

ability to negotiate resulted in significant wins on many politically charged policies.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Stephanie as she leaves the halls of Congress and starts her next chapter. After countless early mornings and late nights of devoted work to our country, I know she is looking forward to a change of pace and scenery. I wish Stephanie and her husband, Aaron, who served in my personal office as a Military Fellow, the best in their next adventure.

Stephanie will be greatly missed, and I thank her for her dedicated service to the United States of America.

HONORING ADMIRAL BUDDY
YATES

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Rear Admiral Earl "Buddy" Yates, Jr., who passed away peacefully on September 13, 2021, at the age of 97. A graduate of Reynolds High School in Winston-Salem, NC, Admiral Yates was admitted to the United States Naval Academy at the outset of World War II. He was commissioned from the Academy in 1943 at the age of 19 and was immediately assigned to the USS *Dyson* where his squadron received a Presidential Unit Citation for their actions during the Solomon Islands campaign in the Pacific Theater. After the war and throughout the 1950s, Admiral Yates served as a Naval Aviator in Executive Officer roles before being assigned to the Department of the Navy in Washington. In 1965, he was selected for his first command of the USS *Raleigh* where he was awarded a Legion of Merit for his service. In 1967, Admiral Yates assumed what would become a lifelong duty for him when he was named Prospective Commanding Officer of USS *John F. Kennedy* (CVA-67) while the aircraft carrier was completed at Newport News Shipyard in Virginia. He served as the ship's first commander upon commissioning, leading her through assignments with the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean until 1969. Before his retirement in 1974, Admiral Yates served in more senior roles with the Navy including Assistant Chief of Staff for the Pacific Fleet. While taking on other assignments with the Navy before his retirement, Admiral Yates was never far from the crew of CVA-67. As new commanding officers took the helm of the ship before it was decommissioned in 2007, Buddy was always available to support them. To the crew who served with him and the many who sailed on CVA-67 after his time in command, Admiral Yates was a friend and mentor who worked hard to unify them all behind a common mission. Throughout the construction of the new USS *John F. Kennedy*, CVN-79 that is expected to begin operations in 2025, Admiral Yates was quick to work closely with the new prospective commanders in building continuity between the two ships. He attended both the keel laying of CVN-79 in 2015 and the ship's christening in 2019. Together with the veterans of CVN-67, they formed a motto to carry CVN-79 around the world: "Two Ships, One JFK Family". Throughout his life, Buddy was never far from friends and was

blessed with a beautiful family. After he passed away in 2021, he joined his wife of 63 years, Lucy, in burial at the United States Naval Academy Cemetery. Buddy and Lucy had 5 children together, and many grandchildren whom they cherished. On December 23, 2023, his family, the retired crew of CVA-67, and the sailors of CVN-79 honored the centennial birthday of Admiral Yates. Admiral Yates leaves behind a legacy of service to others and of unwavering patriotism to our great Nation. May the memory of this distinguished American and his many years of service to our Nation be eternal.

HONORING THE BOROUGH OF
HAWTHORNE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense pride and joy to recognize the Borough of Hawthorne as we celebrate its 125th anniversary. Since the city's incorporation in 1898, Hawthorne has evolved from a humble settlement into a vibrant and diverse suburban community that stands as a beacon of progress. This historic achievement is a testament to the resilience, growth, and unity that have defined the Borough of Hawthorne over the past century and a quarter.

The Lenni-Lenape Native Americans are the earliest recorded inhabitants of the area situated in the Borough of Hawthorne. By the 1700s, Dutch immigrants settled in the area as pioneers in agriculture. The history of the Dutch settlers and the Native Americans remains an active part of the shared fabric in the Borough of Hawthorne with roads and landmarks named after them.

The settlement emancipated itself from Manchester Township and incorporated as the Borough of Hawthorne following an act of the New Jersey Legislature on March 24, 1898.

Hawthorne attracted residents by promoting and establishing the municipal water system, electric grid with lit streets, and five public schools.

As one of the current 16 municipalities of Passaic County, the Borough of Hawthorne successfully voted for the mayor/council form of government. The borough is organized in four wards, providing a representative in each area of the community as well as giving residents the right to directly elect their mayor. The first election held under this new form was in 1989.

Today, there are nearly 20,000 residents that call the Borough of Hawthorne their home. The borough has a large immigrant population and is a melting pot evident through the array of multi-cultural businesses, restaurants, and community events. Throughout Hawthorne's history, community leaders and residents played a key role in shaping Hawthorne into the exceptional borough we celebrate today. One of Hawthorne's most notable figures is Mayor John V. Lane. His leadership and wisdom continue to guide the Borough of Hawthorne through all challenges, always emerging stronger.

