

Please join me in honoring and commending Terry O'Sullivan as we celebrate his extraordinary career and wish him happiness and success as he begins this new chapter.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DONALD  
L. HALE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the life of Donald L. Hale, who joined the angels in July of 1997. As a true and devoted patriot, he made valuable contributions to the safety of our Nation and to the preservation of freedom around the world.

As a member of "Merrill's Marauders" during WWII, Hale answered the call for the most dangerous missions and faced the most brutal conditions in the Japanese-occupied jungles of Myanmar (then known as Burma). Heroes like him represent both the best of our Army and of our Nation. They endured fierce combat, life-threatening illnesses, along with extreme exhaustion and heat, all in the toughest terrain one can face in battle. Their fearless efforts laid the foundation for the creation of the Army Ranger regiment.

The contributions of Hale and his fellow Marauders did not go unnoticed. They were recently honored with Congressional Gold Medals, ensuring that the U.S. will never forget their sacrifices. While he is sadly no longer with us, Hale's family proudly received his honor on his behalf.

As we mourn Donald Hale's passing, his presence was a blessing for all who knew him and his commitment to his Nation helped keep us free. The positive impacts he had on the lives of others will live on and remain forever in our hearts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances in flight delays, I missed one vote on Monday, May 15, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 213.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
FORMER CONGRESSMAN STEVE  
STIVERS UPON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE OHIO NATIONAL  
GUARD AT THE RANK OF MAJOR  
GENERAL

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I along with members of the Ohio Delegation would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Former Congressman Steve Stivers on his retirement from

the Ohio National Guard at the rank of Major General. During General Stiver's career in the Ohio National Guard, he also held office in the Ohio Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Ohio's 15th Congressional District. He distinguished himself in Washington by his common decency, his dedication to his constituents, and a desire to help anyone he could. Currently, he is serving as president and CEO at the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

Born and raised in Ripley, Ohio, Steve is the son of Carol and Ernst Stivers. After graduating high school, he went on to study at The Ohio State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics and international relations in 1989. He earned his MBA from OSU in 1996. During his undergraduate studies at OSU, Steve joined the Ohio National Guard. He was eventually called to active duty in October 2004 and was sent to Djibouti, Kuwait, Qatar, and Iraq, where he was awarded a Bronze Star for his service as battalion commander during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Before being called to active duty, Steve was appointed by Ohio Senate Republicans in 2003 to represent the 16th Ohio Senate District. He won a full term to the Ohio Senate in 2004. He remained in the Ohio Senate until 2008. In 2010, Steve ran and won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives from the 15th Congressional District. During his time in Congress, he served on the House Committee on Financial Services and became the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance. He would go on to win re-election 5 consecutive times before leaving the House in 2021 to serve as the president and CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to our former colleague, Major General Steve Stivers, on his retirement from the Ohio National Guard. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio, I wish Steve all the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his 38 years of service to Ohio and our Nation.

HONORING DENISE JONES FOR 50  
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of one of my constituents, Ms. Denise Jones.

Ms. Jones is retiring this May after 50 years of service to the public education system in North Texas.

A lifelong resident of Haltom City, Texas, Denise grew up attending public schools around her including WT Francisco Elementary, Haltom Middle School, and Haltom High School.

As a senior at Haltom High School in 1972, Denise joined the staff and never looked back. For the first 25 years, she faithfully served the Birdville Independent School District as a district administrative assistant. Then, in 1998, Denise joined the special education department where she has been a loyal servant for the past 25 years.

As a former schoolteacher and daughter of an educator, I know firsthand how important the work our public servants is. Denise's achievement of working in public education for 50 years is truly impressive and reflects her unwavering dedication to helping shape the minds of future generations. Her impact will be felt for many years to come.

Again, I want to congratulate Denise on her retirement from Birdville Independent School District and wish her the absolute best.

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S  
TEACHERS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, as the mother of a teacher and the daughter of a teacher, I am glad to rise today to recognize Teacher Appreciation Week which was celebrated from May 8 through May 12, 2023.

As another school year comes to a close in the coming weeks, we should take the time to applaud the men and women who are so crucial to ensuring our children have a quality education.

To say it can be a thankless job, is a gigantic understatement. But it can also be a very rewarding career, one that changes lives forever.

I think it would not be hard for any one of us to recall a teacher who had an impact and probably continues to have an impact on our lives today.

And that's why it's critical that we ensure that today's students and the generations to come have access to quality teachers who help make a difference in their education outcomes.

For too long, our Nation's policies have under-valued the teaching profession. We can ill-afford to do that.

We know that there are persistent and widespread teacher shortages nationwide every year, with thousands of teaching positions going unfilled.

We can support our students by ensuring they have high quality teachers who can earn a decent wage.

Recent data from the National Education Association shows that in 17 percent of school districts, the top salary a teacher can earn (with 30 years of experience and a Ph.D.) is \$60,000.

Nearly 9,000 school districts provide starting teacher salaries below \$40,000.

We need to support efforts like the American Teacher Act that I have cosponsored that help school districts of all sizes adequately pay teachers.

This is not rocket science.

Two-thirds of teachers, and half of teachers of color, believe higher salaries are the best way to attract and retain a talented and diverse workforce, making it the top choice of incentives.

Other research finds that teacher salaries are the number one reason why teachers say they will leave and the number one reason former teachers say they did leave the profession.

As we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, I encourage everyone to remember and

thank a teacher who has made a difference in their life.

I want to thank the teachers who shaped my life and my children's and grandchildren's lives.

And I encourage my colleagues to work with me to support policies to help train, develop, and adequately pay our teachers.

