the demands placed on the Air Force's five core missions: air superiority; global strike; rapid global mobility; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; and command and control.

Camp Beale opened in October 1942 as a training site for the 13th Armored and the 81st and 96th Infantry Divisions. Today Beale Air Force Base is home for the U-2 *Dragon Lady*, T-38 *Talon* and RQ-4 *Global Hawk*. The base, covering nearly 23,000 acres, is home to more than 4,500 military personnel. Beale AFB has an unique name and mission, a historic past, and a promising future.

I recognize the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force and the positive contribution of Beale Air Force Base to the Yuba Sutter Community since 1942. I am proud to represent this Air Force Base.

#### PEACE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

#### HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 12, 2022*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, it is an obvious fact that the conflict in Ukraine has led to an inordinate amount of human suffering. As much as global elites insincerely bemoan the death and devastation, their tinkering and meddling in Eastern Europe—treating countries with long, complicated histories almost as pieces on a chess board—has done nothing to bring about peace.

With the American working class suffering from crippling inflation and still reeling from unconstitutional and abusive lockdowns, sending billions of dollars to a country 6,000 miles away takes “out-of-touch” to a new level. Could what happened in Afghanistan—billions of dollars-worth of defense equipment squandered and left in the hands of our enemies—occur again in Ukraine? Two large French artillery units have already been captured by the Russians. Is that a foretaste of another Afghanistan-like debacle?

Politically correct politicians on both sides of the aisle are constantly preaching about the need to send more arms, more aid, more support to Ukraine. One word that is noticeably absent is the word “peace.” Instead of constant finger pointing, world leaders should be doing all in their power to facilitate negotiations and make reasoned arguments for why peace benefits both countries.

The problem with peace is that the Biden administration would no longer have a distraction to their horrific domestic crises—ridiculous inflation, a tepid housing market, a weak supply chain, an invasion of criminal illegal aliens, failing public schools, and a deadly drug epidemic, to name a few.

The obstinacy implicit in this conflict—Putin's insistence on Donbas and Zelensky's determination to oppose him—highlights the error of attempting to intrude in foreign affairs not connected to American security. An amendment I offered to the National Defense Authorization Act requires the Biden administration to explain their objectives that would justify involvement in a country thousands of miles away. It was ignored.

America's military strength has served as a deterrent to hostile foreign powers over its his-

tory. However, aid to Ukraine has depleted military stockpiles. A quarter of Stinger missiles and a third of Javelins have been sent to Ukraine. An expert from the Center for Strategic and International Studies estimates that it could take 32 months to restock the Javelins. And that was when the U.S. had only spent \$2.6 billion total. Now, the tally is up to \$63 billion. Imagine how strong our military would be if that money was invested here at home.

The United States is weaker as a result of interference in Eastern Europe. Russia is depleted. Ukraine is devastated. Sending money to Ukraine extends and fuels war. Can peace be obtained through diplomatic means? Maybe. But U.S. military involvement has only worsened the conflict.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY ANDREW PEERY

#### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 12, 2022*

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY and myself, to honor the life of El Paso County Sheriff Deputy Andrew Peery. Deputy Peery was tragically killed in the line of duty on August 7, 2022, in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Andrew Peery was born in Frazier Park, California, on December 12, 1982, to parents David and Sandy Peery. He graduated from Frazier Mountain High School in 2001.

After graduating, Andrew joined the United States Army. He became part of the prestigious 173rd Airborne Unit based out of Vicenza, Italy, where he served as an 11B Infantryman. Andrew and his platoon were some of the first boots on the ground during the airborne assault into Iraq in March of 2003. He later served with the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado.

While in the Army, Andrew held a top-secret clearance, developing and executing over 600 operations to maintain foreign relations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Andrew Peery served three tours of duty in Iraq. During the first two tours, he was a sniper.

A decorated veteran, Andrew was awarded seven Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, and a Meritorious Service Medal for his service. Andrew medically retired from the Army as a Staff Sergeant in 2013.

Andrew then returned to Bakersfield, California, to work as a police officer and served in the Gang Unit for the Bakersfield Police Department from 2013 until 2016. While at the Bakersfield Police Department, Andrew received a commendation for his life-saving efforts helping a stabbing victim. He also volunteered over 100 hours of his time for the California Special Olympics.

In November of 2016, Andrew was hired on with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office as a lateral transfer from the Bakersfield Police Department. He was assigned to the midnight shift on patrol and later transferred to the Tactical Support Unit, becoming a part of the auxiliary SWAT team. After becoming a full-time SWAT Team member, Deputy Peery served as the Sniper Team Leader. Additionally, Andrew was assigned to the Gang Unit, served