The industrious spirit of Hawthorne's residents is the driving force behind its success. From the early days of farming to the present,

the people of Hawthorne have worked together to build a borough that fosters innovation, economic prosperity, and cultural diversity. Let us reflect on the rich history as we commemorate the quasiquicentennial anniversary of the Borough of Hawthorne.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, friends, family, and the residents of New Jersey in recognizing the 125th anniversary of the Borough of Hawthorne. I take this opportunity to congratulate the residents of Hawthorne on this historic milestone. May this celebration serve as a moment to honor the past, revel in the present, and look forward to a future filled with continued growth and prosperity.

CONGRATULATING BRUCE BROD,
MD, MCHI, FAAD ON HIS YEARS
OF SERVICE IN LEADERSHIP AT
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
DERMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable achievements and years of dedicated service of Dr. Bruce Brod, MD, MCHI, FAAD to the American Academy of Dermatology Association.

Dr. Brod's unwavering commitment to excellence and leadership within the AADA has made a lasting impact on both organization and the dermatological community at large.

For four years, Dr. Brod has served as the chair of the American Academy of Dermatology Association's Council on Government Affairs and Health Policy. In this pivotal role, he has demonstrated unparalleled dedication and expertise, ensuring that dermatologists and their patients are well-represented in matters concerning federal and state government affairs, health care policy, and practice-related activities. His visionary leadership has been instrumental in cultivating member engagement and promoting a culture of professional responsibility within our organization.

Prior to his tenure as Council chair, Dr. Brod served as Chair of the Academy's Congressional Policy Committee, where he played a vital role in shaping and implementing the Academy's federal legislative agenda. His tireless advocacy efforts have had a profound impact on the advancement of dermatological care and access to treatment for patients across the country.

Dr. Brod's contributions extend far beyond his leadership roles within the American Academy of Dermatology Association. He has held prestigious positions including as president of the Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery, Philadelphia Dermatological Society, and the American Contact Dermatitis Society, showcasing his exemplary leadership and dedication to the field.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements, Dr. Brod has received numerous awards and accolades, including a Presidential Citation and Advocate of the Year Award, Dermatologist of the Year Award, Practitioner of the Year Award, Physician Safety Patient Hero Award, and Presidential Citation, among others. These accolades are

a testament to his unwavering commitment to excellence and his profound impact on the dermatological community.

Currently serving on the American Academy of Dermatology Association's Board of Directors, Dr. Brod continues to be a driving force in shaping the future of dermatological care and advancing the mission of our organization.

On behalf of the entire dermatological community, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Bruce Brod for his years of exemplary service, leadership, and dedication to the American Academy of Dermatology Association. I thank Dr. Brod for his unwavering commitment to excellence and congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.

HONORING TERRY MCFADDEN'S
CAREER IN BROADCAST JOURNALISM
AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE SOUTH BEND COMMUNITY

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate award-winning television journalist Terry McFadden, who is retiring from WNDU-TV this month after more than 40 years of covering news in the South Bend market.

A fellow South Bend native and Notre Dame graduate, Terry has called St. Joe County home his entire life. To this day, Terry still lives on the same street he grew up on. It is undoubtedly this love for the South Bend community that has made Terry such a trusted name in local news over all these years.

Terry made his start in broadcasting in 1982 as a news and sports reporter with WNDU. In the time since, Terry has become one of South Bend's favorite television journalists, and he has epitomized the highest standards of professional and journalistic integrity.

The various broadcast journalism awards and accolades he has received over the years—including the Radio Television Digital News Association's prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award—are a testament to Terry's many career accomplishments, commitment to the community, and his passion for his profession and presenting the news in a compelling way.

As he prepares to retire from journalism, spend more time with his family—especially his wife Laurie and their sons Michael, Sean, and Charlie—and write the next chapter of his life, I am proud to congratulate Terry on more than four decades of dedicated service and excellence in journalism.

While I will miss him bringing us the news every day, I join so many others in expressing our gratitude to this lifelong Hoosier and in wishing Terry best wishes for a very happy and full retirement. I thank Terry.

HONORING JERRI SUTTON OF
BEAUFORT

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Geralene "Jerri" Mills Sutton of

Beaufort. Mrs. Sutton recently finished her time here on Earth. She was known for her dedication to others and her appreciation of the simple things in life.

Mrs. Sutton started off as a talented educator. She ascended to Senior Director for the Virginia Department of Education and was the youngest woman to assume this role. Her position led to working with the United Nations, traveling to developing countries, and helping improve educational outcomes for children.

