

Mr. Helmick is known for his outgoing personality and willingness to do whatever it takes to inspire his students, including running a mile for each of the 168 fifth graders in his elementary school, and camping out on the school's roof.

Steven Helmick has turned Roberts Elementary into one of the highest achieving elementary schools in Arkansas, receiving a grade of A from the state education leadership.

I congratulate Mr. Helmick on his well-deserved award and the outstanding work as Principal of Roberts Elementary.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CHARLES R. WOOTEN

HON. ERIC BURLISON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Chuck Wooten. Mr. Wooten recently passed away at the age of 95, having dedicated his life and career to public service and giving back to his community. A U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II, Mr. Wooten served with honor and distinction overseas in Japan. His patriotism and love for his country were evident in every aspect of his life, and his military service exemplified his unwavering dedication to defending the principles upon which this nation was built.

In addition to Mr. Wooten's service to our nation in World War II, he also served as a Missouri State Representative for 5 terms, as well as a City Councilman for Springfield. During his time in the state legislature, Mr. Wooten played a critical role in the creation of the Missouri Veterans Cemetery located in my hometown of Springfield, Missouri. The Veterans Cemetery would not be a reality without Chuck Wooten.

Additionally, Mr. Wooten's many talents carried over to his career as a talk radio host on the legendary KWTO radio station in Springfield. He is survived by his wife Joan; his three children Johnnie, Donnie, and Mary, and daughter-in-law, Carole Wooten; also 10 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

Mr. Wooten is described by those who knew him well as an upbeat, always positive, kind, and generous man who would give you the shirt off his back. I can't think of a more deserving man to honor and recognize today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation was unable to attend session on June 22, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 284, YEA on Roll Call No. 285, and YEA on Roll Call No. 286.

PAPERWORK BURDEN REDUCTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3797, the Paperwork Burden Reduction Act.

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an alternative process for providing individuals with certain health insurance coverage statements.

H.R. 3797 allows American workers to access health insurance tax forms online, rather than mailing this form in excess to American households.

While only 1.4 percent of American workers and their families need this form, it gets mailed to millions each year, wasting taxpayer resources, and creating more work for small businesses.

This bill recognizes that more Americans than ever fill out their tax returns online and allows them to access this health insurance tax form online as well.

This bill saves small businesses owners time and money by relieving them of mailing excess copies of outdated paperwork.

As a result, small businesses will now have more time to focus on running their business, providing opportunities for their employees, expanding their business, and serving their customers.

In my home district of Houston, nearly 97 percent of the region's businesses are considered small businesses.

These small businesses employ 44 percent of the region's workforce, over 1.2 million employees across the city of Houston.

These small businesses continue to rise as over 150,000 new business applications were filed across Houston last year.

The city ranks 10th nationally in new businesses per capita and these businesses continue to drive the city's economic growth upwards.

Further, nearly 35 percent of these small businesses with 50 or fewer employees are minority-owned and Houston ranks 5th in the nation for minority entrepreneurship.

Small businesses are not only vital for Houston, but for our entire Nation.

Across America, small businesses account for over fifty-nine million jobs, constituting nearly half of the national workforce.

Overall, they generate one third of all U.S. business revenue, approximately 13.7 trillion dollars annually.

This bill relieves the burden of outdated paperwork on these small businesses and best equips them for success in Houston and nationwide.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3797, the Paperwork Burden Reduction Act, and the economic growth of our Nation, which is fueled by small businesses.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI- VERSARY OF COLSTRIP, MON- TANA

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize the centennial celebration of the town of Colstrip, Montana's energy capital. Colstrip is surrounded by beautiful open rangeland, farms, and ranches, but what has made this community truly remarkable is the Rosebud mine, which is responsible for much of the area's prosperity. This incredible facility serves as a crucial part of Montana's economy and energy sector. Since its establishment, the mine has not only powered Montana's economy but also provided reliable energy to the entire globe.

