

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMERGENCY RESCUE SQUAD

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Emergency Rescue Squad on its 75th Anniversary.

As the Rescue Squad celebrates this milestone, we look back on the outstanding history that has shaped the organization. On April 5, 1947, the Ansul Rescue Squad was established after founding member Joe Banich conducted a survey at the Ansul Company about employees who understood first aid procedures. Following the survey, Mr. Banich was given permission to facilitate a sign-up for individuals interested in first aid training. Eight men signed up to take an extensive 21-week first aid training course and the first rescue squad was formed. The group of men, referred to as the "Great Eight," began a legacy of service that would live on for generations.

Throughout the years, the Great Eight expanded their knowledge and skill while providing services to the sick and injured. The men continued to play a critical role in the community and therefore, were provided with a Rescue Squad vehicle and first aid equipment. By 1949, the group had grown to eighteen members who answered more than 1,300 calls from community members in need. Then in 1959, the Ansul Rescue Squad was turned over to the Marinette and Menominee community management and became the Emergency Rescue Squad as it is still referred to today. Today, the Rescue Squad receives up to 20 calls in a 24-hour period demonstrating the clear need and service they provide to northern Wisconsin.

I commend the numerous members of the Rescue Squad, past and present, for their years of selfless service and dedication to the community over the years. Over the last 75 years, the Emergency Rescue Squad has played a critical role in the success and safety of communities throughout Marinette County, including the cities of Marinette, Peshtigo, Menominee, and the towns of Peshtigo, Porterfield and Grover. I extend my sincere appreciation to past and present members of the Emergency Rescue Squad for their years of exceptional service to Northeast Wisconsin.

It is my honor to commemorate this historic milestone for the Emergency Rescue Squad. I invite all members of this body to join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Emergency Rescue Squad. The Rescue Squad is a true credit to Northeast Wisconsin and is deserving of the highest degree of recognition.

HONORING MACY MCKAY

HON. JERRY L. CARL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Ms. Macy McKay for her years of service at St. Luke's Episcopal School. Ms. McKay is retiring after 50 years of teaching and coaching countless students. Teachers and

coaches are tasked with an incredible responsibility to mold the minds of our young folks and equip them with the knowledge and the tools they need to be productive members of our society.

Ms. McKay has gone above and beyond the call of duty with her students, and her impact will live on for generations to come in the lives of so many students, parents, and fellow educators in Mobile.

After graduating from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1970, Ms. McKay began her career in education. In 1973, she came to St. Luke's to help create a physical education program. During Ms. McKay's time as a coach at St. Luke's, she has been the driving force behind the state winning archery program. Her passion for physical education is just one of the many factors that play a part in the incredible impact she has made on our community.

Ms. McKay's legacy lives on in the St. Luke's community. After 50 years of hard work and determination, she has more than earned a relaxing retirement. I know I am joined by so many in our community who are thankful for her impressive career.

HONORING UNITED STATES NAVY AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON ONE

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration and the utmost respect that I rise to recognize the outstanding group of individuals who comprised the United States Navy Airborne Early Warning Squadron One (designated VW-1). For their courage in the face of danger and their commitment to defending their fellow service members, these brave individuals are to be commended.

In 1944, recognizing the need for early warning radar and aircraft to protect the United States Naval Fleet from attack by identifying ships and low-flying aircraft, the United States Navy launched its first program aimed at minimizing the impact on our military and its operations. As the program evolved, in June 1952, Airborne Early Warning Squadron One was established and initially located at Naval Air Station Barbers Point, in the then Territory of Hawaii. Soon after, a permanent detachment of VW-1 was established in the Western Pacific, providing heavy airborne early warning coverage and participating in the Korean War. After relocating to Naval Air Station Agana, Guam, Mariana Islands, in 1957, VW-1 took on additional roles, and in 1961, was tasked with weather reconnaissance. This increased focus on identifying hazardous weather conditions included the addition of 6 meteorologists and 18 aerographers, as well as new technological equipment. During 1961 alone, VW-1 flew more than 1,000 hours of weather reconnaissance, thus identifying the squadron as the "Typhoon Trackers."

