

Individual Lifesaving Award: Samuel Dee, Master Police Officer and Noah Glover, Officer.

Unit Lifesaving Award: Rescue Engine 433, Medic 403, Battalion 443: Assistant Chief Shawn Dunstan, Captain Jonithan Brantley, Master Technician Skylar Turnbull, Master Fire Medic Cory Gillespie, Master Fire Medic Tre Benefield, Lieutenant Tyler McLaurin, Fire Medic Eric Ransom, and Fire Medic Conor Ryan.

Silver Citizen Award: Cameron Welke.

Gold Citizen Award: Jim Etter.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2024 Fairfax's Finest Valor Awards Recipients and thank all of the men and women who keep our community safe. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES OGLETREE, JR.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today we gather to remember and honor the life of a remarkable individual, Charles Ogletree, a native of Merced, California, who ascended from humble origins to become a brilliant legal mind and a devoted champion of civil rights. Charles's legacy is one of tireless advocacy, inspirational mentorship, and unwavering dedication to justice.

Born in 1952 in Merced, Charles's journey began amidst the struggles of a migrant worker family. From these modest beginnings, he rose to prominence as a Harvard Law professor, leaving an indelible mark on the world of law and education. His steadfast commitment to civil rights and racial justice shaped his life's work, inspiring those around him to strive for equality and a more just society.

Known affectionately as "Tree" by his friends, Charles's impact extended far beyond academia. He stood at the forefront of pivotal moments in history, representing survivors of the Tulsa Race Massacre and serving as Anita Hill's attorney during the Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings. His authored works on human rights, race, and class left a lasting imprint on legal discourse and society at large.

Charles's connection to his hometown of Merced remained strong throughout his illustrious career. Even as he earned accolades at Harvard and beyond, he carried with him the values instilled during his upbringing in Merced. His commitment to his community was reciprocated when the local Superior Court building was named in his honor, a testament to his extraordinary achievements.

Charles's journey to become a legal luminary was shaped by his early fascination with the TV show "Perry Mason." Inspired by Mason's character, Ogletree embarked on a path that would see him become a trailblazer in his own right. His commitment to education and academic excellence propelled him from Merced High School to Stanford University, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in political science before receiving his law degree from Harvard Law School.

In his homecoming to Merced, Charles reflected on the profound influence his hometown had on his life's trajectory. He attributed his success to the friendships and mentors he found in Merced, acknowledging their role in helping him overcome challenges and reach new heights. Charles's journey came full circle when he welcomed the inaugural class of students to the University of California campus in Merced, emphasizing the importance of positive connections in achieving success. As we bid farewell to Charles, we honor his legacy of compassion, dedication, and service to humanity. His selflessness, both in the classroom and the courtroom, touched countless lives and inspired generations to champion justice and equality. Former President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama aptly described Charles's character as "unfailingly helpful and driven by a concern for others."

Charles Ogletree's life serves as a testament to the power of determination, mentorship, and the indelible impact a single individual can have on the world. He leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire future generations to fight for justice, just as he did throughout his remarkable journey. Charles is survived by his beloved wife, Pamela Barnes. Their enduring partnership was built on a foundation of shared values and intellectual curiosity. His children, Charles Ogletree, III and Rashida Ogletree, stand as a testament to his legacy of excellence and dedication. Additionally, his cherished grandchildren, Marquelle, Nia Mae, and Jamila Ogletree, as well as Makayla George, reflect the warmth and love that he bestowed upon his family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Charles Ogletree, an extraordinary legal scholar, mentor, and advocate who dedicated his life to advancing civil rights, racial justice, and the betterment of society. May his legacy inspire us all to continue the pursuit of a more just and equitable world.

RECOGNIZING PA-1's HOMETOWN HERO: TIMOTHY BESS

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinarily individual from Pennsylvania's First Congressional District—someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to both our community and our country. It is with great respect and admiration that I recognize Timothy Bess, one of our district's distinguished Hometown Heroes.

Hometown Heroes are not defined by titles or accolades, but by the quiet power of their actions. They are distinguished by their unwavering integrity, the strength of their character, and their steadfast commitment to the people and places they serve. They are the foundation upon which our communities stand—the ones who lift others up, inspire hope, and, in doing so, call us all to higher standards of service and compassion. Timothy has embodied this spirit in ways that words can scarcely capture.

