

HONORING FORMER
REPRESENTATIVE BOB CARR

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge a fellow Midwesterner and former colleague from the state of Michigan, Bob Carr, on his 80th birthday. Bob has spent a lifetime in public service and education and continues to have a lasting impact on our institution.

Bob served this body for 18 years, representing Michigan's 6th and 8th Congressional Districts. During his time in Congress, he proudly served on the Armed Services Committee and then on Appropriations, where he worked to end the United States' military involvement in Southeast Asian conflicts.

After leaving Congress, Bob continued on the path of public service both at the Association of Former Members of Congress and with the Brookings LEGIS Fellows program. Every step along the way, he has improved the political discourse and helped hundreds of civil servants get an inside perspective of this institution we love, thereby fostering more constructive engagement between the executive and legislative branches of government. His career has helped set an example for all of us on how to work together to improve our government and our country.

Both my constituents and I personally have benefitted from the high caliber of professionalism and expertise of LEGIS Fellows who have served, and continue to serve, each year on my staff.

Happy Birthday to Bob, and I thank him for his continued public service and enduring contributions to this Nation.

THANKING MARISA BURLESON
FOR HER SERVICE TO KANSAS

HON. JAKE LATURNER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. LATURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in appreciation for a member of my staff for her dedicated service to the people of Kansas. From day one of my first term in Congress, Marisa Burleson has served the Second Congressional District as Director of Operations in Washington, D.C., with commitment and distinction.

Marisa's knowledge, hard work, diligence, and grit have ensured my office is serving Kansans to the best of our ability. She lent her experience to help first organize the office, has consistently exceeded the expectations of constituents and colleagues, and has continuously solved seemingly unsolvable scheduling conflicts. Marisa is a fervid Texan, but we have been proud to have her and will continue to be proud to have her as an honorary Kansan and look forward to seeing her excel in her new endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JACK FAEGRE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jack Oliver Faegre. His familiar face, engaging personality and the guidance he regularly provided will be missed within the Robson Ranch community and among local voters who knew him for his faithful service each cycle.

While widely known within Denton County, like many North Texans, Jack became a proud Texan after spending most of his youth in the Midwest. Jack was born June 15, 1934 to Selmer Albert Faegre and Mabel Lucile Monroe in Jefferson Township, Allamakee County, Iowa. He graduated from Iowa State University with an Engineering Degree and served as an officer in the Army Corps of Engineers from 1959 to 1969; retiring as a Captain.

After serving in the Corps, Jack settled in Texas to raise his family, working initially at Texas Instruments in Dallas before moving to other engineering roles at Frito-Lay and Rockwell International. A lifelong supporter of the Dallas Cowboys, Jack was also an avid skier in his younger years and loved taking ski vacations with his family. He eventually retired from Rockwell International and settled into the Robson Ranch Community just outside of Denton.

During his retirement years, he was highly active in Denton County elections as an Election Judge and served as Republican Precinct Chair for Robson Ranch, the only person to hold that office in his precinct. One of his passions was making sure that the people in his community had an opportunity to vote. He was very instrumental in convincing the Robson executives to allow the clubhouse to be a polling site for Early and Election Day Voting.

The void Jack leaves will be felt by his family, friends, and all who knew him. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Creeda, and his entire family. I join them in the appreciation of his memory and in celebrating the long-term impact he had on the lives and communities where he was so actively engaged.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
MAYOR MICHAEL BOEHM

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Mr. Michael Boehm, five-term Mayor of the City of Lenexa, Kansas. Mayor Boehm was first elected in April of 2003, after being appointed to the position in January of the same year while serving on the Lenexa City Council. Mr. Boehm is a lifelong Kansas resident, graduating from Olathe High School in 1978 and the University of Kansas in 1982.

Mayor Boehm has been a devoted public servant and transformed the City of Lenexa during his tenure as Mayor. Under his leadership, Lenexa annexed 2,172 acres of land and grew by over 20,000 residents, while the Mayor spearheaded the economic moderniza-

tion of the city through a series of infrastructure projects.