Through its valiant efforts, VW-1 provided airborne early warning support and protection for the U.S. Seventh Fleet during the Vietnam War, from 1964 through 1971. Their mission was to fly north of the DMZ in the Gulf of Tonkin, providing airborne protection for the Sev-

enth Fleet, which was operating below the DMZ. VW-1 was responsible for alerting the Seventh Fleet against enemy attacks and dangerous storms while also providing radar surveillance for air strikes over North Vietnam.

From 1964 through 1967, VW-1 was based in the Philippines for an extended airborne mission time of 18 hours. These missions were often extended beyond the aircraft's fuel range, requiring them to refuel at Da Nang Air Base in the Republic of Vietnam before returning to base. In late 1967, a detachment was established at Chu Lai in the Republic of Vietnam but later moved to Da Nang Air Base in order to shorten the mission time.

From its establishment in June 1952 until July 1971, at which time the unit was absorbed into VQ-1, VW-1 completed its mission with an astonishing record of 19 years of accident-free flights, totaling more than 160,000 flight hours. For its efforts, VW-1 was twice awarded the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation. Individually, aircrew members have also received more than 1,200 Air Medals and 2 Purple Hearts, both of which were awarded for injuries sustained in Southeast Asia.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the brave men of Airborne Early Warning Squadron One (designated VW-1). The squadron played a critical role in the United States Military, and its courageous members are a true example of steadfast patriotism. Let us never forget their service and the sacrifices they made in defense of our nation and their fellow service members.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to participate in voting on Amendment No. 1 and passage of H. Con. Res. 40.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 226 and YEA on Roll Call No. 227.

RECOGNIZING CLINT JOHNSTON

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute an extraordinary educator. Clint Johnston has spent 31 years in public education. He retires at the end of this school year as Superintendent of the Jefferson R-VII district. Clint began his career in Scott County Missouri, teaching science, coaching baseball, and driving buses. He ends it in Jefferson County Missouri overseeing four schools, 160 faculty and staff, and 1,123 students in Pre-K through 12th grade.

Mr. Johnston takes an interest in his students, celebrating their achievements and helping them overcome their challenges. He encourages and inspires his faculty and staff to provide an exemplary education to the students in their care. He is, most certainly, the

biggest cheerleader for his Jefferson County Blue Jays.

It has been my great privilege to nominate students from Jefferson R–VII who have achieved their dreams of attending U.S. Service academies. No one is prouder of their accomplishments than Superintendent Johnston.

As he retires from education, he begins a new chapter that his wife Joy says will include some travel and some time at his family farm. To paraphrase a line from his favorite movie, “Forrest Gump,” “retirement is like a box of chocolates—you never know what you’re gonna get.”

On behalf of the thousands of children and their families whose lives he touched, I am proud to congratulate retiring Jefferson R–VII Superintendent Clint Johnston of Festus, Missouri today before the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), which will be celebrated on June 7th.

On June 1, 1998, the Center opened its doors to America’s first responders in Calhoun County, Alabama. During the past 25 years, the staff of the CDP have provided essential all hazards training to first responders from all 50 states, every U.S. territory, and numerous tribal nations, enabling them to plan for, respond to and recover from natural and man-made disasters.

Its multifaceted campus includes the Nation’s only toxic agent training facility for civilian responders to gain the competence and confidence to respond to real world events involving chemical, biological, explosive, radiological, and other hazardous materials. It also includes the only hospital facility in the Nation dedicated solely to training healthcare professionals in disaster preparedness and response. In addition, it has served as a Joint Field Office for tornado response efforts in the state of Alabama and a personnel mobilization center for responders being forward deployed to presidentially declared disasters across the Nation.

Today, the CDP is under the umbrella of the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency and further helps ensure a safe and resilient Nation by serving as the primary location for the training of FEMA’s incident workforce.

I am pleased to recognize the staff of the Center for Domestic Preparedness for reaching this important milestone and look forward to witnessing its continued service to the Nation. I am especially pleased to recognize Superintendent Tony Russell for his years of service to the CDP.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the CDP on this exciting milestone in its history.

