

the lake's success, and I look forward to seeing their continued dedication to the community over the next 75 years.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER JAMES HUTCHINS' CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. MIKE GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement and commend the service of Officer James Hutchins, who has honorably served with the Los Angeles Police Department for 35 years. For nearly his entire life, Officer Hutchins has consistently and bravely put his life on the line in service of our Nation and in defense of our communities, and is now taking his well-deserved retirement to spend time with his loving family.

Officer Hutchins first began his career of service by enlisting in the United States Army in 1984. Serving for 4 years, he received an honorable discharge as an Airborne Ranger. It was at this time, in 1988 that he graduated from the LAPD Training Academy and joined the force, accruing time and experience in the Van Nuys, Pacific, and Venice Beach divisions.

By 1995, Officer Hutchins became a Los Angeles motorcycle officer assigned to the Central Traffic Division, and quickly set himself apart for his dedication and professionalism. Upon returning to the Valley Traffic Division later that year, Officer Hutchins became a mentor to his fellow motorcycle officers, a legacy carried until his retirement as "Most Senior Motor Cop in the City". He additionally earned a Police Star in 2005 for bravely evacuating Los Angeles residents during a catastrophic fire. This commendation was just one of over 200 accolades accrued over the course of his 35 years of service, marking his end of watch in June 2023.

I cannot commend Officer Hutchins enough for his service to California's 27th Congressional District and the City of Los Angeles. We thank him for his tireless work to keep our community safe, and wish him the best in his retirement and the opportunity to spend more time with friends and loved ones, as is certainly deserved after such a long and successful career.

HONORING THE VASILOFF FAMILY FOR THEIR DEVOTION TO VETERANS

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a Livingston County, Michigan, family that has quietly, and without fanfare, devoted themselves over the past decade to the service of their community, their Nation, and veterans in need.

Kathy and Steve Vasiloff of Green Oak Township have long enjoyed throwing parties in their lakeside home, making their backyard a popular gathering place for friends, family,

and neighbors. But when their son David joined the United States Marine Corps in 2007, those parties took on a different tone: sending him off and welcoming him home from training, and then from multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hit twice by improvised explosive devices during his tours of duty, David came home in 2011 a changed man, and as a result, his family changed direction as well. Seeking to honor their son's service, and the stories he told of his brothers and sisters in arms, many of whom did not come home, the Vasiloff family decided to combine their love of throwing parties with a purpose. Ten years ago they opened up their home for a summer soiree, this time asking for donations for wounded veterans, and raised an impressive \$3,000 in one evening. The next summer, the party grew, and so did the funds raised. And so a tradition was born, one that has blossomed into an annual extravaganza featuring live music, raffles, gift baskets, hundreds of attendees, and tens of thousands of dollars in donations for the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, a Michigan non-profit supporting injured servicemen and the families of heroes in our state. In fact, over the decade the Vasiloff family has been holding these fundraisers, they've become the largest private donors to the organization, with total donations closing in on \$200,000.

Planning and holding a fundraiser of this magnitude is a huge team effort, and a major undertaking for the Vasiloffs. As such, the Vasiloff family has decided that 2023 will be their final event. But it certainly won't be the end of their service. David, the proud Marine who helped inspire the fundraisers, continues to inspire, serve, and protect his hometown community of Green Oak Township, where he is now a police officer. And Kathy and Steve will never stop supporting the brave men and women like their son who come home with visible and invisible scars of war, as well as the service families whose lives are forever shattered by loss.

Service to one's country takes many forms, and that includes contributing to our collective goal of moving toward a more perfect union. Mr. Speaker, the Vasiloff family has never sought praise or publicity for their efforts, instead directing all attention to the cause so close to their hearts. But as they prepare for their tenth and final summer event, I thank them for their faithful service.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MORSE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Morse Manufacturing Company, Inc. as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year.

Morse Manufacturing was incorporated on August 15, 1923. It was first located at 402 S. Franklin Street in the City of Syracuse, New York, and then quickly relocated to Dickerson Street. Ralph Andrews joined Morse Manufacturing in 1943, developed a product to safely handle drums, and purchased the company

from the founder in 1948. In 1953 the company was moved to East Syracuse.