Mrs. Sutton's dedication to the people of Eastern North Carolina eventually led her home to Greenville where she focused on improving her hometown community. All who knew her can attest to her unwavering devotion to the historical preservation of Eastern North Carolina. She led the restoration efforts of the Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church, which was set ablaze during the Civil War.

After relocating to Beaufort, she immersed herself in the Town's rich maritime history and culture. She became a founding trustee of the Maritime Heritage Foundation and served as the President for five years. She also won the Volunteer of the Year award in 2015 from the Beaufort Historical Association. Her passion and fantastic fundraising prowess led to securing \$1.5 million from small and big donors and the North Carolina General Assembly to build the North Carolina Maritime Museum on the Gallants Channel.

As all can see, Mrs. Sutton was especially attentive to the people and places she loved. I hope we can all learn from her legacy and do more for the people and places around us. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring this incredible woman.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
DANIEL FREDERIC PACKER, JR.

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand to honor the life of Daniel Frederic Packer, Jr., who was born December 8, 1947, in Mobile, Alabama and peacefully transitioned to be with the Lord surrounded by his wife, children and grandchildren on January 31, 2024. Dan was preceded in death by his parents, Daniel F. Packer, Sr., and Algie Ervin Packer; his sister, Debra Packer Albright; and his first wife, Carlene Banks Packer. He is survived by his loving wife, Catherine August Packer, and devoted children, Timothy Packer (Nicole), Vanice Packer Zenon (Alfred), Randall Ross (Natasha), Dr. Reginald Ross (Leslie), and Maria Michelle Ross Burke. He was the loving grandfather of nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Dan learned the value of hard work at an early age. Dan was raised in a hard-working household along with his younger sister, Debra. During the summer, he joined his cousins on a family farm where he did everything from churning butter to grinding corn. "Work was never something we were afraid of," Packer told New Orleans City Business. Packer inherited a strong sense of self and a strong work ethic from his parents. Like most of the South during Packer's childhood, Alabama was segregated, but his mother's motto

was, "Don't let anything defeat you," Packer recalled to Black Collegian. His father also imparted words of wisdom that resonated with Packer. "Some days peanuts, some days shells," Packer recalled to the Times-Picayune. The result was a can-do attitude that helped Packer overcome the inequities of segregation and racism. "The fact that (the South) was a segregated place didn't mean we couldn't find a way to be successful," Packer told New Orleans City Business. "It never dawned on us to use (our race) as an excuse to not be successful."

Packer graduated from Mobile's Central High School in 1965 with high enough grades to land several college scholarships. Unfortunately, Tuskegee Institute—the school Packer had his heart set on—was not among them. Tuskegee, a historically black college, was one of the few in the South that offered an engineering program for African Americans. Packer scraped enough money for tuition and enrolled in the five-year engineering program. After three years, his father fell ill, and the money ran out. In 1969, Packer left Tuskegee and joined the United States Navy. His high entrance marks and engineering training helped land him a position in the Navy's nuclear power program. During an intense one-year course at a secret base in Idaho, Packer learned to operate nuclear reactors used to power submarines, aircraft carriers, and destroyers. After training, he was posted on the USS *Truxton*, a missile destroyer based in the South China Sea during the Vietnam War.

During his military training, Packer met his first wife, Carlene Banks. After he left the Navy in 1975, the pair moved briefly to Washington state, where their first son, Timothy, was born. The family moved to Connecticut, where Packer landed a job as a training coordinator with Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company. Packer's second child, Vanice, was born soon after. The birth happened quite suddenly, and Packer delivered the baby at home. "It wasn't a problem because I knew how to operate a nuclear reactor," he told New Orleans City Business. "Both are very procedure oriented." Packer juggled his job and fatherhood well enough to earn an associate degree in 1978 from Middlesex Community College and a bachelor's degree in business from Charter Oak College in 1980.

Tragedy struck Packer's life in 1980 when his wife Carlene died suddenly of a rare liver disease. Left alone to care for his two children, Packer decided it was time to move back home to the South. The closest he got, however, was Columbia, Maryland, where he landed a job as a senior engineer at General Physics Corporation. It was a good job, but he wanted to be closer to the family with two young children. With his background in nuclear power, including a senior operator's license—a highly specialized license for the nuclear industry—he looked for a power plant near Mobile, Alabama. The closest was Entergy's plant in Taft, Louisiana. He called the plant, and though there were no openings, his credentials made him a great candidate as a consultant. He joined the plant as a consultant in 1982 and helped Entergy build the Waterford III plant. His expertise landed him a position as training manager of the plant.

Dan met Catherine upon his arrival at Waterford, and they later married on July 22, 1983, recently celebrating 40 years of marriage. It was "love at first sight" when their