RECOGNIZING CAPT. KATHRYN BONNER

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Captain Kathryn Esther Bonner of Sevierville, Tennessee for her heroic service. Last year, I came to know Captain Bonner when I had the pleasure of honoring her personally at our First Congressional District's Veteran Pin Ceremony of Honor in Sevier County.

In 1967, Captain Bonner reported to Officer Training in Newport, Rhode Island as an Ensign Nurse Corps officer for the United States Navy. Upon completion of her training, she reported to Camp LeJeune Marine Corps base in North Carolina. There, she first cared for the many wounded Marines returning from the Vietnam War and began her lifelong love and respect for the Marine Corps.

In November 1969, Captain Bonner was assigned to her next duty station, aboard the USS *Sanctuary* AH-17, a vessel responsible for patrolling the waters off the coast of Hue, Vietnam. While aboard, she administered round-the-clock care to badly wounded service personnel, many arriving straight from the battlefield and rice paddies, as well as civilian Vietnamese patients. Every day, she lived and worked in constant vigilance as she was always within feet of the wards where the wounded lay. A welcome break in the testing routine, she recollects fondly the visit from Bob Hope, Connie Stevens, and Neil Armstrong, who just a few months earlier had walked on the moon, on Christmas Eve 1969.

Captain Bonner served at many stations of duty over her extensive military career to include the Fleet Naval Hospital Comm Z14 Jacksonville and the U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D.C., among others. Her retirement from active-duty service in 1971 did not end her call to service as she continued her career as a Nurse in the United States Air Force Reserves. In that role, she completed flight nurse training and helped bring wounded Marines back home from the 1983 Beirut Barracks Bombing. In 1988, she returned to the Navy as a Reservist and served with distinction until her formal retirement in June of 2003, after 26 years of military service. Captain Bonner received several awards and commendations during her career, including the Meritorious Service Medal, 3 Navy Commendation Medals, 2 Air Force Commendation Medals, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. She was also selected as the Outstanding Nurse of the Year 3 times in her Air Force Reserve units time of service and once as her numbered Air Force Nurse of the year. Please join me to recognize American hero, Captain Bonner and thank her for her selfless, courageous military service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 2022-2023 DUNMORE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible achievements of the 2022-2023 Dunmore High School girls varsity basketball team. During this year's season, the "Lady Bucks" brought great pride to our community by winning the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) 3A State Championship for the first time in school history.

As the Member of the U.S. House representing Dunmore, I'm proud to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of the Lady Bucks that led to their championship. They played with passion and a spirit of excellence that was evident in every game. They demonstrated that when a group of individuals works together and supports each other, anything is possible.

I want to acknowledge the coaching staff, led by Coach Carrie Toomey, and Assistant Coach Michael O'Malley, who have instilled a culture of commitment, discipline, and respect in these athletes. Under their guidance, Dunmore truly played a season worthy of a state title.

The success of the 2022-2023 team is also a reflection of the support they received from the Dunmore itself. From parents and families who cheered them on in every game, to the teachers and staff who have provided guidance and encouragement, to the businesses and organizations that also supported the team, the Dunmore Lady Bucks have been lifted up by the entire community.

It's no surprise it happened that way because, in Northeastern Pennsylvania, we believe in the power of working together and showing civic spirit. The Dunmore Lady Bucks' championship is a testament to the strength of that belief. These players demonstrated what can happen when we support our young people to the fullest.

So, I congratulate the 2022-2023 Dunmore High School girls varsity basketball team on their historic season and thank them for inspiring us all. I'm proud to represent Dunmore and look forward to celebrating many more successes in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on May 15, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 213, and YEA on Roll Call No. 214.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF NEW FAIRVIEW

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of New Fairview as they celebrate the municipality's incorporation 50 years ago on May 21, 1973. In the late 1800s, settlers moved to Wise County, Texas, many traveling from Illinois. The area that covers roughly 16 square miles was originally named the "Illinois Settlement." As time passed, the population grew slowly, and the agrarian community established a church, cemetery, and a school. In 1973, the city's name was changed to "Fairview" based upon the residents' beautiful point of view overlooking the north Texas prairie.

By 1980, the city had a population of 180 people. Almost two decades later in 1999, the population had grown to nearly 900 residents, and the city officially changed their name to "New Fairview" in order to distinguish themselves from several other cities in the State of Texas who shared the name.

As a result of its prime location in close proximity to job centers in Fort Worth and Alliance Airport, the City of New Fairview continues to expand and develop while still retaining the semi-rural environment that its residents appreciate. The strong Texas economy has fueled expansive business development and population growth in New Fairview. The North Central Texas Council of Government has estimated the 2022 population at 2,060, resulting in the city being one of top ten fastest-growing cities in the 16-county region. City residents are served by excellent schools within the Northwest and Decatur ISDs, which also have encouraged new housing starts for families. In the short 50 years that New Fairview has existed, the city has had significant growth and shows no sign of slowing down.

It is my honor to represent the citizens of the City of New Fairview, Texas, in the U.S. House of Representatives and join its citizens in marking the thriving city's semi-centennial and look forward to "The City with a View's" bright future.

RECOGNIZING MR. MATT STEVE PANDOL, JR.

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2023*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and colleague, Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY, to honor the life of Mr. Matt Steve Pandol, Jr., who passed away on April 21, 2023, at his home in Delano, California. He was 60 years old.

The son of Matt and Lucy Pandol, he was born on June 27, 1962. Matt spent his childhood in Delano and attended California State University, Fresno, where he graduated with a degree in plant science. Following his graduation, he returned home to work for his family business. Matt married his wife Linda in 1994. They had three children together and raised