HONORING UNT POLICE CHIEF ED REYNOLDS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary leadership and public service of Chief Ed Reynolds, as he retires as Police Chief of the University of North Texas (UNT) Police Department. Chief Reynolds has served as Police Chief since November 2015, and since joining the UNT Police Department in 1994 as an officer, he has accumulated almost three decades of faithful service to the 45,000 students, faculty and staff members on UNT’s Denton campus.

Chief Reynolds earned an associate degree in criminal justice from North Central Texas College and graduated cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from UNT. He attended the UNT police academy and graduated as valedictorian. He holds a master peace officer, firearms, and instructor license issued by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

During his career at UNT, Chief Reynolds has served the department as a police officer, corporal, sergeant, lieutenant and deputy chief. In doing so, he has supervised every division within the department including operations, investigations, and administration.

He led the department’s successful effort to become nationally accredited in 2006 by The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, a distinction that fewer than 7 percent of law enforcement agencies nationwide achieve. He received a UNT Presidential Award, the Bob Rogers Service and Community Engagement Award, in 2023, for outstanding service to the university and collaboration with the surrounding community. In 2018 he was also recognized nationally by Campus Safety Magazine as their Higher Education Director of the Year, honoring him for outstanding achievement and leadership in security, public safety and emergency management.

The UNT community is indebted to Chief Reynolds as he steps down from leading the 65 full-time employees and the department he has directed for almost 8 years. He has put the safety of others above his own and has honorably carried the burden of law enforcement leadership during one of the most challenging periods our country has witnessed. I am proud and grateful to have had someone with the character and servant heart of Chief Reynolds serving my alma mater, and I wish him and his family the best in retirement.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF SELMA MAYOR GEORGE PATRICK EVANS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of a trailblazing public servant and educator, former Selma Mayor George Patrick Evans,

who passed away at the age of 78 on May 15, 2023.

A native of Selma, Mayor Evans was a proud product of the Selma City School System. He began his higher education at St. Mary’s College in Dodge City, KS, earning his Bachelor of Arts in speech and physical therapy in 1962. Shortly after graduation he returned to Selma, where his passion for education led him to teach at Tipton High School in Dallas County. He continued his education while teaching, receiving a Master of Education in Educational Administration from Livingston State University and an Educational Specialist Certification in Educational Administration from Troy State University.

Dedicating over 40 years to the Dallas County School System, Mayor Evans held many roles, including Principal, Assistant Principal, Coach, and Right to Read Coordinator. Transitioning from the classroom into upper management, he served as the Dallas County Board of Education Federal Program Coordinator for 9 years and served as Superintendent for 5 years. Mayor Evans’ impactful career as an educator led him to break barriers as the first African American Superintendent of Dallas County public schools and Chief Academic Officer of the Alabama State Department of Education.

Bringing the same passion and tenacity into his career in electoral politics, Mayor Evans blazed trails in the Selma City Council, becoming its first African American City Council President. In his words, “good things kept happening at that time,” making history as the second African American Mayor in the City of Selma’s 192-year history. As Mayor for two terms, he showed his skill as a public servant leading the Queen City through the recession of 2008, a 12-percent municipal salary cut, and boldly addressing the lingering impact of segregation within Selma’s communities. His foresight propelled Selma forward, implementing the City’s optic fiber network and “butterfly park” to allow tourists an unobstructed view of the Alabama River and the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge.

As a trusted leader in the Selma community, Mayor Evans served on the board of numerous organizations, including a member of the Executive Committee of the Alabama League of Municipalities, Chairman of the Alabama Department of Archives and History Board of Trustees, Wells-Fargo, then Wachovia Bank Board of Directors and AMFund Board of Directors. A man of faith he worshiped at the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Selma, and served as an Elder and Clerk of Session. His additional civic affiliations include the Selma Exchange Club, Twelve High Club, Chesterfield Club, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

Mayor Evans was known for his love of basketball and received numerous awards for his contribution to expanding the sport in Alabama. From 1979 to 2010, he served as the men’s basketball official and officiating coordinator for the Southwestern Athletic Conference, leading him to an induction into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame. He served on the AHSAA Bryant-Jordan Student Athletic Program Scholarship Committee and the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Mayor Evans is survived by his beloved wife, fellow educator, and nurse Jeannie Evans; sons, Patrick, Duane, and Byron; and