

Levee System, helping earn three Abilene Trophies for building a strong and vibrant community surrounding Scott Air Force Base, catalyzing economic growth through a regional development plan, and leading numerous important infrastructure projects including major river bridge improvements in the last decade.

Please join me in congratulating the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois on its 40th anniversary and wishing the council continued success in strengthening our communities for years to come.

RECOGNIZING CPL. HELEN M.
LATTAL

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of the late Corporal Helen M. Lattal, a proud World War II veteran who passed away in March at the age of 103.

Helen enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in 1942. In 1943, President Roosevelt transformed the WAAC into the Women's Army Corps, giving women full military status. She served in the headquarters of the 8th Air Force of the Army Air Corps under the command of Gen. Jimmy Doolittle.

After the war, she returned to the United States and worked as a counselor for soldiers. In her later years, she would serve as a volunteer with the Red Cross. She was a 57-year member of the American Legion where she served a term as post commander.

Cpl. Lattal's life's work is an example of the patriotism, sacrifice, and commitment we associate with the military. We are grateful for her dedication to this country, and we will miss her.

HONORING COUNCILMAN JIM
BULLARD

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to commemorate the life of former Piscataway Councilman Jim Bullard. Councilman Bullard passed away on February 15, 2023, after a life filled with numerous personal and professional accomplishments.

Throughout his life, Councilman Bullard exhibited hard work and an interest in learning. The son of James and Eileen Bullard, Councilman Bullard was born and raised in the Bahamas. He graduated high school at the age of 12 and worked various jobs where he consistently demonstrated character and leadership before moving to the United States to continue his education. He received his associates degree from Miami-Dade Community College and his bachelor's degree from Lowell Technological Institute (UMass Lowell). He worked as an electrical engineer for RCA, Honeywell, and AT&T Bell Labs. He remained at AT&T for 29 years until his retirement in 2006.

Elected to represent Ward 2 on the Piscataway Township Council in 2010, Councilman Bullard served three terms, until De-

cember 2022, and led the Council as President in 2013. Throughout his tenure, Councilman Bullard promoted senior services, recreational programs for children, and improvements to parks.

A long-time advocate for seniors, Councilman Bullard served on the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission and the Office of Aging & Disabled Services Advisory Council and helped start the Senior Buddy Program which partners high school seniors with senior citizens to improve computer skills.

In addition to his work with the senior population, Councilman Bullard volunteered his time with the Piscataway Little League, Piscataway Community Television, the Metlar-Bodine House Museum, and the Piscataway Recreation Board, among others. He was deservedly recognized for his efforts by various organizations, including the Jersey Access Group, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and the Middle Atlantic Regional Babe Ruth Baseball Hall of Fame.

Councilman Bullard received a heart transplant in 2006. As he did throughout his life, Councilman Bullard approached transplant surgery with determination and a positive attitude, recovering quickly and devoting time to supporting organ donation programs and patients. He helped raise funds for organ donation for Hahnemann University and served as President of the Second Chance Heart Transplant Chapter and Support Group.

Councilman Bullard leaves behind a loving family, including his beloved wife of 45 years, Lois, their children, grandchildren, and his siblings. His generous spirit was a joy to everyone he met, and he will be remembered fondly by all those whose lives he impacted.

Mr. Speaker, Councilman Bullard was a dedicated public servant and an active member of the community. He was deeply committed to serving the residents of Piscataway and his leadership and enthusiasm will truly be missed. I know I join with his family, friends, colleagues, and community in paying tribute to his memory.

PROVIDING APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT
NEEDED TO ENHANCE RELATIONS WITH ASEAN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for passage of the PARTNER with ASEAN Act, bipartisan legislation I introduced with Congresswoman YOUNG KIM of California to strengthen the longstanding relationship between the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

For nearly six decades, ASEAN has worked to promote stability, prosperity, and multilateral cooperation in Southeast Asia and has become a critical part of the diplomatic architecture of the broader Indo-Pacific. Together, the ten member nations of ASEAN represent the world's fourth-largest market, and U.S. trade with ASEAN accounts for hundreds of billions of dollars a year. Last fall, the U.S. and ASEAN agreed to elevate their relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

In 2017, I co-founded the Congressional ASEAN Caucus with Congresswoman ANN WAGNER to foster greater dialogue on Capitol Hill around issues related to Southeast Asia. Today's consideration of the PARTNER with ASEAN Act comes from years of bipartisan work by our Caucus, and I also want to recognize the contributions of the bill's original cosponsor Representative Steve Chabot, who was a leader on Asia policy issues in Congress for many years.

