

HONORING CONGRESSMAN DAVID CURSON'S SERVICE TO SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN AND THE NATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of Congressman David Curson and to grieve his passing. A dedicated member of the United Auto Workers, he has forever fought for the right of working-class Americans and his work should be commended.

David always had a strong connection to the working people of the United States. Following his high school graduation, David started working at the Libby-Owens-Ford Glass Company. He then enrolled at the University of Toledo but had to drop out after being drafted into the United States Marine Corps in during the height of the Vietnam War.

After his return in 1970, David started working at the Ford Rawsonville Plant in Ypsilanti, Michigan where he worked as a Die Maker Journeyman. At his plant, David became increasingly involved with the UAW and was eventually elected as the UAW Plant Chairman for the factory. During his tenure with the union, he served as Director of Special Projects and Economic Analysis as well as executive assistant to three UAW presidents including Steve Yokich and Ron Gettelfinger.

Upon the resignation of Representative Thaddeus McCotter, David won the special election to replace the vacant seat from Michigan's 11th congressional district. Congressman Curson immediately stated his intentions of retiring after serving the remainder of the six-week term, demonstrating his dedication to the American people and not himself. During his time in Congress, he expressed his strong support for the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which he believed would strengthen the middle class.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating and remembering the life of Congressman David Curson and all that he accomplished. His dedication to his country, community, family will not be forgotten. His passion for strengthening the conditions for working Americans, inspired by his own working-class upbringing, drove so much of his work and impacted so many. His impact should be celebrated and remembered.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES NAVY WORLD WAR II VETERAN JOSEPH D'EMIDIO'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional constituent from my district, Joseph D'Emidio. Throughout his life, Joseph has embodied a selfless and fearless spirit, resulting in a life rich in stories and memories. I commend Joseph for his service to our country and thank him for his great sacrifices and honorable legacy. As he celebrates

his 100th birthday on September 28, 2024, I would like to recognize Joseph and wish happiness for him and his family.

Joseph was born in Bristol Borough to Italian immigrants Gabriel and Lena (Vattimo) D'Emidio on September 28, 1924. He attended schools in Bristol Borough but quit school at age 16 to work to help support the family. One of those jobs was at the historic Fleetwing factory in Bristol Borough. He stopped working to pursue training in linoleum installation. At age 19, before he could be drafted for World War II, Joseph enlisted in the United States Navy, following the footsteps of his older brother Benjamin. He attended boot camp then trained for Landing Ship Tanks (LSTs).

He was then sent to England on an LST. He was subsequently joined by his brother Arthur, who also served on the LSTs. He ultimately participated in the D-Day Operation in Normandy on an LST. He was also involved in backing up forces for the Battle of the Bulge. His brother Carl served in the United States Coast Guard. On discharge from the Navy at the end of the war, Joseph returned to Bristol Borough to marry and start a family.

He was an original owner in the Winder Village section of Bristol Township. While living in Winder Village, Joseph and his friends became the Founding Members of Third District Fire Company. He served as its first Captain. He trained in kitchen customizing, returning to Bristol Borough to open a business on Mill Street called Cameo Kitchens. He has been active in the Lions Club for over 57 years.

He raised three children in Bristol: Joseph, Dyan and David, with his wife Theresa. Joseph and Theresa shared a love of family and Square Dancing. He is currently still living in Bristol, now married to his second wife, Jeanne. Joseph is a communicant at St. Ann's Church. He enjoys woodworking at the Bristol Borough Senior Citizen Center. Joseph likes his visits to Parx Casino and is a voracious reader.

His blended family is so very proud that Joseph has reached this milestone in his life. Our nation owes Joseph a debt that can never be repaid. We wish Joseph countless blessings and I remain deeply appreciative to Joseph D'Emidio for his life of service and sacrifice for our community, district, and country. His commitment to his fellow neighbors, veterans, and service members alike is a testament to his character and spirit. I am more than honored to recognize him today and wish him nothing but the best for his 100th birthday and the future beyond.

HONORING SUSANA RESTREPO AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR HIS-PANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Susana Restrepo is a Colombian migrant and a community leader dedicated to the well-being and development of her community. With over seven years of experience, she has collaborated with local organizations to advance initiatives focused on housing justice, immigrant rights, climate change, and access to healthcare.

Susana's community involvement in Central Florida began as a member and volunteer with Organize Florida. She later became a community organizer with Chispa Florida and currently serves in the same role with Florida Rising.

