

they lived in a small apartment at the Shepherd's House with the veterans they served. This "ministry," as they have referred to it, has not made them wealthy, yet they have pledged to continue supporting our homeless veterans for years to come.

In Tracey Barr's own words, "The men and women have sacrificed so much for our country; we want to do whatever we can." In tending to those who fought for American freedom, they, too, are serving our country. It is this selflessness and devotion to duty that have made Kenny and Tracey pillars of their community and earned them the respect of all who know them.

REMEMBERING U.S. AIR FORCE
GENERAL EARL T. O'LOUGHLIN

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember U.S. Air Force General Earl T. O'Loughlin, who passed away November 10, 2023, at the age of 93 years old. General O'Loughlin was a distinguished four-star general, who commenced his military journey during the Cold War in 1951.

An exceptional pilot, he navigated various aircraft, ranging from the B-29 to the KC-135. Over the course of his career, he accumulated approximately 6,000 flying hours, including 224 combat hours. Beyond his military achievements, Earl was a devoted husband to Thelma Bentley, a loving father to his daughter, Kris Rudin, brother, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and a cherished friend.

The general emphasized the mantra "freedom isn't free" throughout his entire life. Among his numerous accolades are the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, and Air Force Commendation Medal adorned with four oakleaf clusters.

In the hearts of the Tucson community and the residents of District 6, General O'Loughlin remains a true hero.

We extend our gratitude for his dedicated service, and I am eternally thankful for his contributions.

RECOGNIZING MOLLY MILLER'S
ELECTION TO THE INTER-
NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND
ENGINEERING EDUCATORS ASSO-
CIATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Molly Miller on her election to the presidency of the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

Molly is an experienced technology educator at Penn Manor High School who is dedicated to the ideal of technological literacy among students. In an ever-changing world, teachers like Molly prepare students for careers and life beyond the walls of school that will be defined

by the rapidly developing technological revolution.

Molly's recent election to the presidency of the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, where she will serve during the 2025–2026 term, comes after years of working with the Association's Pennsylvania board.

In her new role, Molly will oversee 1,500 members worldwide, ensuring that the next generation's innovative skillset will accommodate the needs of the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Molly for her dedication to her students and preparing them to enter the technological workforce. I wish her all the best in her new position, in addition to her work at Penn Manor High School.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF THE
BRADY BILL AND BRADY BACK-
GROUND CHECKS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of 30 years of Brady Background Checks.

The landmark Brady Bill, championed by Jim and Sarah Brady, was enacted 30 years ago on February 28, 1994.

This historic legislation established our nation's background check system for guns sold at licensed firearms dealers.

The Brady Bill is named after Reagan White House Press Secretary Jim Brady.

After Jim Brady survived a bullet to the head during the 1981 assassination attempt of President Reagan, he and his wife, Sarah Brady, knew our country urgently needed common-sense solutions to prevent guns from falling into the hands of those who intend to cause harm.

Since its enactment, the Brady Bill has blocked almost 4.9 million prohibited gun transactions.

Thirty years later, the Brady Bill continues to save countless lives each day because background checks work.

As we celebrate enduring milestones that have transformed our country, I cannot help but remember the lives that have been selfishly lost to inaction and negligence.

So, in addition to celebrating the success of the Brady Bill, I would like to take a moment to urge the passage of an additional, necessary piece of gun violence prevention legislation—H.R. 52, The Kimberly Vaughan Firearm Safe Storage Act.

This bill was named after Kimberly Vaughan, a 14-year-old girl, who was among the ten lives we lost during the devastating Santa Fe High School shooting on May 18, 2018.

H.R. 52 will establish best practices for firearm storage to protect children from improperly stored or misused firearms and establish a grant program for local government and nonprofits to distribute safe storage devices.

In particular, the Attorney General is directed to establish voluntary best practices relating to safe firearm storage and publish them on a website and in print.

Secondly, it will require most weapons to have a clear written notice on the packaging

that says, "Safe Storage Saves Lives" and how to obtain the best practices established by the Attorney General.

Additionally, the bill will provide grants to states and local governments with a ten-year, \$10 million grant program to distribute safe storage devices.

As Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, member of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, and co-founding member of the Children's Caucus, gun violence prevention and the protecting of children is deeply important to me.

And so, in highlighting the importance of passing bills, such as H.R. 52, we must also reflect and remember the lives of those lost to senseless gun violence.