Colstrip was first founded by employees of the Northern Pacific Railway in 1924 to provide Americans with affordable and reliable coal to power their homes and businesses. During the Second World War, the mine was strategically important to America's war effort. Thanks to the work of the men and women of Colstrip, the Allies successfully defeated their enemies and defended freedom across the entire world.

I want to commend the people of Colstrip for their dedicated work to ensure the continuation of this vital part of Montana's economy and for contributing so much to our state's culture. Colstrip's tight-knit community has powered America for over 100 years, and I'm excited to see what the future holds for this model community. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the entire Colstrip community for their commitment to America, and it is a privilege to celebrate the mine's anniversary in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE U.S. ARMY'S 54TH COAST ARTILLERY REGIMENT

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the soldiers who served during World War II in the United States Army's 54th Coast Artillery Regiment. The 54th was the U.S. Army's only all-Black heavy artillery regiment and it shared the mission of defending the central coast of California from enemy attack.

This historic regiment defended the Golden Gate Bridge, the San Francisco Harbor, and Monterey Bay, in addition to the millions of tons of cargo and munitions coming out of the port. Further down the coastline, the 54th defended coastal oil terminals at Morro Bay and Port San Luis. The Monterey Bay was particularly vulnerable to Japanese invasion due to its gently inclining shoreline and ready access to a major coastal highway.

Activated at Camp Wallace, Texas on February 10, 1941, the 54th was comprised of Black soldiers from Texas, Kansas, and Missouri. Despite that these troops were armed and clothed with used weapons and second-hand uniforms dating to World War I, they did not complain and served with pride and distinction.

After completing their training at Fort Fisher in late February of 1942, the 1st Battalion and 3rd Battalion of the Regiment were ordered to Fort Cronkhite in San Francisco, California. Until April of 1944, these two battalions rotated along the Central Coast shoreline batteries and manned the coastal artillery weapons at Point Pinos Lighthouse in Pacific Grove shortly after Pearl Harbor Attack on December 7, 1941.

Additionally, many soldiers of the 54th were former Negro Baseball League players. While stationed in Pacific Grove, the soldiers formed a community baseball league. They named it the Twilight League because all the lights in the seaside town were turned off at sunset for increased security from the Japanese.

On April 19, 1944, the 1st Battalion and 3rd Battalion were relieved from duty on the Western Defense Command as the threat of Japanese attacks on the West Coast diminished.

Although they have since disbanded, the legacy and influence of the 54th Regiment lives on in the memory of our Central Coast communities. Many troops returned to the Central Coast after the Allied Powers emerged victorious and were active, integral members of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the U.S. Army's 54th Coast Artillery Regiment in honor of their lasting impact on the Central Coast and our Nation's history. We are forever grateful for their service and bravery in World War II and in the defense of our coastline. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

CELEBRATING THE BONANZA CASINO'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, 2023, the Bonanza Casino in Reno will celebrate its 50th anniversary. In anticipation of this major milestone, I would like to highlight the contributions this family operated business brings to our community and recognize the leadership of one of its original owners and current partner, Russ Sheltra.

The Bonanza Casino is one of Northern Nevada's most successful gaming properties, but its beginnings were quite humble.

As a student at the University of Nevada, Russ Sheltra worked at the local Food King. After graduating with a degree in business, Russ bought the Food King with no formal contract—just an agreement etched out on the back of a napkin. Russ turned the Food King into his V&T Market.

In 1973, he made the decision to transform the V&T Market into the Bonanza Casino when another supermarket was built across the street. The casino thrived, quickly becoming a favorite for locals. Today, the casino has nearly 400 slot machines and two successful restaurants.

Russ's son, Ryan, now works alongside his father in the family business. Both Russ and Ryan believe in the importance of giving back to the community that has given them so much.

For the past 22 years, the Bonanza Casino has provided multiple \$1,500 college scholar-

ships to graduating students at North Valleys High School.

