

its military heritage and its present role as a center of service and opportunity, filled with organizations dedicated to improving the lives of Lansing residents. It is with great appreciation and respect that I recognize the Marshall Street Armory's century of service.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF SUPERVISOR JOHN HIDAHL**

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of El Dorado County Supervisor John Hidahl, who passed away on November 2, 2024, at the age of 73.

John Hidahl was born and raised in California's Central Valley and graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. Throughout his successful career, he worked at Aerojet for 31 years and Northrop Grumman for 10 years, where he filled various roles, such as a rocket test engineer, the director of engineering, and the chief systems manager. Coming from a farming family, Supervisor Hidahl was also the Chairman of Hidahl Ranch, where he helped manage the almond and walnut farm.

Outside of his career success, Supervisor Hidahl tirelessly worked to improve the community around him. His motto of service before self is evident in the various areas where he volunteered and served his community. Among his many other roles in the El Dorado Hills community, he served for 33 years on the County Water District, 36 years on the Area Planning Advisory Committee, and 23 years on the Community Council.

Supervisor Hidahl was elected twice to the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, where he served as the District 1 Supervisor while advocating for a balanced budget, open space preservation, and housing options for seniors. Supervisor Hidahl was also engaged with his community outside of his formal roles, as he also actively supported the boy and girl scouts along with groups that serve the county's homeless population. In his spare time, Supervisor Hidahl enjoyed spending time with his family, traveling, and being outdoors.

Supervisor Hidahl is survived by his wife Eileen, their five daughters, and their 10 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Supervisor Hidahl was a devoted public servant who loved his country, his county, and his community. He will be deeply missed by all those who knew him. It is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor his memory.

**RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR.
BRIAN E. FUCHS**

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Brian E. Fuchs, who retired this month after 41 years of faithful and dedicated service as a civilian employee of the U.S. Army.

After graduating from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Dr. Fuchs chose to apply his knowledge and experience to the U.S. military's munitions research at Picatinny Arsenal located in NJ-11. The contributions he has made to our national defense, and to our allies' defense, are enormous, and we all owe him a debt of gratitude.

Dr. Fuchs first entered the U.S. Army in 1983 where he worked in energetics materials testing, detonation physics, and energetic formulations. Since then, Dr. Fuchs has maintained a variety of different positions on various boards and organizations focused on insensitive munitions research. Dr. Fuchs is also a leader in the rapidly growing field of research on explosive ink where, under his leadership, his team was able to produce the first qualified explosive ink.

Along with his long career in munitions development, Dr. Fuchs is an Adjunct Professor for the Stevens Institute of Technology and serves as the Steering committee chair for NATO's Munitions Safety Information Analysis Center (MSIAC).

Widely recognized by several organizations, Dr. Fuchs was awarded the National Defense Industrial Association Firepower Award for Technology Development in 2016. Dr. Fuchs has also been awarded the Academic R&D Award by Printed Electronics USA, the Six Army Research Development Achievement Award for Technical Excellence, and the Army Research Development Award for Leadership. These awards were all given in recognition of Dr. Fuchs' outstanding devotion to duty and his contributions to research and development of munitions.

I want to thank Dr. Fuchs for the critical engineering and research work that he and his team have done over his career to support our national defense, and I wish him the best for a well-earned and restful retirement.

**HONORING SERGEANT ANDREW
"TIM" KINIRY (WWII ARMY MEDIC)**

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it was my honor to pay tribute to Sergeant Andrew "Tim" Kiniry, a 102-year-old U.S. Army veteran who served his country gallantly on the shores of Normandy during World War II. Sergeant Kiniry performed one of the most courageous duties a soldier can do by volunteering as a medic right on the front lines of one of America's bloodiest battles. Not only did he charge bravely into battle with his unit, but he also simultaneously treated his fellow soldiers for injuries while under fire. Army medics were often the primary target on the battlefield, marked by the Red Cross for protection, but it ultimately led to increased fire by the Nazis. Tim, however, carried out his duties with bravery, applying tourniquets, bandaging wounds, and helping evacuate casualties to hospitals. This past year, he returned to Normandy to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day and pay homage to all the fallen heroes. In the years following the war, Tim has devoted much of his time educating the youth of the atrocities that war brings, and he loves to remind me of the great quote "Lest we forget."

I thank Tim for all he has done for the United States. God bless Sergeant "Tim" and God bless the United States of America.