After visiting the Jesse W. Soby American Legion Post 148 with his dad, William Bess a

U.S. Army Veteran, Timothy observed the Post's flagpole was weathered and deteriorating. During this trip, he was moved to make the remarkable decision to take action and give back to our veterans who have sacrificed so much for our community and country. Timothy went to work and began researching flagpole options, one that would be both worthy of our veterans and built strong enough to withstand the elements. Through his research, he was able to locate a beautiful 35-foot pole made out of brushed aluminum, strong enough to withstand weather and time, and even fastened with the rope inside to protect the pulling mechanism. He then spent six months working tirelessly to develop and orchestrate several fundraising efforts and coordinate with local businesses for the installation, landscaping, and creation of a new plaque. In total, Timothy raised over \$7500 to bring his vision to fruition for Post 148. Post Commander Walt Davidson said that seeing the flags wave from the shiny new flagpole for the first time was a welcome and bright sight.

It is the work of individuals like Timothy that reminds us of the power of the human spirit. His service, given without expectation of recognition, stands as a testament to the belief that one individual's dedication can ripple through the lives of many, sparking change, fostering resilience, and inspiring hope. Today, we honor Timothy not just for his remarkable deed but for who he is—a true hero, in every sense of the word.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Timothy for his extraordinary service. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional individual, whose leadership and spirit of service will inspire generations to come. May his example remind us of the boundless potential within each of us to make our communities, country, and world a better place.

HONORING RONALD CISCHKE OF GOODLAND TOWNSHIP

HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable individual, Ronald Cischke, a longstanding pillar of the Goodland Township community in Lapeer County, Michigan. He has dedicated nearly his entire life to this vibrant community, serving it in various capacities with unwavering commitment and integrity.

Ron has spent an impressive 55 years as both the township supervisor and assessor, roles through which he has significantly contributed to the development and well-being of the township. Ron is the longest-serving supervisor in Lapeer County history. His professional journey has been diverse—he has farmed, owned a construction company, driven a milk truck, and worked for the Construction Code Authority. This breadth of experience has enriched the community he serves, fostering a spirit of hard work and dedication.

In 1959, Ron married his beloved wife, Ruthie. Together, they have raised three children and have been blessed with four grandchildren. Family has always been at the heart

of Ron's life, reflecting the values of community and service that he holds dear.

Ron has also made significant contributions to the Goodland Community Church, where he has been actively involved for over 30 years. As the Building Community Chairman and a member of the Board of Directors, he has helped guide the church in its mission to serve and uplift the community. Furthermore, Ron's commitment extends beyond the church; he has served on the Board of Directors for the Thumb Narcotics Unit, playing a vital role in addressing and mitigating the challenges of substance abuse in the region.

Mr. Speaker, Ron Cischke exemplifies the spirit of community service and dedication. His tireless efforts and compassionate leadership have made a lasting impact on Goodland Township and its residents. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ron for his years of service and to celebrate his contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF INSIGHT MEMORY CARE CENTER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Insight Memory Care Center (IMCC) of Fairfax, Virginia, on its 40th Anniversary, and to acknowledge the exceptional work this nonprofit organization has done in supporting individuals with memory-related impairments, as well as providing education and resources to their families.

Founded in 1984 as the Alzheimer's Family Day Center, IMCC was created to serve those who were overlooked by existing community services, particularly individuals in the middle to late stages of dementia and those facing behavioral challenges. The recent name change reflects its expanded mission, as IMCC offers a wide range of services beyond just Alzheimer's care.

Starting as an adult day health center with only three participants, IMCC eventually grew from a church basement to a spacious 15,000 square foot facility in 2015 that now serves over 50 individuals each day. In January 2022, IMCC marked a significant milestone by opening its second location, an Early-Stage Center in Sterling, Virginia. It is currently the only dementia-specific day center in the DC metro area and the sole adult day health center in Northern Virginia offering specialized programs for those in the later stages of Alzheimer's disease. IMCC envisions a community where individuals with memory impairments can enjoy a high quality of life, while their families and caregivers receive essential counseling, education, and support.

