

During her time on the team, Becky brought exceptional organizational skills playing a key role in establishing our District Office in Lincoln.

This work was particularly evidenced by her work on behalf of constituents, which helped recover hundreds of thousands of dollars in constituent resources from federal agencies.

Her coordination of the First District Congressional Art Competition made the program successful.

But most of all, Becky is a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

Becky has a passion for serving others and provided quality customer service to people. And that is leading her to return to the healthcare sector.

As she departs, I want her to know that everyone appreciates her work and that we will greatly miss her. On behalf of the First District of Nebraska: Congratulations and best wishes to Becky.

HONORING THE LATE RICHARD STEWART

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Richard Stewart, a beloved and well-known figure from my hometown of Petersburg, in Virginia's Fourth Congressional District. Mr. Stewart was the honorary "Mayor of Pocahontas Island," one of the oldest Black neighborhoods in our nation.

Since 1732, enslaved, escaped, and free African Americans have called Pocahontas Island home, and Mr. Stewart fought relentlessly to preserve artifacts, properties, and the stories of those who lived there. He even created the Pocahontas Island Black History Museum, the first Black history museum in Petersburg, to educate visitors and memorialized the storied history of the neighborhood. He was a veteran, a community leader, and an engaged citizen who devoted his life to preserving our history and preparing the next generation through storytelling and learning.

He leaves behind a lasting legacy and will be sorely missed by the Petersburg community and our Commonwealth.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize and celebrate Israel's 75th anniversary.

Like so many Americans, I am amazed by all that Israel has achieved in the face of immense challenges. Born in the aftermath of the horrors of the Holocaust and the Second World War, Israel's short history is full of success. In a short time span, Israel has become one of the world's leading nations for innovation and technology; its contributions to fields like cybersecurity, healthcare, and agriculture benefit Americans every day.

We also cannot lose sight of the fact that Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East and a beacon of hope for not only Jews, but freedom-loving people of all faiths and backgrounds. Our relationship with Israel is a mutually beneficial partnership that reinforces America's moral values and strategic interests, promoting stability in a highly volatile region. Our two nations face many of the same threats, making it imperative that America does not waiver in our commitment to strengthen Israel's ability to defend itself.

The U.S.-Israel relationship is truly the embodiment of "peace through strength". By standing together, we demonstrate to our adversaries that we will not be intimidated and that we will defend our shared values and interests. As malicious regimes like Iran continue their quest for nuclear capabilities, it is vital that America remains committed to ensuring a strong and secure Israel.

As a Member of Congress, I remain steadfast in my support for Israel and look forward to helping advance U.S.-Israel defense cooperation. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Israel's 75th anniversary and reaffirming our commitment to this important partnership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, due to committee obligations, I was unable to vote on Roll Call No. 194. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 194 (House Res. 311).

RECOGNIZING ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL'S SERVICE TO THE CHILDREN OF WYANDOTTE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Theodore Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte, Michigan on the occasion of their Centennial Celebration. Their steadfast commitment to the education of our area's youth over the last 100 years is worthy of commendation.

The cornerstone of Roosevelt High School was laid in 1921, and over the next two years while the school was being built not a single power tool was used. "The pride of Wyandotte" as it was referred to at the time, is still to this day a beautifully conceived building, with a limestone facade and hand-carved English Oak throughout the building. Though there were only 500 high school students at the time, the new school was built to hold 1,400, allowing it to serve the city of Wyandotte for the next century.

Since the first graduating class crossed the stage in 1923, tens of thousands of students have walked the halls of Roosevelt High School. Many renovations and additions have happened, from the five large WPA murals that were installed in the auditorium in 1942 to

the new gym and workout facilities that were built in 2003, with many in-between. What hasn't changed is the staffs drive to educate and empower the children of Wyandotte, as well as the tradition of parental involvement and partnerships with local businesses. From the many events John and I attended over the years, it has been so heartwarming to see the entire community committed to the mission of helping their students succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the staff, students, and community that have made Theodore Roosevelt High School a tremendous educational environment for the last 100 years. From athletics and debate club to the Roosevelt Marching Band participating in President Obama's inauguration, we have always been so proud to see how they represent the state of Michigan. I am excited to see them produce amazing graduates to send off into the world for the next 100 years.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF DEFIANCE, OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a historic milestone in Defiance, Ohio in our District. Today, citizens are gathering to celebrate the Bicentennial Anniversary of the City of Defiance. Events throughout the day will focus on "Remembering our history, Honoring our present, and Envisioning our future."