Recognized for her ability to unite people from diverse backgrounds, Susana has developed inclusive solutions to her community's challenges. She was acknowledged as a "Community Hero" for leading relief efforts that supported more than 2,000 victims of Hurricane Ian. Additionally, VAMOS4PR Action honored her for her dedication to Puerto Rican and Hispanic communities in Central Florida. In 2019, during the City of Kissimmee's Women's History Month event, Susana was recognized as one of the women in the Kissimmee community who has made an enormous impact, made a difference, and has made Kissimmee a great place to call home.

Currently, Susana owns a small health business, SusaludPro. She strongly advocates for local entrepreneurship and works to strengthen community networks that facilitate access to quality healthcare services. Her efforts reflect her hard work, dedication, and passion for positively impacting people's lives. As an inspiring leader, she also empowers other women in business and actively champions local economic development.

RECOGNIZING DONALD LYNN McDONALD WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donald Lynn McDonald of Groesbeck, Texas, by presenting him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His dedication to veteran's causes in retirement reflects the ideals of our Country's core values.

Born in Mexia, Texas, Donald McDonald answered the call to serve by joining the United States Marine Corps in the 1970s. Over more than six years of Active Duty, he demonstrated exceptional commitment and skill. Serving as an Electric Systems Technician, he began his active service in 1971 in Beaufort, South Carolina. His exemplary performance earned him the M-14 Marksman Classification, the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and a Letter of Appreciation, highlighting his professionalism and dedication to duty.

Upon his honorable discharge, Staff Sergeant McDonald continued his legacy of service within Limestone County. He became an active member of the Limestone County History Committee, where he focused on locating individuals in cemeteries and assisting families in finding their lost relatives. His efforts have provided closure and solace to many families, underscoring his compassion and commitment to his community.

Currently, he serves as the Limestone County Veteran Service Officer. In this role, he has achieved accreditation and has been instrumental in assisting numerous veterans throughout the community. His tireless work ensures that veterans and their families receive the benefits and support they have rightfully earned. Donald's unwavering dedication

reflects a deep respect for the sacrifices of his fellow service members and a genuine desire to enhance their quality of life.

This nomination is not only a tribute to Donald's profound commitment to his fellow citizens but also a recognition of the entire Veterans of Foreign Wars community in Limestone County. His selfless dedication embodies the highest ideals of service and citizenship.

For his dedicated service to this nation and his community, I am honored to award Donald Lynn McDonald with a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

**CONGRATULATING DAVE TITUS ON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ST.
PAUL POLICE DEPARTMENT**

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dave Titus on his retirement from the St. Paul Police Department. Dave began his service with the St. Paul Police Department in 1994. He served in the Operations Division (patrol), as a field training officer (FTO), and on the Special Weapons & Tactics (SWAT) Team. Dave served as President of the Saint Paul Police Federation from 2001–2019 where he advocated to improve working conditions, officer pay and supported the implementation of body cameras. He also served as President of the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association and was twice appointed by the Governor to the Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training. He continued his law enforcement career as an Inspector with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office for over five years.

I'm proud to have worked with Dave on various pieces of legislation including the Public Safety Officer Support Act, Invest to Protect Act and the Protect Local Law Enforcement Act. In addition, he has been a tireless advocate for the Social Security Fairness Act.

I'll always appreciate Dave's advice and counsel on law enforcement and public safety legislation and look forward to continuing that partnership in his new role as Deputy Director of the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association.

Thank you to Dave for serving and protecting our community.

STOP CAMPUS HAZING ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, as we debate H.R. 5646, Stop Campus Hazing Act, important legislation to address hazing on our college campuses, I include in the RECORD a letter of support for H.R. 5646 signed by parents who lost their children to hazing.

MARCH 7, 2024.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS, We are writing to communicate the importance of the Stop Campus Hazing Act (S. 2901, H.R. 5646), a bill

that will save lives. When our children/spouse started college we were filled with pride and excitement for what the future would bring. Never did we imagine that sending them to school meant we would never see them alive again. Instead of celebrating their graduation, we will spend the rest of our lives grieving their loss, because our loved ones were killed or seriously injured as a result of hazing.

Hazing is often thought of as a harmless bonding experience, but the reality is hazing threatens students' health and safety due to its intimidating, harassing, and often violent nature (StopHazing Research Lab, 2020). The National Study of Student Hazing found that more than 55% of college students involved in clubs, teams, and organizations experience hazing at colleges and universities throughout the U.S. These acts can cause serious psychological, emotional, physical injuries, and death. Over the past two decades, the number of identified hazing tragedies and deaths has escalated at an alarming rate.