Additionally, the Bonanza Casino supports the mission of the Prostate Cancer Foundation by hosting the "Cruisin' for the Cure" car show, a fundraiser to raise money for prostate cancer research. To date, the Sheltra family and Bonanza Casino has donated over \$165,000 to the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, as the Bonanza Casino celebrates its 50th year of operations, I want to thank Russ Sheltra for his lifetime of commitment to Northern Nevada, and this Nation. His ingenuity and dedication serves as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KAYE T. GOOLSBY

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, with a heavy but grateful heart, I rise to recognize the life of Kaye Goolsby. Kaye was not only a political giant in the state of Texas; she was also a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and dear friend to so many, including me.

One of my first supporters, Kaye helped propel me to public service, and she always inspired me to be the best representative I could be for the people of Texas. Originally from Louisiana, she and her family moved to Katy, Texas, in 1977, where they have lived for more than 45 years. And Kaye certainly earned her title as a Texan, holding dozens of leadership roles in the state and helping to advance many Texans to prominent government positions. In 2011, she was honored as one of the Top Ten Republican Women in Texas. Kaye also faithfully supported her local school district, Katy ISD, and selflessly served at First United Methodist Church.

There simply aren't enough words to describe Kaye's contribution to her community, the state of Texas, and our country. No matter what new task she took on, she remained grounded by an unwavering belief in the importance of freedom, faith, and family.

She will be deeply missed by her husband of 48 years, Gary Goolsby, her son Greg and his wife Christie, and her grandchildren, Preston and Avery.

The last words I said to her were, "I love you, Kaye." The fact is: Everyone she touched loved her as well. While we mourn this tremendous loss, we also take comfort in knowing her impact will live on for generations.

RETIREMENT OF DARLA SIDLES, ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy and retirement of Darla Sidles, the first female Superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park.

For the last seven years, Darla has been in charge of managing and supervising all oper-

ations within Rocky Mountain National Park—the Nation's fourth busiest national park—an area I am lucky to represent in the United States Congress. Rocky Mountain National Park surpassed 4 million visitors for the first time the year before she took over, and it has exceeded 4 million almost every year since.

Darla has helped Rocky Mountain National Park navigate unprecedented challenges like record levels of visitors, the global pandemic forcing a closure of the park in 2020, and then another closure of the park that same year as a result of Colorado's two largest wildfires ripping through Rocky Mountain and burning about 10 percent of the park. Through it all she remained dedicated to improving and protecting our treasured public lands.

Darla has served at the National Park Service for 34 successful years. She has been a trusted and valued partner to my office and to the Town of Estes Park. We are sad to see Darla go, but wish her a happy retirement.

CELEBRATING ROB STOKER

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2023

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of the president of the Building Trades Council of Alameda County and longtime member of Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 104 (Local 104), Rob Stoker, on the occasion of his retirement after over 30 years of service on Saturday, July 1, 2023.

A lifelong resident of the Bay Area, Rob grew up in Castro Valley and graduated from Castro Valley High School in 1982. Rob's career in sheet metal began when his father, Wayne, signed him up for a class at Laney Community College. Upon completing his sheet metal apprenticeship in 1989, Rob began working at the Monterey Mechanical Company in Oakland, moving his way up from a journeyman to a division manager.

Rob is a proud Local 104 member. He has served as a part-time instructor for the union's apprenticeship programs and as Local 104's executive board officer. Rob was elected as Local 104's union business representative in 2006, where he found his passion for recruiting future unionized sheet metal workers.

Rob has remained a fierce advocate for all trade workers throughout the Bay Area in his roles as Local 104's political and public relations director and then eventually assumed the role of president of the Building Trades Council of Alameda County. He has negotiated countless project labor agreements, including with large Bay Area municipalities, major transit agencies, federal government bodies, and nonprofit agencies.

More specifically, Rob's advocacy efforts helped pass CA Assembly Bill 841 in 2020, creating the School Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program providing funds for schools to test and assess HVAC systems and supporting unionized labor.

For over 30 years, Rob has dedicated his career to the industry and the men and women that work within it. He has remained an integral part of the building trade community in the Bay Area, and I am sure he will be missed at both Local 104 and the Building Trades Council of Alameda County. I wish him