IMCC's innovative educational and support initiatives include caregiver classes, community trainings, professional seminars, support groups, individual consultations, and home visits. These programs empower family members to be effective caregivers and foster greater awareness and understanding of dementia within the community. I would like to express my gratitude to Executive Director Anita Irvin and the dedicated staff, whose diverse skills and backgrounds have positively impacted

over 1,500 individuals and countless families with their services.

IMCC's outstanding efforts have earned it well-deserved recognition, including multiple accolades as one of the "Best Small Charities in the Washington Region" by the Catalogue for Philanthropy, and the title of Adult Day Center of the Year from the National Adult Day Services Association.

IMCC exemplifies a leading organization that's highlighted the urgent need for our nation to increase investments in Alzheimer's and dementia care, treatment, and services. Their impactful work serves as a compelling reminder of the positive difference we can make when we prioritize this critical issue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating IMCC on 40 years of impactful service and in thanking its staff, volunteers, and supporters for their unwavering commitment to our community.

HONORING THE REPUBLIC DAY OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note the strong relationship between the United States and Kazakhstan and to recognize Kazakhstan's Republic Day.

Republic Day commemorates Kazakhstan's declaration of sovereignty on October 25, 1990. This pivotal moment paved the way for Kazakhstan's eventual independence from the Soviet Union and symbolizes the nation's enduring commitment to self-determination, prosperity, and peace.

Over the past 3 decades, Kazakhstan has transformed into a thriving nation with a strong economy, a growing international presence, and a robust partnership with the United States.

The relationship between Kazakhstan and the United States is rooted in shared values of democracy, economic growth, and mutual respect. As we celebrate Kazakhstan's achievements, we reaffirm our commitment to working together in addressing global challenges and promoting peace, security, and economic development.

In 2023, President Biden met with the Presidents of Kazakhstan and four other Central Asian nations at the inaugural C5+1 Summit during the United Nations General Assembly. Since its inception in 2015, the C5+1 platform has strengthened U.S.-Central Asia cooperation, advancing shared goals of regional security, economic resilience, and sustainable development.

The U S and Kazakhstan remain committed to accelerating regional cooperation and connectivity. This includes expanding trade routes, such as the Trans-Caspian Trade Route, and fostering a more favorable business environment for U.S. private sector trade and investment in Central Asia.

Kazakhstan remains one of the United States' most reliable and trusted partners, both regionally and globally, particularly as an active member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). This long-standing partnership highlights the importance of advancing efforts to establish Permanent Normal Trade Rela-

tions (PNTR), ensuring that Kazakhstan's economic growth is fully acknowledged and supported within the global marketplace.

As we look to the future, the United States and Kazakhstan are poised to deepen their partnership through continued dialogue, trade, and collaboration on shared goals.

Together, we are committed to fostering peace, security, and prosperity, not only in Central Asia but globally.

RECOGNIZING HAYDEN JOSEPH KANG'S PERFECT SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT) SCORE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding academic accomplishments of a constituent from my district, Hayden Joseph Kang.

Hayden is a Senior at Council Rock High School South who regularly demonstrates a commitment to academic excellence, with this dedication culminating in him achieving a perfect score of 1600 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) on November 4, 2023. Hayden demonstrated a proficiency in reading comprehension, including information and ideas, craft and structure, and expression of ideas, and mathematics, including a remarkable understanding of advanced mathematics, problem-solving and data analysis, algebra, geometry and trigonometry.

Hayden's performance on the SAT should serve as a testament to his intelligence and motivation. I am encouraged by his motivation to perform incredibly in his academic career, and I am proud to represent such a remarkable student in my district.

It is my hope that, by Hayden's example, students throughout my district and throughout the country are encouraged to challenge themselves academically, and endeavor to strive for excellence in every facet of their lives. Moreover, the example provided by young people, like Hayden, should serve as an inspiration to challenge ourselves and strive for excellence in every facet of our lives.

I would like to wish Hayden the best in his future endeavors, both academically and professionally, and once again congratulate him on his incredible performance on the SAT.

RECOGNIZING RUSSELL MATAR AS VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Russell Matar, who I named Veteran of the Month for October from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. Born on October 18, 1924, in Port Huron, Michigan, Russell was the second of five children. His journey began with resilience and dedication, culminating in his graduation from Port Huron High School in 1942, before he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1943. His service during World War II took him to the