Since 2015 Julie and Gary DeVercelly, whose son Gary DeVercelly, Jr. died as the result of a fraternity hazing ritual in 2007, have been tirelessly advocating for federal legislation that would require institutions to take action to prevent hazing incidents. We join them in urging you to support the Stop Campus Hazing Act, a bill that will help prevent other families from experiencing the loss we have endured. The Stop Campus Hazing Act requires the inclusion of hazing incidents as Clery Act crime statistics in Annual Security Reports; a publicly available transparency report that shares institutional hazing policies and identifies organizations that have violated them; and a comprehensive research-based educational programming on hazing for all stakeholders.

Our families' tragedies were preventable, and the more time that goes by before federal legislation is passed, the more young people will be harmed and killed by hazing. The time is now—we urge you to support this bill in honor of our loved one and the countless others who have been harmed.

Please contact Matthew.Golden@Mail.House.gov in Representative Lucy McBeth's office or Max.Hurst@Klobuchar.Senate.gov in Senator Klobuchar's office to co-sponsor the Stop Campus Hazing Act. Visit the StopHazing website to learn more or contact the Executive Director of Clery Center, Jessica Mertz, with questions (jmertz@clerycenter.org).

Thank you,

Patricia Strong-Fargas, (parent of Kristin High—died 9/9/2002 at California State University, Los Angeles); Karim Saafir, (spouse of Kenitha Saafir—died 9/9/2002 at California State University, Los Angeles); Mark Warren & Freada Warren, (parents of Clay R. Warren—died 9/21/2002 at Texas Tech University); Leslie & Michael Lanahan, (parents of Lynn Gordon Bailey ("Gordie")—died 9/17/2004 at University of Colorado Boulder); Debbie & Greg Smith, (parents of Matthew William Carrington—died 2/2/2005 at California State University, Chico); Julie Greaves DeVercelly & Gary Louis DeVercelly, Sr., (parents of Gary Louis DeVercelly, Jr.—died 3/30/2007 at Rider University); Julie & Tim Griffin, (parents of Brett Joseph Griffin—died 11/8/2008 at University of Delaware); Julia K. & H. Scott Starkey, (parents of Carson Leonard Starkey—died 12/2/2008 at California Polytechnic State University); Marie L. Andre, (parent of George B. Desdunes—died 2/25/2011 at Cornell University); Robert G. & Pamela E. Champion, (parents of Robert Darnell Champion—died 11/19/2011 at Florida A&M University); Dionne & Steven Williams, (parents of Jauwan Mikal Holmes—died 4/20/2013 at Virginia State University); Debbie & Danny Debrick, (parents of Dalton Debrick—

died 8/24/2014 at Texas Tech University); Cindy & Gary Hipps, (parents of Tucker W. Hipps—died 9/22/2014 at Clemson University); Theron J. & Kimberly A. Burch, (parents of Nolan M. Burch—died 11/14/2014 at West Virginia University); Sandy & Tom Coffey, (parents of Andrew Coffey—died 11/3/2017 at Florida State University); Daphne Beletsis and Yvonne Rainey, (parents of Alex Beletsis—died 6/20/2018 at U.C. Santa Cruz); Kathleen & Wade Wiant, (parents of Collin Wiant—died 11/12/2018 at Ohio University); Flavia Tomasello & John Tsialas, (parents of Antonio Tsialas—died 10/24/2019 at Cornell University); Jolayne Houtz & Hector Martinez, (parents of Sam Martinez—died 11/12/2019 at Washington State University); Eric & Linda Oaks, (parents of Adam Jeffrey Oaks—died 2/27/2021 at Virginia Commonwealth University); Shad & Cory Foltz, (parents of Stone Justin Foltz—died 3/7/2021 at Bowling Green State University); Tracey & Kirk Hazelwood, (parents of Thomas Lofton Hazelwood—died 10/18/2021 at University of Kentucky); Thomas & Mary Pat Santulli, (parents of Danny Santulli—critically injured 10/19/2021 at University of Missouri).

RECOGNIZING SHARECARE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the staff of ShareCare for thirty years of dedicated service to the Leelanau community.

ShareCare is a volunteer service organization that provides assistance to senior citizens across the Northern Michigan community, with services ranging from yard clean-up to simply calling and checking in. Their staff is renowned for their kindness and willingness to help anytime, anywhere.

ShareCare's volunteers drive their own vehicles to provide transportation for those seniors who do not have it, and will assist with errands such as grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, or paying a visit to loved ones. Volunteers assist caregivers as well, often giving them a much-needed break in their constant responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate the committed and compassionate staff of ShareCare for thirty years of incredible service to the Leelanau community. I wish them all the best and commend them for their steadfast support of our senior citizens.

HONORING MARK PINO AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Mark Pino is a Florida native with four decades of experience as a journalist, storyteller, and public servant.

A University of South Florida graduate, Mark is the first in his family to complete college. He is proud of his Cuban and Spanish heritage.