

grateful they have kept the passion and excitement alive in Pirate Nation and honoring the rich legacy of our official mascot, PeeDee the Pirate.

People love pirates. No quarter. Go Pirates.

Aargh.

□ 1115

HONORING EXTRAORDINARY VIETNAM VETERAN LARRY SHERMAN

(Mr. LANGWORTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor an extraordinary Vietnam veteran from Chemung County, Larry Sherman.

After America entered the Vietnam war, Larry Sherman answered the call to serve his fellow Americans and enlisted in the United States Navy. Shortly after he completed training, he deployed to Vietnam to join the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 10, the Seabees. He spent his deployment supporting our military in building critical infrastructure under fire, often dodging mortars and rockets.

When Larry returned home, he received the same harsh treatment that many Vietnam veterans faced, and he decided to take action. Larry has been a leader in local initiatives to support his fellow veterans.

He now serves as the president of Vietnam Veterans Association Chapter 803 and leads the Chemung County Honor Guard, which provides a ceremonial military presence at the funerals of veterans and other important events.

Madam Speaker, I thank Larry for his courage and service and for going the extra mile to support veterans across the Southern Tier.

HONORING THE INCREDIBLE LIFE OF VIETNAM VETERAN LLOYD SLACK

(Ms. SCHOLTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Madam Speaker, I rise ahead of Veterans Day to honor the incredible life and sacrifice of an amazing veteran from west Michigan who gave his life in service to our Nation, Specialist Four Lloyd Slack.

Earlier this year, I had the honor of hosting a ceremony in his honor at the brand-new veterans home in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Lloyd Slack paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Vietnam, drawing enemy fire upon himself and thereby saving his team.

My team learned that Lloyd's mother, 96-year-old Lola Mondy, a Gold Star mother, never received the medals that he was due. We got right to work to make sure she could see those medals and receive the commemoration of her son's service before she died.

Ms. Mondy turned unimaginable loss into purpose, serving other Gold Star families while also living with her own grief.

Presenting these medals to her in the ceremony was the honor of my time in Congress. Our military families sacrifice so much, and on this Veterans Day, I give my thanks to west Michiganians who have served and their families. We are the home of the free because of the brave.

REMEMBERING POLICE CORPORAL DOUG "TWIN" HERRON

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Savannah Police Corporal Doug "Twin" Herron.

Corporal Herron recently passed away after experiencing an unspecified medical emergency while working an off-duty assignment.

He was hired at the Savannah Police Department in January 1988 and was promoted to corporal in 1994. In 2002, he was promoted to star corporal.

For the last 2 years of his life, he worked at the Savannah Impact Program, which focuses on at-risk youth and adults. His dedication to this program is a true testament to the man that he was.

Corporal Herron always put the community first. He dedicated his career in policing to bettering the lives of others.

Corporal Herron was a hero, and the entire Savannah community will never forget the good that he did.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to his family.

RECOGNIZING STARK COUNTY VETERAN OF THE YEAR BILL THEISS

(Mrs. SYKES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SYKES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bill Theiss from Jackson Township in Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Bill was recently named Stark County 2023 Military Veteran of the Year by the Greater Canton Veterans Council.

As we head into Veterans Day, I am honored to celebrate Bill as one of our community's selfless, brave heroes who has served our Nation.

For Bill, service to our Nation and protecting democracy is a family tradition. Two of his brothers and his father also served our Nation.

Fifty-seven years ago, Bill received his military draft notice, going on to serve two tours overseas in the Vietnam war as an officer in the United States Army from 1966 to 1970.

Now, Bill is a leader in the Stark County veteran community, where he

volunteers to plan social events and works to assist homeless veterans.

Serving our Nation is an enormous sacrifice, but for Bill, his service didn't end with his military career.

Madam Speaker, I thank Bill for his lifetime of service to our country and for protecting our freedoms, and I congratulate him on being Stark County Military Veteran of the Year.

HONORING THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY

(Mr. MEUSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank and honor the brave men and women who have served our country's military.

As we approach Veterans Day, let me especially recognize the more than 800,000 veterans who call Pennsylvania home, including the 56,000 who reside in my district, Pennsylvania's Ninth. Pennsylvania's Ninth is also home to the Army and Air Force National Guard at Fort Indiantown Gap.

Throughout our history, our forefathers, forebears, and family members have put service above self in defense of our freedoms. They have fought to preserve our Republic, to promote righteousness, and to protect our homeland. When fighting overseas, the only land we asked for was enough to bury our dead.

Our veterans fought for us. It is now our duty here in this House to work for them.

Since coming to Congress, we have enacted legislation like the PACT Act, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, and more, all aimed at expanding veterans benefits and ensuring veterans receive the medical care they have earned.

Madam Speaker, this weekend, let's thank and honor those who have served as we celebrate Veterans Day.

HONORING VETERAN AND COMMUNITY LEADER PHILIP AYALA, SR.

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day, I rise to honor the memory of Philip Ayala, Sr., who passed away just over a year ago.

Phil, as his family and friends called him, was a beloved neighbor in Berwyn, Illinois.

When he was just 17 years old, Phil enlisted in the U.S. Army and honorably served our country in Vietnam.

