

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF MR. ALAN NISHIO

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of a community leader and advocate, Mr. Alan Nishio.

Mr. Nishio was an activist, educator, and tireless organizer. Born in the Manzanar incarceration camp in 1945, Mr. Nishio spent his life uplifting the Japanese American community in his many roles, including as the longest-tenured Board President for the Little Tokyo Service Center. Mr. Nishio was also the founder of UCLA's Asian American Studies program in 1968.

Mr. Nishio advocated for the Japanese community in Little Tokyo and beyond. As founder and co-chair of the National Coalition of Redress/Reparations, Mr. Nishio worked tirelessly to provide rightful compensation to Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II.

Mr. Nishio was not only a mover and a changemaker, but a genuinely kind individual. Mr. Nishio always focused on the bigger picture, emphasizing the importance of building strong relationships between the Japanese American community and other communities throughout Los Angeles.

Mr. Nishio's legacy will live on in the Japanese American community in Little Tokyo, and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Alan Nishio.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER BRYAN  
SZOSTAK'S SERVICE TO THE  
CITY OF CANTON

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Bryan Szostak on the occasion of his retirement from the Canton Police Department after 25 years of service to the city of Canton, Michigan. His decades of service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Officer Szostak joined the Canton Police Department in 1999 and has served as a midnight shift officer ever since. For the past 24 years, he has been a member of the department's Honor Guard as one of the founding members and leader, with which he has participated in Posting of the Colors for ceremonies across the state and funeral services for fallen officers. Officer Szostak also served the community's youth as a veteran advisor for the Explorer Unit, a program for teenagers interested in law enforcement. In these roles, Officer Szostak has showed his emphatic commitment to the units he has been involved in.

Most notably, Officer Szostak has been a committed Canine Officer for the past 20 years. His loyalty and passion for this program has been exemplified in his love for his current canine partner Ragnar, who is retiring alongside Officer Szostak, as well as his two pre-

vious canine partners, Poncho and Hoss. In this role, Officer Szostak has set new standards for training and policing, which will not soon be forgotten. Over the course of his extensive career, Officer Szostak earned many department awards, in addition to citizen recognitions for his service and commitment to improving the city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Officer Bryan Szostak for his remarkable 25 years of service. His commitment to the canine program, Canton Police Department, and the City of Canton has been dedicated to the safety and improvement of the community. I join Officer Szostak's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to him in retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF MARK SMAIL

**HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Mark Smail, who sadly passed away at the age of 62 on February 17, 2024.

A graduate of Hempfield Area High School and the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown, Mark joined the family business at Smail Auto Group and spent the next 40 years establishing the company as an institutional pillar of the Westmoreland County business community. Mark replaced his father as General Manager in 2018 and became the third generation of the Smail family to lead the business.

Mark distinguished himself through his leadership, business acumen, and dedication to the community. The Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce named Smail Auto Group the 2021 Business of the Year, largely due to the company's ability to keep all 500 employees on staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mark's continuous participation in industry and community associations also earned widespread praise. In recognition of his commitment to civic engagement, the Pennsylvania Automotive Association awarded Mark the 2021 Bud Smail Political Advocacy Award. The award pays homage to Mark's late father, who inspired him to work hard and give back to his community.

Mark shared his father's determination to give back to the community and strived to make southwestern Pennsylvania a better place to live. As a philanthropist, Mark raised millions of dollars for local nonprofits. He contributed to and volunteered with many organizations, including the Pittsburgh Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases, the Magee-Women's Research Institute and Foundation, the Troops First Foundation, the Westmoreland Cultural Trust, and the Westmoreland Food Bank.

As a devoted husband and father, Mark cherished his friends and family. Mark will be remembered by his wife of 35 years, Kelly, and their children, Taylor and Marcus. His memory will undoubtedly serve as an example of love, devotion to one's family, and selfless service.

Mr. Speaker, Mark Smail dedicated his life to the people of Westmoreland County and southwestern Pennsylvania. His legacy is the

epitome of a life well-lived. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I wish his family healing during this difficult time.

HONORING REV. DR. KEITH G.  
TYLER, SR.