On April 28, 2023, after being surveyed by Captain James Riley, the plat for the Village of Defiance was recorded in Wood County, Ohio by Horatio G. Phillips. He purchased thirty acres of land in the Village of Defiance at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee Rivers, gateway to the Great Lakes. Thus, Defiance was born and is the County Seat of Defiance County.

The history notes that "Benjamin Leavell would join with Phillips to market the property. It was divided into 150 lots. Their 1823 newspaper ad stated the streets are wide, with alleys for the convenience of the lots, which are of handsome size. It also stated the proprietors have laid off lots for religious societies, schools, and a courthouse. The location of the 1794 Fort Defiance was set aside as a public park."

Residents named the community after Fort Defiance, once a western-most outpost in the Ohio country in early America. Constructed by General Anthony Wayne before 1794's Battle of Fallen Timbers, Fort Defiance was also an important defense in Ohio from invasion by British soldiers during the War of 1812.

Growth continued following "speculation of the construction of the Miami & Erie and Wabash & Erie Canals and their route as they connected to Lake Erie. Ultimately the canals would join together 10½ miles southwest of Defiance at a location named Junction. The canals used the same channel through Defiance. The Wabash & Erie connecting Fort Wayne, Indiana and west to Toledo, Ohio, was completed in 1843 and the Miami & Erie canal, connecting Cincinnati to Toledo, was completed in 1845." The canals' completion fueled much of the growth in western Ohio lands, including Defiance.

It is reported that the legendary Johnny Applesseed owned a nursery on the north bank of the Maumee river with Defiance as his primary headquarters during the early 19th century. Steeped in its history and that of Northwest Ohio, Defiance honors its past through monuments, markers and sculptures of those on whose shoulders the community stands while at the same time emboldened by the spirit of those long-ago ancestors.

Defiance weathered the ups and downs of American life through the centuries and remains a vibrant community today. A focus on education brings with it Defiance College and an excellent public library. Businesses flourish on Main Street and throughout the city. Defiance surely lives up to its motto as “A great place to live” through its intergenerational, enterprising spirit and sacrifices of citizens who have built the patriotic, enduring character of Defiance.

All over Northwest Ohio we join with the residents of this community, remembering 200 years of history while looking forward to a bright future. We pay tribute to the pioneers who founded the city, honor the citizens who built it up in the ensuing years, and pledge our efforts toward a flourishing future.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF
CINCINNATI CLERMONT WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Cincinnati Clermont Women's Basketball team on winning the 2023 Small College Division II National Championship.

The UC Clermont Lady Cougars captured the title after a 60–46 win over Johnson & Wales University, Charlotte. Head Coach Ken Lowe's vision was complete after the team made it to the Final Four in the previous season but fell short of a championship.

The Lady Cougars rallied early with a 24–0 run, and 27 points from senior Captain, Ashley Moore. Junior, Tyra Murphy and Grad Student, Kristi Duncan, both recorded double doubles in the Championship game.

There is no doubt that the leadership among the coaching staff and the Lady Cougars in the locker room and on the court helped this team turn their dreams into reality.

Again, congratulations to Coach Lowe, the rest of the coaching staff, and the players for their amazing achievement.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN EDWARD
L. CALLAHAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Captain Edward L. Callahan on his retirement from the United States Navy after 40 years of service. CAPT Callahan's retirement was celebrated during the Naval Weapons Station Earle Change of Command Ceremony on April 21, 2023.