The United States was the first non-member country to appoint an ambassador to ASEAN, and Congress has long recognized the regional and global importance of ASEAN. Despite the bipartisan consensus about the importance of ASEAN centrality, the United States has yet to accord ASEAN the routine diplomatic privileges that we provide to similar groupings like the Organization of American States, African Union, or European Union.

The PARTNER with ASEAN Act would authorize ASEAN to be designated as an international organization with full diplomatic privileges and open new avenues for U.S.-ASEAN cooperation, including the potential establishment of an ASEAN mission in the United States. It has bipartisan support in the Senate, where a companion bill was introduced earlier this month, and President Biden has committed to signing the bill into law once it reaches his desk.

At a time of increased global focus on the Indo-Pacific, the PARTNER with ASEAN Act makes a simple change that will have an outsized impact on our international relations. I thank Congresswoman KIM for her partnership on this bill, and I also want to recognize the work of Erik Ashida, who served on my staff until last month and played an instrumental role in moving this legislation forward.

I urge my colleagues to support the swift and bipartisan passage of the PARTNER with ASEAN Act and applaud the longstanding commitment of this body to maintaining strong relationships with our partners in the Indo-Pacific.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF DAVID FULSTONE

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my Happy Birthday wishes to Mr. David Fulstone, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on Saturday, April 1, 2023.

David Hill Fulstone was born on April 1, 1923, in San Francisco, California as the second of five children to the late Fred and Dr. Mary Fulstone. Raised in Nevada's Smith Valley on the family sheep ranching operation, the values of hard work and service were instilled in David at an early age. Throughout his youth, he worked as a ranch hand, and especially loved sheep camp.

He was also the star of the Smith Valley Bulldogs basketball team, before graduating in 1942. After high school, David pursued his passion and bought his own farm, growing hay, garlic, and onions.

In 1945, David married his best girl and forever dance partner, Angelina Margaroli. They were faithfully married for 63 years until

Angelina's passing in 2008. Over the years, they were blessed with two children, DeeAnn Fulstone and David Hill Fulstone II, and four grandchildren.

David was an active member of the Farm Bureau, traveling across the country to many of the annual meetings and advocating on behalf of Nevada's farmers and ranchers. He even received the Farmer of Year Award, the result of his tireless support of the agriculture community.

While David retired from farming in 2010, he continued to love gardening and often shared the rewards of his labor with everyone in town.

David's contributions to his community go beyond farming. From becoming the longest and oldest member of the Yerington Rotary Club to serving as a board member of the Lyon County Hospital Council, northern Nevada has benefited greatly from his time and commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and the people of Nevada in honoring this outstanding citizen and family man on his 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT PRAETZEL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Robert "Bob" Praetzel, an extraordinary conservationist, attorney, and community leader, who passed away on February 4, 2023, at the age of 97.

Bob was born in San Francisco in 1925 and spent most of his life in Marin County, where he developed a passion for nature hiking on Mount Tam and fishing in San Pablo Bay. He joined the Navy during World War II and spent three years in the allied forces. After the war, Bob pursued his education at the College of Marin, UC Berkeley, and Hastings Law School. His professional career spanned 60-years in Estate Planning and Probate.

Bob became a renowned pioneer in protecting Marin County's open space. As one of the lawyers who challenged the development of the largest real estate projects in the county, Bob is credited with preserving the Marin Headlands and creating the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. His efforts have immeasurably shaped the landscape of Marin and will live on through the conservation of its natural beauty for years to come.

Bob was also a passionate community volunteer, serving on numerous philanthropic and conservation boards in Marin County. He served as President of the Marin Bar Association and was founder and President of the Estate Planning Council. Additionally, he was an active volunteer for many charitable organizations and worked hard to secure funding for environmental groups such as the Trust for Public Land, Cal Trout, Ducks Unlimited, Resources Renewal Institute, and the Marin Agricultural Land Trust.

