

passed away on April 22, 2023, surrounded by loved ones. Born in Bakersfield, California, Mr. Hallum was 1 of 5 children. He grew up in the Central Valley, and attended Arvin Union Elementary, Haven Drive Junior High School, and Arvin High School. Throughout his childhood, Mr. Hallum excelled in academics and sports, won the Henry Greve speech contest in junior high, and was Senior Class Vice President in high school.

After his high school graduation in 1961, he attended Bakersfield College for 2 years where he played tennis. Soon after, he was offered a full ride to Stanford University, which he turned down to pursue an education at the University of Oklahoma. Mr. Hallum graduated with his bachelor's degree in history and political science in 1966 and returned to Arvin High School as a teacher. Mr. Hallum volunteered for the draft in 1969, during the height of combat operations in the Vietnam War. He served in forward reconnaissance in the Quang Ngai Valley in South Vietnam.

Mr. Hallum achieved the rank of Sergeant E-5 and was awarded a Combat Infantryman's badge. He spent his life honoring the sacrifices of the soldiers who served alongside him. In October of 2022, Larry and his son, Ryan, visited the U.S. Capitol and the Vietnam Memorial Wall as part of the Central Valley Honor Flight. After his service, Mr. Hallum returned to Arvin High School, where he spent 40 years as a teacher. He was a vital part of the Arvin community, having taught thousands of students in the Central Valley across multiple generations of families. Mr. Hallum was devoted to his students, teaching world civilizations, geography, U.S. history, government, and economics.

Mr. Hallum led the school's Academic Decathlon, Mock Trial, and in 1987, started the "We the People" Constitution Team, which was nationally ranked under his leadership. He also spent time supporting his students outside the classroom—coaching football, tennis, and baseball and supporting other students as he cheered from the sidelines. Mr. Hallum was honored as the first recipient of the Jim Burke Teacher of the Year Award, received the Arvin Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award, and was gifted the Key to the City of Arvin. After his retirement, he was selected as one of the 100 Outstanding Alumni from Bakersfield College, having been recognized for his commitment to the students at Arvin High School.

Mr. Hallum and his wife of 45 years, Brenda, have twin sons together, Drew Jonathan and Ryan Wesley. Mr. Hallum was their biggest fan throughout their childhood and supported them at their football games and marching band performances. His love of teaching influenced his sons to spend time as educators in their careers. In honor of Mr. Hallum, the Kern High School District has created the "Spirit of Arvin High School" Memorial Scholarship to support future college students in the district. His service to our country, commitment to his family, and dedication to the students of the Central Valley will always be remembered.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life of Mr. Larry Vernon Hallum.

CONGRATULATING MADISON
KESSLER ON HER CLASS 3
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Osage High School's Madison Kessler on her victory in Missouri's Class 3 Pole Vault State Championship.

Madison claimed the Class 3 title in the pole vault competition, clearing the impressive height of 3.28 meters. Madison should be commended for all her hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to her school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Madison Kessler for a job well done.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATOR OF GENERAL SERVICES TO SELL THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE WEBSTER SCHOOL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to direct the General Services Administration (GSA) to sell the federal property known as the Daniel Webster School, which is located in the District of Columbia, for fair market value by December 31, 2025. I am grateful that Representative SCOTT PERRY, the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, joins me in introducing this common-sense legislation.

Built in 1882, the Daniel Webster School, a red-brick, 3-story building, has been used for a variety of purposes over the years. However, since the 1980s, the building, which is located in downtown, has been vacant and fallen into disrepair. This bill will return it to productive use.

During my service in Congress, I have worked to transfer unused or underused federal land in D.C. to D.C. or the private sector to redevelop neighborhoods and to generate tax revenue for D.C. I passed 2 bills that enabled the transformation of the Southeast and Southwest waterfronts into thriving, mixed-use neighborhoods known today as The Yards and The Wharf, respectively. I passed a bill to transfer Reservation 13, which is in Hill East, and Poplar Point to D.C. I passed a bill that required the redevelopment of the Old Post Office, which is now a hotel. I successfully fought to ensure that at least 67 acres of the 110-acre Walter Reed Army Medical Center campus would go to D.C. for redevelopment. I also successfully worked to bring federal agencies to NoMa, which spurred billions of dollars in mixed-use development.