**RECOGNIZING THE FOUR LOWER
SNAKE RIVER DAMS AND THE
VALUE THEY PROVIDE TO EAST-
ERN WASHINGTON**

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the four Lower Snake River dams and the value they provide to Eastern Washington.

The Columbia River System is the beating heart of the Pacific Northwest. This critical infrastructure helped transform our region from a dry, barren sage brush into one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world.

It serves as a super-marine highway for farmers to ship their products all across America, while keeping thousands of trucks off the road every year. The dams along the Lower Snake River have strengthened our energy grid, lowered energy costs, and made us a leader in reducing carbon emissions.

They help prevent life-threatening blackouts during extreme weather, not just in Washington state, but in California, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and Wyoming. They also support a thriving tourism economy of small businesses and protect parts of our region from devastating floods.

To put it simply: the Columbia River System is critical to our entire way of life.

Thanks to historic investments by Congress through the years, the four Lower Snake River dams are nearly transparent to salmon. With some of the most effective fish passage systems in the nation, these dams have achieved an average survival rate for ocean-bound juvenile salmon of between 95 and 97 percent. For adults, that average is more than 98 percent.

The scientific evidence supports the reality that dams and salmon can—and do—co-exist. According to a 2018 evaluation conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 99.6 percent of juveniles and 97.3 percent of all yearling Chinook salmon safely bypassed the Lower Granite Dam—a survival rate that exceeds the NOAA Biological performance standard of 96 percent.

The same study found that steelhead salmon enjoyed a 100 percent juvenile survival rate and an overall dam passage rate of 99.4 percent. On top of that, available data suggests that 2023 was the highest count for adult sockeye salmon on record at Lower Granite Dam with 2,921 adults returning.

Despite the rhetoric surrounding the Lower Snake River dams and salmon, we continue to see improvements in the returns with 2024 currently on track to be the third straight year of exceeding the 10-year average sockeye return.

This is not a coincidence. The Lower Snake River dams utilize some of the most innovative technology we have to help fish migrate the river, including fish slides and fish ladders to help salmon get over the dams safely, fish friendly turbines, spillways, and bypass facilities.

As a result, a recent study conducted by NOAA Fisheries concluded that survival rates along the Snake River system are approaching levels seen on rivers without dams. In fact, this study found that wild juvenile steelhead transported through the dams by barge return as an adult at an 80 percent higher rate than in-river migrating fish.

In 1938, before the dams were built, it is estimated that 1.67 million salmon and steelhead returned to the mouth of the Columbia River. In 2022, that estimate grew to 2.38 million. We do not have to choose between saving our dams and preserving our salmon populations. We can continue to protect endangered salmon without sacrificing our way of life.

The Lower Snake River dams are critical for strengthening our energy grid and providing our region with some of the lowest energy costs in the nation. They help give us our competitive edge. In the Pacific Northwest, roughly 60 percent of the power consumed comes from hydroelectricity; in Washington state alone, that figure is closer to 70 percent.

Lower Granite Dam alone has six hydroelectric generators that generate up to 135 megawatts (MW) of energy each. Together, they have the capacity to generate 810 megawatts, which is enough electricity to power a city the size of Portland, Oregon.

Ice Harbor Dam, another part of the Colulmbia-Snake River System, can generate enough electricity to power all of the homes in Spokane, Spokane Valley, and Wenatchee. Perhaps one of the most underappreciated aspects of the hydropower produced by these dams is that it can be dispatched at a moment's notice, helping families and businesses keep their lights on year-round.

The Columbia-Snake River System also serves as a super-marine highway for farmers to ship their products all across America and around the world, all while reducing carbon emissions and lowering shipping costs.

Each year, nearly 10 percent of all U.S. wheat exports are barged on the Snake River. Additionally, roughly 250,000 tons of wood chips are barged between locations on the Lower Columbia River and Lewiston, Idaho, where they are turned into pulp for paper production at mills across our region.

In 2020, approximately 4.2 million tons of cargo were transported through the Snake River dams. It would have taken more than 42,000 rail cars or 162,000 semi-trucks to transport that amount of cargo on land. If these dams were breached, it would lead to an increase in diesel fuel consumption by nearly 5 million gallons per year. It would also result in an increase in CO2 and other harmful emissions by more than 1.2 million tons per year.

The increased trucking activity would also increase the cost of fuel, highway and terminal facility maintenance, driver time, and vehicle maintenance by more than \$69 million per year, all of which would be passed on to consumers.