Kimberly Vaughan loved cats, Harry Potter, and regularly took trips to the library.

She was drawing geometric shapes in her first period art class when she was tragically killed by a 17-year-old student who was on a shooting rampage.

That student ultimately massacred 8 students, 2 teachers, and wounded 13 others at Santa Fe High School in Texas.

It was the worst school shooting since 17 people were killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida just two months prior.

The shotgun and the .38 caliber pistol the shooter took to school belonged to his father and were available to him at his home.

Firearm injury is the leading cause of death for children and young adults in the United States.

Although American children are "twice as likely to be shot and killed as they are to die drowning," there are more safety regulations for pools than gun storage according to a report by Everytown for Gun Safety.

Every year, almost 20,000 children are shot and killed or wounded by a firearm, and 3 million are exposed to gun violence.

One in three U.S. households with children have firearms and firearms accounted for nearly 19 percent of childhood deaths in 2021, a 50 percent increase since 2019.

On average, 9 minors are killed by improperly stored or misused guns every day.

In my home state of Texas, more than 4,000 Texans are shot and killed each year.

Safe storage practices are critically important to keep firearms away from dangerous individuals and to keep children and families safe from senseless gun violence.

In the last decade, nearly 2 million firearms have been reported stolen.

Between 2010 and 2016, police recovered more than 23,000 stolen firearms that were used to commit kidnapping, armed robberies, sexual assaults, murders, and other violent crimes.

An estimated 4.6 million minors live in homes with at least one unlocked, loaded firearm; on average, 9 children are killed by improperly stored or misused guns every day.

The passage of the Brady Bill reminds us that bold action to prevent gun violence is possible.

Americans should be safe from gun violence in their homes and neighborhoods.

Americans should not be shot at Super Bowl parades.

Americans should not be shot in their schools.

Americans should not be shot at their places of worship.

It is simply unconscionable that guns are now the leading cause of death of children and teens in America.

Just two years ago, I joined Congress in passing the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the first major gun violence prevention law since the Brady Bill.

Already, this legislation is saving lives, but we need bolder action. It is long past the time to do something about the epidemic of gun violence in our nation? The nation that prides itself on protecting our children and the future generations. If we want to protect Americans, we must start by learning how to effectively store guns in the homes that choose to have them.

Americans want more than thoughts and prayers.

They want action.

Gun safety is a nonpartisan issue that requires a bipartisan solution.

Over 90 percent of Americans—including Republicans, Democrats, and Independents alike—want to expand the Brady Bill and pass universal background checks so that we can end the scourge of gun violence.

A majority of Americans want an assault weapons ban, extreme risk laws, and support for community violence intervention.

Data for Progress finds 49 percent of voters support changing Senate rules so Democrats can pass gun control legislation.

This includes 76 percent of Democrats, 43 percent of Independents, and 24 percent of Republicans.

Put simply, Americans deserve sensible action to end this epidemic.

The Brady's legacy lives on today in the gun violence prevention organization named after them.

We must remain persistent in the fight for a safer America that is free of gun violence.

I will continue to work with colleagues to end this epidemic.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRYAN
ANDREW ZEMEK

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bryan Zemek, a Mississippi National Guardsman, who tragically lost his life when Apache Helicopter, Tail Number 52630, went down near Booneville, Mississippi Friday afternoon of February 23, 2024.

Bryan Zemek, at 36 years old, served his country with distinction for nearly two decades, demonstrating his courage and skill as a Standardization Instructor Pilot for Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation

Regiment in Tupelo, Mississippi. His extensive experience included over 2450 flying hours in the Apache helicopter, showcasing his expertise in aircraft gunnery, weapon systems, combat arms, operations, and tactics.

Beyond his military service, Bryan was a devoted family man, leaving behind his beloved wife Robyn and their four children, Ayden, Logan, Swayze, and Avery. He was not only a skilled aviator, but also an outdoorsman, marksman, and even a private plane owner. His love for boating, aviation, and serving as

a civilian Emergency Medical Services pilot reflected his adventurous spirit and commitment to helping others

Bryan embodied the values of faith, family, and patriotism. His dedication to his home state of Mississippi and to the United States of America exemplifies the true essence of an American hero. As we reflect on his life and legacy, let us hold his memory dear in our hearts and express our profound gratitude for his selfless service and ultimate sacrifice.

