

RECOGNIZING CHIEF DAVID C. ORTOLANO FOR HIS CAREER OF LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF DUNKIRK, NEW YORK

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in recognizing one of Dunkirk's finest: Chief David C. Ortolano, who has retired after thirty-nine years of public service in law enforcement.

Chief Ortolano leaves behind a record of distinguished service as a mentor, leader and guardian for the City of Dunkirk. He has consistently gone above and beyond, fostering deep connections within the city through D.A.R.E., National Night Out, his involvement in youth programs, like Mock DWI and Trunk-or-Treat. Chief Ortolano fostered relationships that continue to make profound and positive differences in our community.

David led the City of Dunkirk Police Department through challenges with unwavering integrity, while always prioritizing the safety and well-being of both his officers and the citizens we serve. His critical work in establishing the Special Response Team and his two Medals of Valor are testaments to his leadership and commitment to excellence. He has received recognitions from local, state, and federal agencies for his contributions to law enforcement and community policing.

Chief Ortolano's leadership has shaped the Dunkirk Police Department into a strong, united force. His mentorship and dedication have inspired future leaders, and the values he instilled will guide this department long after he departs.

I ask that this body join me in recognizing Chief David C. Ortolano for his commitment to keeping the people of Dunkirk safe. On behalf of the United States Congress, and the constituents of the 23rd Congressional District, I thank him—and hope he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 474; YEA on Roll Call No. 475; and YEA on Roll Call No. 476.

RECOGNIZING YOM HAPLITIM,
JEWISH REFUGEE DAY

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jewish Refugee Day, or Yom Haplitim. On November 30th, we remember the 900,000 Jews who were exiled

from Arab and Muslim-majority nations during the early years of the State of Israel.

For over 2,500 years, Jews lived in North Africa, the Middle East, and the Gulf region. Over generations, Jews were subjected to discrimination and even second-class citizenship in many cases. But, nevertheless, they were loyal citizens who made substantial contributions to the culture and development of Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Morocco, and several other Arab countries.

In the wake of the Holocaust and the Arab-Israeli war of 1948, entire Jewish communities were forcefully exiled from the countries in which they had lived for millennia. Their homes and property were stripped from them along with their citizenship. These women, men, and children fled in a mass exodus, leaving everything behind to start new lives in the lands of their ancestors, as many of them were absorbed by Israel and now form an indispensable part of the fabric of the Jewish homeland. Other refugees became part of the Jewish Diaspora, including in the United States.

I had the privilege of meeting with researchers and historians in Davie, Florida who are crucially documenting and preserving the life stories of Jews who lived for millennia across the Middle East and North Africa.

I was honored to have the opportunity to hear survivors share testimonies of experiencing exile from their countries and bravely navigating a new life. It is critical that these stories are preserved for future generations.

Their struggle and resilience—along with the hundreds of thousands of Jews who also stood in their shoes—is inspiring. It is a testament to the improbable survival of the Jewish people throughout history.

In 1910, the first Jewish person permanently settled in Broward County. From then on, our community has only grown, diversified and thrived.

Throughout my time in Congress, I've always fought to embrace the diversity of our Nation and the immigrant heritage that follows us to this day.

I am proud to represent the Jewish American community in my district and to use my platform to amplify the voices of Jewish Americans.

Since the horrors of October 7, antisemitism has risen sharply around the world. Many Jewish Americans are fearful and isolated as threats reemerge from the darkness.

But I and the Jewish American community—and Jews all over the world—will not be deterred. The history of the Jewish people is characterized by our strength and resilience in the face of strife. We must acknowledge the history of the Jewish refugees to keep their stories alive.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote No. 475 on H.R. 8368, I mistakenly recorded my vote as NAY when I should have voted YEA.