The bottom line is that tearing out the Lower Snake River dams would not only diminish grid reliability and make it harder for local farmers to feed the world, it would be counterproductive to achieving our carbon reduction goals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the enormous benefits the four Lower Snake River Dams provide for the people of Eastern Washington and for the entire Pacific Northwest.

RECOGNIZING THE GLOBAL MEDICAL RESPONSE 2024 STARS OF LIFE AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients for 2024.

Each year, the American Ambulance Association (AAA) honors a select group of Emergency Medical Services professionals for their commitment to patient care, integrity, and compassion through the Stars of Life program. Global Medical Response, a member of the AAA and the world's largest provider of emergent and non-emergent medical transportation and healthcare services, has identified 33 of its frontline heroes for this distinction, representing the best of the best in the air and on the ground.

We will find these heroes all around us in our communities. From Maui, Hawaii where a Paramedic, served as the Incident Commander for EMS ground units during the deadly 2023 fire that devastated Lahaina to an advanced EMF in Lagrange, GA, who safely delivered a baby while the baby's mother was being transported to a hospital, and performed lifesaving interventions on the newborn, who was "pulseless" at the time of birth to Waco, TX where a paramedic, saved the life of a cardiac arrest patient after working on the individual for 30 minutes before achieving return of spontaneous circulation.

There are countless stories to share and so much that we can learn from the day-to-day lives of these heroes. We must learn to exhibit integrity in everything we do and everything we say. We must act with compassion and grace in even the most daunting and challenging of situations. We must be vigilant, never wavering in our commitment to doing what is right for the community and answering the call to serve.

So that we will never forget the immense contributions to our communities made by the 2024 Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients, I respectfully request that each of their names be included in the

RECORD to honor their service and humbly thank them for showing us what it means to truly serve, while providing care to the world at a moment's notice.

GLOBAL MEDICAL RESPONSE 2024 STARS OF LIFE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Frank Alba, Critical Care Paramedic of Kansas City, KS; Johan Alvarado, Flight Paramedic of Laredo, TX; Aubree Arneson, Advanced EMT of Brookings, OR; Henry Barsh, EMT of Washington, D.C.; Antoine Berenger, Firefighter, EMT, of Tempe, AZ; Heather James, Advanced EMT of Lagrange, GA; Emily Chandler, EMS Programs Manager of Springfield, MA; Josh Cavaness, Flight Paramedic of Chanute, KS; Andrew Davalos, Paramedic of Rancho Cucamonga, CA; Riggs Egolf, Paramedic of Hampton, VA.

Juvenio Estrada, Flight Nurse of Laredo, TX; Brent Fisher, Flight Paramedic of Poplar Bluff, MO; Jason Florance, Paramedic of Topeka, KS; Scotland Hamlin, EMT, Field Training Officer of Orlando, FL; Jason Henry, Fire Captain of Tempe, AZ; Jason Hodges, Operations Supervisor of Portland, OR; David Kingdon, Paramedic of Maui County, HI; Daniel "Dan" Laguna, Pilot of Elko, NV; Matthew Lambert, Paramedic, Lifeguard of Florence, AL; Miki Leslie, EMT, Field Training Officer of Yakima, WA.

Alyssa Meier, EMT of Prescott, AZ; Eli Melamed, Paramedic of Prescott, AZ; Megan Overbeck, Paramedic of Decatur, IL; Michael Pernna, Critical Care Transport Registered Nurse of Redlands, CA; Kevin Rochford, Paramedic of Waco, TX; Lance Smeal, Advanced EMF, Field Training Officer of Buffalo, NY.

Raquel Soto, Paramedic of West Hartford, CT; Jason Southard, Operations Supervisor of Tucson, AZ; Shane Terry, Flight Paramedic of Big Spring, TX; Andrew Varela, Paramedic, Field Training Officer of Modesto, CA; Lucie Walters, Flight Respiratory Therapist of Birmingham, AL; Nikki Warren, Flight Nurse of Poplar Bluff, MO; Ambrose Stevens, Paramedic, Operations Manager of Redding, CA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 82, Social Security Fairness Act of 2023, due to air travel cancellations. As both a co-sponsor and a signer of the discharge petition that brought this bill to the floor, I am a strong supporter of eliminating the windfall elimination provision (WEP) and the government pension offset (GPO) that denies some retirees from receiving their full Social Security benefits.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 456.