In this time of sorrow, we offer our unwavering support and comfort. May his legacy endure as a beacon of courage and honor, reminding us of all the sacrifices made by those who serve our nation. God bless Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bryan Andrew Zemek, a proud Mississippian, and a true American hero. May he rest in peace, and may his spirit continue to inspire us all.

CELEBRATING THE 95TH BIRTHDAY OF FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS JASPER

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand to honor Former State Representative Thomas Jasper, a gentleman near and dear to the citizens of New Orleans and Louisiana's Second Congressional District, as he celebrates his 95th Birthday.

Native New Orleanian Thomas Jasper was born on February 23, 1929. An ambitious and promising young man that attended Booker T. Washington Sr. High School in the 2nd Congressional District. After high school, he served in the United States Armed Forces and later graduated from Southern University at New Orleans. He is a notable accountant and professional, serving in several key administrative positions in city and state governments. He proudly and successfully served the Lower Nine Housing Development Corporation, Minority Business Development, and Louisiana State Office of Minority Affairs under the leadership of former Louisiana Governors Edwards and David Treen and former City of New Orleans Mayor Sidney Barthelemy.

In 1976, he was elected to serve as Louisiana State Representative to House District 102 in the Lower Ninth Ward. He was a co-founding member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus. He completed his tenure in 1980. He consistently demonstrated servant leadership acumen by being elected to the New Orleans State Central Democratic Committee and Democratic National Convention as a delegate.

From 2016 through 2021, it was an honor to have his support and insight as my trusted Advisor during my term as Louisiana State Senator. Mr. Jasper also was my trusted Advisor during my tenures at Councilman of District C in New Orleans, Louisiana from 1994 to 2002.

Avid community leader Mr. Jasper can always be found helping others in the community, advising on business development, and providing referrals to resources.

A pillar of Mr. Jasper's family upbringing is the biblical teachings regarding service to all God's children. As a young man and throughout most of his adult years, Mr. Jasper was a

member of the Historic Second Baptist Church, serving as a Sanctuary choir member under Rev. Thomas Nelson Washington. A man dedicated to the will of God, he was regularly found in Sunday school, singing in the Choir and being a guest soloist on church programs across the city, and he continues to do so today. Currently, he worships at the First Agape Baptist Church, where he serves as a senior deacon and treasurer under the ministry of the Rev. Eddie M. Payne. Mr. Jasper loves to minister in song. He favors the older spirituals like "I'll Tell it Wherever I Go" and "King Jesus Will Roll All Burdens Away" but is most inspired by "What a Blessing in Jesus I've Found."

His favorite scripture is Romans 8:38–39 is his message to his children and grandchildren—"Be prayerful, have faith and trust in God, and let nothing separate you from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus."

Mr. Jasper is the son of Samuel and Louise Jasper, devoted husband of Florence Harrell for 74 blessed years, and has reared three children, Gwendolyn Jasper Barnes, Nedra Jasper Alcorn, and the late Rev. Glenn Thomas Jasper. He is the proud grandfather of six grandchildren and doting great-grandfather of eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. Jasper is a mighty man of service, and today, he continues to serve as my purpose-driven mentor and father figure. He has encouraged me through all of my dreams throughout my career. He is genuinely a patriarch to many who continue to cross his path and will always be a part of my journey as I lead the constituents of the 2nd Congressional District of Louisiana. He is my dear friend and mentor, and I hope to be the mentor to others as he has been for me.

On this day, I wish my dear friend a Happy and Blessed Birthday, and may he see many more.

HONORING INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE RENEE PACK

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Indiana State Representative for House District 92, Renee Pack. Prior to joining the Indiana General Assembly, she served in the United States Army for five years, where she trained and served as a behavioral specialist and was also certified in drug and alcohol counseling. Her training in the Army led her to a lifetime of service in our local schools, as a small business operator and now at the Indiana Statehouse.

Since being elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 2020, Renee Pack has led with courage and strength. She has become a champion for a more equal, and just environment for residents of her district and all Hoosiers. Her service in the Army has led her to where she is today, serving as the Ranking Member on the Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee. She also serves on the Committees on Commerce, Small Business and Economic Development, and Children and Human Affairs. She has invested her years in public service to uplift those in need, strengthen veteran services in Indiana, and advocate for equality under the law.