**HON. ANDY BARR**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special man, Reverend Dr. Keith G. Tyler, Sr. from Lexington, Kentucky. His church, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, is celebrating Reverend Tyler's 25th anniversary as their pastor.

Reverend Tyler professed a hope in Christ as a child and was baptized at the age of eight by the late Rev. A.D. Jones in Louisville, KY. He was called to preach the Gospel in 1985 and went on to be licensed and ordained. Reverend Tyler accepted the call to serve as pastor at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in 1998. Under his leadership, membership has more than tripled. He encourages the delivery of God's word in a variety of methods, including a feed-the-homeless effort, a neighborhood bazaar and community festival, a Women's Conference, and Children's Church. He launched a live radio broadcast in 2022. He is a motivating speaker, an inspiring preacher, and an innovative leader. He enjoys traveling across the nation evangelizing.

Reverend Tyler is an active leader in the community. He serves many organizations, including the Speigel Hill Community Center, the Black Faith Leaders of Lexington and Vicinity, and the Central KY Council for Peace and Justice. In addition, he is a trustee of Simmons College of Kentucky, and he serves on the Community Police Chaplain "Response Team." He is the proud father and grandfather of four children and three grandchildren.

Reverend Tyler is to be commended for his ministry over 25 years at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. I congratulate him and all the members of the congregation and wish them many more years of serving our Lord. I am honored to recognize Reverend Dr. Keith Tyler before the United States Congress.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE JOB CORPS

**HON. JARED F. GOLDEN**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Job Corps program on 60 years of dedicated support in changing the lives of young Americans. 2024 marks six decades of ambition and hope for our young Mainers at the centers in Limestone and Bangor, and throughout the United States of America. Maine's Job Corps programs are vital for preparing young people in the Great State of Maine for high demand industry sector employment as well as furthering educational opportunities.

I join my congressional colleagues in honoring and supporting their mission to better the

lives of Mainers through technical and academic training. Since the first class of students in 1997, the Loring Job Corps Center in Limestone has helped students from Maine and across the Nation earn high school diplomas, construct long-term careers, and obtain great jobs. The Penobscot Job Corps has maintained the same mission for the past 45 years.

Education and community service alike are two of the cornerstones of both Job Corps Centers in Maine, resulting in the students not only changing their lives but the lives of those around them. The program's outreach and development with workforce partners has only enhanced its ability to reach out and enrich the lives of young Mainers. The Job Corps program encourages the vital education and creativity of bright young students throughout our country.

It is with great pride and appreciation that I congratulate our two Maine Centers and Job Corps for 60 years of critical work.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CAPTAIN BENJAMIN MOULTON

##### HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five of our precious fallen Marines, including Captain Benjamin Moulton, who were killed in a helicopter crash last week in California.

At 27 years old, Captain Moulton was known for his leadership and determination. Benjamin grew up with family roots in Emmett, Idaho, and received an ROTC scholarship to the University of Washington. Once commissioned into the Marines in 2019, Benjamin continued to strive for excellence and was promoted to Captain in August of last year.

Captain Moulton was a decorated pilot who flew with precision and skill, navigating through challenges with grace and determination. His love for aviation and his commitment to excellence inspired all who had the privilege to serve alongside him.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Moulton family and friends as they mourn the loss of this remarkable Marine. We are inspired by Benjamin's bravery and his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

#### RECOGNIZING NEW HAMPSHIRE'S POLL WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS

##### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work of New Hampshire's poll workers and volunteers, who oversaw a safe, secure election in the first-in-the-nation primary that took place on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

For more than 100 years, New Hampshire has been proud to host our country's first presidential primary, an honor our state takes very seriously. This primary would not be possible without New Hampshire's dedicated poll

workers and volunteers. This year, like every time before, our poll workers demonstrated the power of our democracy and the importance of civic responsibility by dutifully and earnestly conducting this year's election.