In 2007, the City of Lenexa and the Kansas Department of Transportation began making improvements to West 87th Street Parkway and the U.S. 69 and Interstate-35 exchange. This project was the catalyst for the revitalization of downtown Lenexa. In 2017, under Mayor Boehm's leadership, the City opened the new Civic Center, relocating City Hall and establishing both the Lenexa Recreation Center and the Lenexa Public Market.

The completion of 87th Street Parkway led to the development of the nearby Lenexa City Center, a now thriving business, living, and entertainment district. In addition to the Public Market and the Rec Center, Lenexa City Center has since grown to include an aquatic center, a Johnson County Public Library branch, and the Park University Lenexa campus.

While Mayor of Lenexa, Mr. Boehm concurrently served on the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce Board, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board of Directors, the Johnson County Community College Foundation Board of Directors, and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Mayor Boehm is also an active member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Lenexa, Kansas.

Most recently, in October of 2022, Mayor Boehm received the Excellence in Government Award from the Kansas League of Municipalities. This award honors excellence and leadership at the highest level, demonstrated outstanding service to the awardee's city, and an active commitment to strong local government. I cannot think of better words to encapsulate Mr. Boehm's twenty-year career as Mayor of Lenexa.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mayor Boehm on his illustrious tenure as Mayor of Lenexa, Kansas. Mayor Boehm will continue his work as senior vice president at Commerce Bank. I wish Mayor Boehm a peaceful and prosperous retirement from the City of Lenexa and thank him for his public service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARVIN
KAHN

HON. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Marvin Kahn, a proud champion of Florida's citrus industry.

Marvin was born in Sebring, Florida on April 18, 1933. From his earliest days, he grew to appreciate his family's orange groves with his sister and two brothers. It was clear from an early age that Marvin was on track to do great things in our community's agricultural sector. He developed a keen interest in both oranges and cattle. In high school, he joined the Future Farmers of America, served on student council and was elected as a class officer each year.

Marvin pursued an agricultural education at the University of Florida, where he graduated in 1956 with a major in Animal Science and a minor in Citrus. It was there that he met his future wife, Elsa Babette Kessler. They later had two children, Steven and Leah.

After graduating, Marvin put his expertise into practice by developing a cattle ranch in Hardee County. He and Elsa lived there for two years before moving back home to Sebring to manage his family's groves. He then founded Kahn Groves, Inc. to manage his family's property. Marvin later expanded his operations by launching Kahn Grove Services in 1969 to care for properties in Highlands, Hardee and Polk counties. He quickly developed a reputation as a "grower's grower" thanks to his philosophy of providing personalized service for his customers.

Marvin served on the Florida Citrus Commission from 1971 to 1979 at a time when the industry was booming. He was a member of the Highlands County and Florida Farm Bureau for more than 65 years, serving as president of the board. He also served as president of the Highlands County Cattleman's Association and First President of the Florida Beef Council. Marvin was deeply committed to FFA and was a founding member of the Highlands County 4-H Club Foundation. He was honored for his significant contributions to Florida agriculture with his induction into the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame in 2018.

On behalf of Florida's 18th Congressional District, I know that Marvin will be deeply missed by our community. But his contributions will be remembered by his friends, family and neighbors for years to come.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION HOMECOMING

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Operation Homecoming, the vital mission to safely return American Prisoners of War from Vietnam to America. These American Prisoners of War displayed extraordinary fortitude and bravery, exemplifying the best of America through their resilience and selflessness in the face of adversity and hardship.