NATIONAL AMUSEMENT PARK
RIDE SAFETY ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act. This month, 22 patrons were suspended in the air for two hours on a pinwheel ride at Knott's Berry Farm in Orange County, California. Incidents like the Knott's Berry Farm accident happen far too often, and it is time for the federal government to start regulating permanently affixed amusement park rides to protect the American public. This should never have happened and was preventable. I believe that we need better oversight and enforcement of existing laws, and we also need to close the gap in coverage, particularly since there is currently no federal oversight of permanently affixed amusement park ride safety. That's why I'm introducing this legislation today.

Over 300 million people visit amusement parks every year in the United States. From school groups to family vacations, amusement parks are an integral part of our culture and have a significant impact on our economy. Ensuring that every rider has a safe experience on these rides is of paramount importance.

The National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act will investigate accidents, develop and enforce action plans to correct defects, help improve safety training for ride operators, and act as a national clearinghouse for accidents and defect data. These enforcement efforts would be under the jurisdiction of the Consumer Product Safety Commission and would increase their budget to ensure that experts in the commission can effectively develop safety standards for permanently affixed amusement park rides.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and ensuring every American can enjoy a safe experience on permanently affixed amusement park rides.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
ANGIE GIANCARLO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Angie Giancarlo, who recently retired from an exemplary career in public service. I had the privilege of getting to know Angie during her time working on the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, on which I serve as a longtime member and former Chair.

Angie began her career in the Senate, including 12 years on the Environment and Public Works Committee, before coming to her senses and joining the House Appropriations Committee in 2011. Angie began as professional staff on the Energy and Water Subcommittee covering the "water" portion of that bill. As my colleagues know, Army Corps projects are prevalent in congressional districts throughout the country, and when they face issues, they are some of the most complicated things to tackle. Angie demonstrated

her mastery at solving these problems time and time again. For whatever success the Corps can claim, a good chunk of it is due to the work Angie conducted on the Appropriations Committee.

Angie became my Majority Clerk in 2018 and served as my Clerk until the beginning of this Congress, when I moved to chair the Interior Subcommittee. Clerk is a tough job. Balancing the schedule while leading a staff through budget review, hearing prep, markup, floor action, and conference negotiations often involves late-night, weekend, and holiday work. It takes dedication and a strong commitment to serving the public. Every year, Angie proved what an invaluable asset she has been to the Committee, to Congress, and to the country.

We will miss her knowledge, sage advice, and humor. I know we will all miss her observance of Punctuation Day—including home-baked punctuation cupcakes—and I will personally miss her uncanny ability to provide a miniature candy bar at just the right time. I thank Angie for everything. I am proud of the work we accomplished together, and I know she will have a great time whenever she travels to Idaho, and I wish her the very best.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE HAMLIN

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the life of George Hamlin, who passed away last month. His distinguished career and military service have left a profound impact on the Greater Rochester community, New York State, and the nation.

George Hamlin's life of service began in uniform. He served in the United States Air Force from 1963 to 1969, where he flew 100 combat missions over North Vietnam. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and 10 Air Medals for his dedication, skill, and valor. After finishing combat service, he attended the Navy's prestigious Top Gun Academy where he finished at the top of his class. The United States of America thanks him for his service to our Nation.

After being honorably discharged at the rank of Captain, Mr. Hamlin returned home and, in 1979, became CEO of the Canandaigua National Bank and Trust. He would go on to lead the bank—which has been in the Hamlin family since 1887—for 45 years. Under his leadership, the bank's portfolio grew to control billions of dollars in assets. He also played an influential role within the banking industry, serving on the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Buffalo Branch Board of the Federal Reserve.

Along with his success in business, George was dedicated to the Greater Rochester community, volunteering his time and counsel to a multitude of community organizations, including the University of Rochester Medical Center, New York Kitchen, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and many others. George was also active within the arts and education community, serving as a member of the acting group for the Bristol Valley Theater. His consistent devotion to serving our community

made an indelible impact on people across the Rochester region.