Phil kept our community safe as a Cook County deputy sheriff and fought to make the police force more diverse through his work with Congressman Ralph Metcalfe and the Concerned Citizens for Police Reform.

Phil cofounded El Centro de la Causa, an agency that worked with Mexican-American youth and the Spanish-speaking population in the 1970s.

In his three decades at El Centro, Phil provided support and built the infrastructure that led to the founding of so many other organizations in the community.

For Phil, the ultimate goal was to give back to the community. Whether it was meeting with President Carter at the White House alongside Latino leaders or serving as a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights or through his work in our neighborhoods, Phil fulfilled the goal with every fiber in his being.

Madam Speaker, I thank Phil for his service. May he rest in peace.

CONGRATULATING BREVARD HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Brevard High School volleyball team for winning the 2A volleyball State championship for North Carolina for the first time in their school's history.

The Brevard Blue Devils dominated Saturday's championship game in a 3-0 win against Camden County High School.

As a former high school athlete myself, I recognize the sacrifices and dedication that go into making this type of victory happen.

Senior and star middle hitter Meleah Foster, with her numerous kills and blocks, was named MVP of the State finals.

The Blue Devils have outstanding individual players, but what sets them apart is their unity as a team. Each and every member contributed to this historic victory.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Blue Devils. I wish all of them the very best in their future endeavors and encourage them to continue to strive for excellence on and off the court. They have made western North Carolina proud.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RUTH LAVINE

(Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Ruth Lavine, who passed away at the age of 103.

Ruth was born in Hamburg, Germany, but emigrated to Los Angeles as the Nazi Party was rising to power in the 1930s.

Ruth became a lifelong Trojan, receiving both her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Southern California. She was one of

only five female students in her USC Law School class.

Ruth and her husband, Dick, married in 1944, spending 50 wonderful years together.

Ruth enjoyed an active role in her children's lives and maintained involvement in the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, the L.A. County Bar Association, and Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles.

Ruth established a scholarship in her husband's memory to help students at USC Law School, just one of her many philanthropic efforts for her alma mater in the heart of our district, the 37th.

She is survived by her children, Cathy and Raymond, and her three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I hope everyone will join me in mourning the loss of Ruth Lavine and celebrating her life of full love and learning.

HONORING FORMER VIRGINIA BEACH SHERIFF KEN STOLLE

(Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Virginia Beach Sheriff Ken Stolle, who recently retired after an incredibly successful 43-year career in public service.

During his 13-year tenure as sheriff, Ken Stolle brought about numerous positive changes for our local law enforcement officers and our community, including creating a successful transition program for inmates at the end of their sentences, implementing body cameras for all Virginia Beach sheriff's deputies, and establishing successful mental health programs for those serving time in the prison system.

Stolle was often quoted as saying he ran the largest mental health facility in Hampton Roads, and his emphasis on this issue led to policies that have been a blueprint for agencies across the country.

Before serving as sheriff of Virginia Beach, Ken worked for the Virginia Beach Police Department, practiced law in Hampton Roads, represented Virginia Beach in the Virginia State Senate, and served our great Nation as a United States Navy reservist.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Sheriff Stolle for his many years of service to our community, our Commonwealth, and our country. We wish him the best of luck in retirement.

CELEBRATING DECADES OF LEADERSHIP BY BISHOP DARRYL S. BRISTER

(Mr. CARTER of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate three

decades of faithful leadership from New Orleans minister Bishop Darryl S. Brister.

Bishop Brister's life is a story of dedication and purpose. His commitment to his faith led him to leadership in the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International, becoming its second presiding bishop in 1996 at the tender age of 29 years old.

Bishop Brister's impact extends far beyond his church's walls. He has taken the Word of God around the world, from Japan to Africa. He also founded nonprofit organizations, including DSB International Ministries, which provides spiritual guidance to those incarcerated, and the Darryl S. Brister Scholarship Fund, which supports students' educational aspirations.

Bishop Brister's commitment to his calling remains steadfast. He continues to inspire, guide, and support his community, living a life that is dedicated to serving God and those around him.

It is an honor to celebrate Bishop Brister's 30 years of spiritual leadership. May he continue to shine as a spiritual light for all those he touches.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Bishop Brister for his extraordinary friendship, service, and commitment to the community and his unwavering commitment to spreading the Word of God.

REST IN PEACE, AVA FORRESTER

(Mrs. BICE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BICE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to say good-bye to Ava Forrester, one of the last World War II Rosie the Riveters. Ava worked on the left wing of the C-47 cargo transport aircraft in Oklahoma City.

I had the tremendous honor of meeting Ava on her 105th birthday this last April. She was optimistic about life, willing to try anything, and funny, too.

It is imperative that we remember the legacies of women like Ava, who stepped up to serve her country in a time of need. Their work allowed the American war effort to be successful and powered an unprecedented age of American ingenuity.

It seems only fitting that as we approach Veterans Day, I have the blessing to recognize Mrs. Forrester. Rest in peace, Ava.

□ 1130

REPORTING ON BORDER CROSSINGS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I request the press corps one more time that sometime, perhaps tomorrow, perhaps sometime next week, to release the new numbers of people coming