In 1973, as part of the Paris Peace Accords, 591 American Prisoners of War held by North Vietnam were freed and safely returned to American soil. The first group of 20 former Prisoners of War released from the prison camps in North Vietnam landed at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California. Over 300 family members were present to welcome home these valiant and loyal servicemembers. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave individuals that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated at Travis Air Force Base.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courage American Prisoners of War exhibited during their captivity in North Vietnam. These individuals demonstrated remarkable endurance and heroism while being forced to withstand harsh conditions and cruel treatment. The valiant servicemembers that returned during Operation Homecoming epitomize the values of perseverance and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to honor the 50th

anniversary of Operation Homecoming and extend my sincere gratitude to all American Prisoners of War freed through this mission, for their sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

RECOGNIZING VA MEDICAL CENTER DIRECTOR KEVIN FORREST FOR RECEIVING THE SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of VA Medical Center Director Kevin Forrest for receiving the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Nursing. Every year since 1984, the Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded several outstanding individuals with this great honor. These individuals are directors, nursing executives, registered nurses, licensed practical or vocational nurses, and nursing assistants, all actively involved in patient care. They are nominated by their peers and go through a rigorous review process.

This year, one of the awardees is New Hampshire's very own Kevin Forrest. Since first joining the VA in 2012, Kevin has been a tireless advocate for Veterans' health all across New England and now in Manchester, New Hampshire. His previous experience combined with his ability to build relationships at the medical center have been key elements in his leadership strategy. He has run the Manchester VAMC with confidence, providing care to over 30,000 Veterans all across New Hampshire. His guidance helped the center overcome many challenges throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, and was appreciated by Veterans, employees, and the community alike.

I look forward to seeing all that Kevin and the Manchester VAMC accomplish in the years to come. I am confident that the Veterans of Manchester, and all of New Hampshire, will continue to benefit from Kevin's leadership. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I commend Kevin for receiving this high honor, and I commend his amazing staff for making the Manchester VAMC one of the best-run veteran medical centers in the country. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to cast my vote against H.R. 5, the so-called "Parents Bill of Rights Act" on March 24, 2023, due to my ongoing recovery from surgery. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on Roll Call 161.

We should encourage all parents to be engaged in their child's education and active in their school community, but H.R. 5—under the guise of parental rights—undermines our public education system.

Instead of working to keep children safe in the classroom, provide better wages for teachers, and empower students of all backgrounds to learn more about the world around them, Republicans would rather help far-right extremists whitewash history in public schools.

Our children deserve to learn without being caught in divisive culture wars. These partisan attacks on our students, particularly LGBTQ+ and minority students, need to stop.

CELEBRATING THE SCHOOL RENAMING IN HONOR OF THE LATE MRS. ROSE MARY BILLIPS LOVING

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding, cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana. Mrs. Rose Mary Loving, born Rose Mary Billips, was the first African-American woman elected to the Orleans Parish School Board and served from 1977 to 1989. Mrs. Loving was elected board president in 1982, 1983 and 1985. She was also a former director of the Algiers-Fischer Community Center.

Even before her election to the board, Mrs. Loving was involved with the public schools for two decades as a committed parent and was also active in Chapter 1, a federal program providing remedial education to schools in low-income areas.

At her last board meeting, she was honored by school officials, employees and other well-wishers. Mrs. Loving pointed out her 15-year-old granddaughter in the audience to show that she had a special reason to stay involved with the schools. "I'm not going very far," she said. This weekend, we continue to recognize Mrs. Rose Mary's unwavering commitment and numerous contributions to the school system, naming a local elementary school in her honor.

Nearly a year ago, New Orleans Public School System responded to public requests to rename school facilities. This renaming is in accordance with policy approved by the Orleans Parish School Board to ensure school facilities do not have names honoring figures from our painful past. The board believed all schools should be welcoming, inclusive, and inspiring places for all students. The goal was to ensure the names of these physical school facilities and the people that we honor reflect the values of the school district, like Mrs. Loving did throughout her life and her time serving on the board.

As their policy states, the OPSB is fundamentally opposed to retaining names of school facilities named after persons who were slave owners, confederate officials, or segregation supporters.

After months of public input, hundreds of name considerations and historical research, the Orleans Parish School Board unanimously voted and approved NOLA Public Schools list of recommendations for the renaming of several public-school buildings.

The District received more than 250 name recommendations that were vetted and considered. Mrs. Rose Mary Loving's name is replacing Martin Behrman, a former slave