George was a patriot, community leader, banker, and most importantly a husband and father. I give my condolences to his wife, Mary, and children, Sherrod, Frank, and Alex, during this difficult time. May he rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my votes on Roll Call No. 474, Roll Call No. 475, and Roll Call No. 476 on November 20, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 474, YEA on Roll Call No. 475, and YEA on Roll Call No. 476.

RECOGNIZING DELPHINE KLAPUT'S SERVICE TO HER NA- TION AND HER COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Delphine Klaput of Ypsilanti, Michigan, on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her century of service to her family, community, and Nation is worthy of commendation.

Delphine was born on November 23, 1924, in the small coal mining town of Cadogan, Pennsylvania. She was aware of the nastiness of war as her father, Angelo, served during World War I and was exposed to mustard gas, suffering side-effects from that exposure for the rest of his life.

Delphine met her future husband, George, while in high school. George and his twin brother, Joseph, joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 where they flew missions over Europe as gunners in B-17 bombers during World War II. During that time, Delphine dropped out of high school and moved to Baltimore, Maryland, to live with her uncle. Delphine's uncle got her a position as a classified documents clerk at the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company, where her daily duties consisted of keeping track of plans and small parts for the aircraft and distributing them to the appropriate people in the plant. Some of the plans she ferried around were classified as top secret.

Delphine and George were married in 1944 when he returned from Europe. They moved to Denver, Colorado, when George was stationed at Lowery Air Force Base. After a short stop in Greenville, Mississippi, they moved back to Cadogan, where their first three children, Sandra, Jerry, and Diana, were born.

In 1952, George and Delphine moved their family to Royal Oak, Michigan, where they had two more children, Cheryl and Mary Jane. Delphine was a stay-at-home mom while their children were growing up and sewed clothes and crocheted in her spare time. When her children were older, she took a job at the local clothes cleaner doing alterations. She also started volunteering at the nearby senior center. In her mid-70s, Delphine went to work at

Costco doing demonstrations for 16 years. In April of this year, Delphine along with a delegation of 27 original Rosies went to Washington, DC, where they were presented with Congressional Gold Medals, honoring all Rosie the Riveters for their service during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 100th birthday of Delphine Klaput, a woman who answered the call of duty at the tender age of 18 and served our country with dignity in its darkest hours. We thank her for her service and wish her much laughter and blessings in her 101st year.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER CHRISTOPHER CROWLEY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Crowley, who has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. As a dustoff pilot veteran of the United States Army, CW2 Crowley is a hero to his fellow service members and a source of pride for our country.

In 1967, while CW2 Crowley was a pre-med student at Duke University, he decided to enlist in the United States Army to serve as a dustoff pilot. Dustoff pilots flew unarmed helicopter rescues of wounded soldiers and civilians from combat zones and were among the most perilous operations of the Vietnam War. These missions carried immense risk, with casualty rates exceeding 30 percent for pilots and crews. CW2 Crowley trained to be a dustoff pilot at the Army Aviation School at Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he stood out as an exceptional student. Given CW2 Crowley's aptitude, his classmates and instructors recognized and awarded him the Guidon of Merit, a ceremonial banner which acknowledges excellence in leadership, skill, and performance among Army Warrant Officer candidates.

Throughout his career, CW2 Crowley flew over 1,000 missions, rescuing more than 3,000 wounded personnel in unarmed helicopters under extreme conditions. For his extraordinary bravery, he was twice awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and received the Air Medal for heroism while participating in aerial flight. His courage and selflessness in the face of constant danger reflect the highest ideals of military service, earning him the well-deserved recognition of the Congressional Gold Medal.

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking CW2 Crowley for his service to our country. He is a true patriot and a shining example of courage and dedication.

OHIO GERRYMANDERING: A BRIEF AND AWFUL HISTORY OF THE VERY RECENT PAST

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2024

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Ohio citizens right now are represented by unconstitutionally