Throughout his decorated career, CAPT Callahan has exhibited the principles of duty and valor. He has served at sea extensively and completed several strategic deterrent patrols. From his service onboard USS *Henry S. Stimson* (SSBN 655) (GOLD) and USS *Mariano G. Vallejo* (SSBN 658) (GOLD) to his sea duty onboard USS *Topeka* (SSN 754) as Weapons Officer, CAPT Callahan has bravely helped maintain the security of our country. Since reporting to active duty in 1983, CAPT Callahan advanced through the ranks and was promoted to CAPT 1 in 2018. From July of 2020 until today, CAPT Callahan has served as Commanding Officer of Naval Weapons Station Earle in New Jersey.

Navigating the COVID–19 pandemic during his leadership at Naval Weapons Station Earle, CAPT Callahan ensured continuous operations of the base while maintaining the health and well-being of officers and personnel. He has been a valuable partner to my office and the community, maintaining open lines of communication and graciously hosting my Service Academy Day information session for students and their families. It has been an honor to work with CAPT Callahan and I thank him for his hospitality, leadership, and service.

CAPT Callahan has exemplified honor, integrity, and professionalism throughout his Navy career. His experience, knowledge, and steadfast initiative have distinguished CAPT Callahan as an outstanding leader who has upheld the core values and mission of the U.S. Navy.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it is my great honor to pay tribute to Captain Edward Callahan for his 40 years of service to the United States Navy. I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in thanking CAPT Callahan for his honorable service to our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
GEORGE R. “BOB” SMITH, JR.

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. George R. “Bob” Smith, Jr., of Shawsville, Virginia. A proud “country doctor”, Dr. Smith founded the Alleghany Clinic in 1955, where he worked tirelessly throughout a more than 40-year career as a family physician.

Shortly after its founding, Dr. Smith convinced his friend Dr. Clarence Taylor to join him in Shawsville to also work at the clinic. Just down the road, they built their own homes next door to one another on a road now appropriately called Pair O'Docs Lane.

In the mid-1960s, Dr. Smith opened the Meadowbrook Nursing Home and in 1982, he founded a nonprofit, the Mountain Valley Charitable Foundation, awarding scholarships to aspiring nurses so they could work at the nursing home.

Once Meadowbrook Nursing Home closed in 2001, Dr. Smith oversaw its transformation into the Meadowbrook Center, which featured a library, wellness center, museum, galley, and community center.

He also helped start the Shawsville Rescue Squad, was a consistent leader in the Shawsville Ruritan Club, served on regional

and statewide medical boards, and dedicated his time to multiple volunteer and charitable causes.

When not serving his patients, Dr. Smith spent time with his family and on the golf course with his golfing buddies.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 73 years Mildred, and his children George R. Smith III (Melinda) and Julia Stewart (Barry) of Shawsville, Mary Beth Bode (John) of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Linda Paulk of Portland, Oregon, together with his nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, all of whom knew him affectionately as G-daddy. I offer them my condolences on their loss.

Dr. Smith leaves behind a lasting legacy in Southwest Virginia, having touched the lives of so many in Shawsville and the surrounding counties. His presence and generosity of spirit will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING MR. LAYNE HARPER

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a standout member of the South Sound community. I would like to recognize Mr. Layne Harper and his commitment to taking care of our veterans in his role as a Veteran Service Officer for the National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS).

An Army veteran himself, Layne serves with the wisdom and understanding necessary to successfully process claims and provide services to the military community. Over 10,000 veterans and their dependents in Washington state, the country, and abroad have received their service-connected disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs—the results of Layne's work.

Prior to his time at NABVETS, Layne founded the Caribbean Veterans Service (CARICOM) and received accreditations from his work with the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. and the African American Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Association (AAPTSDA).

Layne Harper exemplifies the values of integrity and community commitment that run deep in the South Sound. It is my honor to highlight such a service-oriented constituent and his incredible work improving the lives of thousands of others in the military community.

RECOGNIZING SONDR A MYERS'
LIFELONG CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND
PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sondra Myers to celebrate her retirement after nearly two decades as the founding director of The University of Scranton's Schemel Forum. Sondra is also the co-founder of Scranton's Interdependence Day, which promotes reaching out to neighbors and the world community to show that working together for security, economic and social justice, and preservation of the earth is essential.