The sale provision in this bill is the same as the sale provision in the bill enacted in 2016 that directed GSA to sell the federal property in D.C. known as the Cotton Annex, which is now being converted into housing.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING FRANK WHITE

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Frank Manuel White, a poet and veteran from Stafford, Virginia.

Frank wrote his first poem at the young age of 12. His love for writing poetry carried over into adulthood and was woven into his life and military career. Frank served in the U.S. Air Force for a total of 26 years, from 1957 to 1983. He served as an officer for 10 of those years. During and after his time in the military, Frank penned poems during his free time, often on weekends and evenings. These poems give us a glimpse into his life, his thoughts, and his surroundings.

Frank's poems were published in 2022 in a book titled "Frank's Homespun Poems from the Heart: A Country Boy's Poetry." Some of the poems included are poems he penned for his now wife, Dorothy, along with her responses to him. The poems exchanged between Dorothy and Frank are a reminder of their long-distance courtship—the poems were sent while Frank was stationed at Ft. Eustis, Virginia and MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida and Dorothy lived in North Carolina. These lovely poems served as their main way of correspondence and are lasting evidence of their love and commitment to one another.

In June of 2019, Frank composed a work titled "TEXAS JUNETEENTH EPIC POEM." This poem tells the story of how Juneteenth came to be, and it details history that we must not forget.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Frank Manuel White for his service to our country and for his contributions to keeping the history of our nation alive through his poetry.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to include in the RECORD Mr. White's poem, so future generations of Americans can access his poetry for years to come.

TEXAS JUNETEENTH EPIC POEM

Mr. Thomas Jefferson wrote in Seventeen Seventy-six

Words which have survived for ages, addressing a problem to fix.

"All men are created equal" were his words to the British Crown,

"But the way you are treating us, has caused us to do more than frown."

So the colonies fought a war, which General Washington led,

Everyone knows the end results, colonies won, British fled.

But then Thomas Jefferson's words were cast aside put on a shelf.

They only applied to those men, who looked like Jefferson himself.

So Slavery kept on keeping on, in this land called the USA,

The issue had to be resolved, another time, another day.

Then in eighteen sixty one, Abe Lincoln was the president,

War broke out between North and South, now guess what that was all about?

An issue of human control, had once more risen to the top,

ABE Lincoln told his staff and aides, "This war and slavery got to stop."

ABE wrote a famous document, willing to set many slaves free,
 The first day of the first month of the year, Eighteen Sixty-three.
 Emancipation Proclamation, was the name of that document,
 But some folks did not get the word, until long after it was sent.
 Like all those folks in Southern States, hoping one day to be free,
 Many did not get their freedom, until the surrender of Lee.
 Members of the 25th Army Corps, on May 25, 1865,
 Boarded Steam Ships at City Point, VA for a long boat ride.
 They were headed to that Lone Star State, carrying news for a minority Race,
 The war was over, slaves were free, still they were encouraged to remain in place.

June 19th, Eighteen Sixty-five, via General Order Number Three,
 Slaves in Galveston got the word, the war over they were free.
 Those enslaved remembered that day, they celebrated far and wide,
 And Juneteenth is what they called it, celebrating that day with pride.

—Frank M. White

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 298.

On roll call vote number 298, I would have voted YES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORI CHAVEZ-DeREMÉR

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Mrs. CHAVEZ-DeREMÉR. Mr. Speaker, I was present in the House chamber and attempted to vote on an amendment, but the vote was not recorded. This was the Blumenauer Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act. Had the vote been recorded, it would show that I had voted Nay on Roll Call No. 298.