I want to thank these citizens for stepping up for our democracy. New Hampshire's poll workers continue to set an example for the nation in their tireless efforts to count every vote and ensure that the voices of all Granite Staters are heard at the ballot box. These poll workers prove that despite ongoing efforts to polarize or politicize our elections, our American democracy is strong. Granite Stater poll workers help inspire increased voter confidence and turnout and ensure a smoother process for our state's elections. It is critical that all communities throughout our state are able to have their voices heard in our democracy.

Poll workers, local town officials, and volunteers are instrumental to our electoral process, preserving the right to vote for all Americans by remaining impartial and fair throughout the process, from overseeing voter registration to processing ballots. All Americans deserve to have their voices represented.

Mr. Speaker, I say thank you again to all of the poll workers and volunteers who stepped up to serve their communities and our democracy.

#### CELEBRATING ORANGE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Orange County Chamber of Commerce and to congratulate them on a century of unwavering dedication to the prosperity and success of businesses in Orange County, Virginia.

Over the last 100 years, Orange County's businesses and entrepreneurs have benefitted from the network and expertise provided by the Orange County Chamber of Commerce. A cornerstone of Orange County, the staff and members of the Chamber have been a vital force—driving economic growth, fostering innovation, and championing the spirit of entrepreneurship across Orange County.

Notably, the Orange County Chamber of Commerce has encouraged collaboration through their signature events—the Orange Street Festival and the Orange Uncorked Wine Festival. These events have not only helped nurture countless businesses and forged valuable relationships within the community, but they have also provided families across Orange with memorable experiences and fun activities.

Today, the Chamber boasts a membership of more than 280 Virginians. Each member, alongside Chamber staff, leadership, and volunteers, has contributed to the success and longevity of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce. As their Representative, I wish to extend my greatest appreciation for the work the Orange County Chamber of Commerce does to support the local economy and improve the lives of residents in and around Orange County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Orange County Chamber of Commerce on 100 years of service to Orange County, and in celebrating their growth, resilience, and commitment to excellence. I look forward to all they will accomplish in years to come.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF BENJAMIN "BEN" COOPER

##### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 2024*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the inspiring life and noble career of a lifelong Connecticut resident and patriot, Mr. Benjamin "Ben" Cooper. A member of America's "Greatest Generation" who honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces in World War II, Mr. Cooper witnessed the unspeakable horror of mass casualties and genocide that occurred in the European theater. Rather than suppressing this experience, he made it a mission to share the unspeakable tragedies he witnessed on the frontlines of the War. He transformed his experience into lessons for high school students and taught kindness and empathy for others. His service and lessons have inspired many generations of American citizens to care for each other with the same sincerity and dedication seen in Mr. Cooper himself.

Born in 1921 to Max and Fannie Cooper, Ben is a lifelong resident of West Hartford, Connecticut. Ben attended Hall High School and graduated in 1940. After attending George Washington University for one year, he returned to Connecticut in 1941 and worked at Colt Arms Factory in Hartford. Despite not having officially joined the military yet, Ben contributed to the war effort through his testing of guns for the Colt Company. Come 1942, Ben had been drafted into the U.S. Army as a combat medic in the 45th Infantry Division. Soon after his drafting, Ben met his wife of 65 years, Dorothy, and they married on July 14, 1944, in a Maine synagogue shortly before he was deployed to serve in the European theater. Ben's selfless nature manifested through his becoming a medic, starting a long legacy of sacrifice and consummate service to those in need. Through his service, Ben served as a shining beacon in an all-enveloping sea of darkness. His service safeguarded the life and liberty of his fellow citizens and the peoples across Europe.

Unforgettably, the U.S. Army 45th Infantry helped liberate Dachau concentration camp in 1945. Alongside his fellow soldiers, Ben bore witness to the deplorable condition of the victims of the concentration camp. Darkness and inhumanity enveloped Dachau. The scent of incinerated flesh hung heavily on the camp's air, and its prisoners stood in front of their liberators emaciated, so weak that any attempt at nourishment was rejected by their broken bodies. The extent of these crimes against humanity and decency left Ben speechless and traumatized. He would not speak of the camp or war experiences for decades to come.

In 1990, Ben began to share his wartime experiences. Through an interview with a Torrington High School history teacher, Ben was able to open up about his personal history. This interview served as the genesis of