Robert Andrews, son of Ralph Andrews, joined Morse Manufacturing in 1969. Robert continued to grow and enhance a product offering to safely handle drums that was initiated by his father, and also expanded the building several times at the East Syracuse location.

Nathan Andrews, grandson of Ralph Andrews, joined Morse Manufacturing in 2002 and continued the family tradition of commitment and dedication through developing new international distribution and modernizing the operations at a new facility in the Town of Salina in 2019.

Today, Morse Manufacturing offers the most extensive line of high-quality drum handling equipment anywhere in the world and markets its products through an elite worldwide dealer network. The longstanding success of Morse Manufacturing is largely because of the quality of its employees. It has provided hundreds of employees and their families with careers and job security over its history. Morse Manufacturing and its employees have continued to give back to the Central New York Community through volunteer work and contributions.

Morse Manufacturing takes pride in sourcing as much as possible from local suppliers with long established relationships. This makes Morse Manufacturing a net revenue generator for the Central New York Economy, bringing revenues from products sold around the country and world to spend locally through wages, taxes, and local suppliers.

On behalf of New York's 22nd Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Morse Manufacturing on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary. I wish them continued success for many years to come.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BILL ROCKWOOD, JR. TO FLORIDA'S NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE DARREN SOTO

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize Bill Rockwood, Jr. for his contributions to Florida's Ninth Congressional District as the office's Deputy Legislative Director. During his time in the office, Bill also served as the Executive Director of the Future Forum.

As part of Team Soto, Bill originated and drafted a variety of bills, amendments, and appropriations requests with a particular focus on issues related to technology, finance, and the environment. Bill worked on seven bills that passed the House of Representatives, including three that were signed into law; he worked on 25 amendments that passed the House of Representatives, including 13 that were signed into law; and worked on over 200 report language requests and programmatic funding requests that were included in the final FY18–FY23 appropriation packages.

Bill is a graduate of Rollins College with an undergraduate degree in philosophy, the Crummer School of Business Administration with a Masters of Business Administration, and the Georgetown University Law Center

with a Juris Doctorate and a Masters of Laws (LL.M.) in Securities and Financial Regulation. Bill also played four-years of collegiate tennis and was a professional tennis instructor prior to attending law school.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS SUPPORTING THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution expressing the sense of Congress Supporting the State of Israel.

As the only vibrant, progressive, and inclusive democracy in the Middle East, Israel is a beacon of hope—a country where pluralism flourishes. Efforts to delegitimize the Jewish State and claims that the country has abandoned the democratic principles on which it was founded are unfair and false. In Israel,

Arab parties serve in the Knesset, women serve at the highest levels of the military, and the country remains an oasis for LGBTQ+ people in a region hostile toward the community.

The U.S.-Israel alliance is strong for a reason. Our nations were founded on these shared values, and those ideals keep our partnership ironclad to this day.

Israeli security is critical to America's national security. Our bilateral defense and intelligence cooperation makes our two countries safer and plays a key role in the global fight against terror, I am proud to champion this relationship in Congress. We have no better partner in the region than the State of Israel and I will remain committed to ensuring that Israel has the resources it needs to defend itself.

I have traveled to Israel twice this year alone, alongside Democrats and Republicans, and have many times visited the country to meet with senior level officials and civil society leaders. Each time I am reminded of the resolve and passion of the Israeli people. I am also reminded of the importance of the Jewish State.

The United States was the first country to recognize Israel's independence 75 years ago, just eleven minutes after its founding. It has since become the "Start Up Nation", a leader in high-tech, sustainability, and innovation. The United States has stood with Israel every step of the way.

Over the last 75 years, bipartisan support for the U.S.-Israel relationship has proven vital to protecting our national security, fighting terror, and intelligence collaboration.

I look forward to celebrating Israel's next 75 years, and furthering the vital U.S.-Israel relationship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, on July 25, 2023, I was unavoidably detained addressing important matters to my district. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on H.R. 1338, and yea on H.R. 4470.