Bob is remembered as an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed backpacking, hiking, and duck hunting, and shared many adventures with his wife of 66 years, Nancy, and their four children, Susanna, Matt, Eugenia, and Anne

Marie. Even in his mid-90s, Bob was still active and highly motivated by his family, referring to them as his pride and joy. He leaves behind his wife, children, numerous grandchildren, and his siblings, Lola Saylor and Patrick Praetzel.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that Robert Praetzel was a well-respected community figure who will be missed, and whose many contributions to the region are a legacy worthy of congressional recognition. Please join me in extending condolences to Bob's family and many friends, and in expressing my deep appreciation for the positive impact he has left on the community and the environment.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT MASON GRIFFITH

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of fallen officer Detective Sergeant Mason Griffith.

Detective Sergeant Griffith exemplifies small town America and the commitment to service. He was a Detective Sergeant of the Hermann Police Department, the Chief of Police of the Rosebud Police Department, a Reserve Deputy of Gasconade County Sheriff's Department and a member of the Gerald-Rosebud Fire Department. On March 12, Sergeant Griffith was shot and killed in the line of duty. He leaves behind a loving wife, two children, and an entire community who will deeply miss him.

This tragedy stands as a somber reminder to our Nation that law enforcement officers and their families sacrifice every single day to ensure our families are safe. We will never have another Sergeant Griffith, and for that our entire community is worse off. We will forever remember him as a man committed to his family and community and as a hero who gave his life to keep us safe.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in offering our deepest condolences to the Griffith family, his fellow officers, and the entire community who are suffering this tragedy.

TRIPLE NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER DAY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, as a congresswoman and a champion of health care initiatives, and as an advocate for breast cancer survivors, I rise today to commemorate Triple Negative Breast Cancer Day.

Breast cancer is a devastating disease that affects far too many of us. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about one in eight women will get breast cancer in her life, impacting hundreds of thousands of Americans each year.

I am particularly concerned about the disparities in breast cancer that leave women of color even more vulnerable to this deadly dis-

ease. While the many reasons are complex, it is critical that we continue to support research to get answers and to break down barriers to help save lives. For example, I have long been concerned about the impact of breast density, which can make cancers more difficult to detect on a mammogram. Additionally, dense breasts have been identified as a risk factor for developing breast cancer, according to the FDA. I applaud the FDA for its recent efforts to help ensure that patients are provided with accurate and timely information about the impact that breast density and other factors can have on the risk for developing breast cancer as part of a comprehensive breast health strategy.

Yet, we have so much more to do to help save lives especially when it comes to aggressive and deadly forms of breast cancer, like triple negative breast cancer. Women with triple-negative breast cancer often face a worse prognosis and limited treatment options.

This is why we need to increase funding for research for breast cancer, including for those who are fighting the triple negative variety. We need to find better ways to detect it early and to develop new treatments that will give women with triple-negative breast cancer better options in their fight against cancer.

But funding for more research is not enough. We also need to ensure equity and access to high quality and affordable treatments for all those with breast cancer, regardless of their race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. Women from marginalized communities often face barriers to accessing care such as high co-pays for additional testing beyond a basic mammogram, and we must work to break down those barriers.

No woman should have to fight breast cancer alone, and no woman should be denied the care she needs because of where she comes from or how much money she makes. We must come together as a community to ensure that all fighting breast cancer have access to the care and treatment they need.

I urge my colleagues to join me in the fight against breast cancer and to support increased investments in critical research for those battling triple-negative and other forms of breast cancer research and ensuring equity and access to care for all women with breast cancer.

NOW IS THE TIME TO UPDATE RAIL SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, in the past five months, we have seen three major Norfolk Southern train derailments in Ohio, including one that occurred in my district, and another which traveled right through the heart of my district in northwest Ohio before it burst into flames in East Palestine.

It's been more than a month since that Norfolk Southern train disaster in East Palestine, Ohio. Twenty of the 38 railcars that derailed were carrying dangerous chemicals; now hundreds of Ohio and Pennsylvania families are rightfully frightened that their water is contaminated. Since then, another train derailed 28 railcars in Springfield, Ohio. Thankfully no hazardous contaminants spilled.