

RECOGNIZING BILL HANEKE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize First District constituent and U.S. Army veteran, Bill Haneke upon his retirement from the Families of the Wounded Fund Board.

A graduate of Hampton High School and a 1966 graduate of the United States Military Academy, Bill Haneke attended both the Army Ranger and Airborne Schools. After several Infantry assignments in the U.S. and Germany, he served as Commanding Officer of Camp Gates, Marktredwitz, West Germany. He then attended the Army Special Warfare School at Ft. Bragg, NC, where he was trained as an Advisor in preparation for a tour with Advisory Team 37 in Hoa Da District, Binh Thuan Province, South Vietnam in 1968.

Captain Haneke was instrumental in establishing and directing this new Advisory Team with the Vietnamese Regional Forces/Popular Forces. He was awarded three Bronze Star Medals (one with "V" for Valor), a Purple Heart, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry for his service in Vietnam.

On November 13, 1968, Bill suffered massive traumatic injuries when he was blown up by a Viet Cong Command Detonated Mine, causing multiple amputations, massive head injuries requiring five neurosurgical operations, severance of his carotid artery, and severe shrapnel wounds over 90 percent of his body. Following his extensive treatment and successful rehabilitation, he earned a master's degree in healthcare and business administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. He has worked for over thirty years managing organizations in all sectors of the Healthcare Field and is a true patient advocate.

Haneke has been a member of MOAA, Blinded Veterans of America, the DAV, Vietnam Veterans of America, as well as continuously volunteering as a patient advocate and counselor for Amputees, Head Injured, and those with severe traumatic injuries. Bill was presented with the prestigious award of the National Veteran of the Year by the Daughters of the American Revolution and is currently serving on the Veterans Service Board of Virginia.

Moreover, Bill is the Co-Founder and Board Member of The Families of the Wounded Fund, Inc., a charity gathering donated funds to provide assistance to family members and caregivers of combat wounded or injured military patients receiving treatment at McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center, Ft. Belvoir Warrior Transition Medical Center, Walter Reed Medical Center, Hampton Road Medical Center and recently, combat wounded Special Immigration Visa holders from Iraq and Afghanistan service in supporting U.S. & Coalition forces. Under Bill's leadership, Families of the Wounded Fund has awarded 800 family caregiver grants totaling \$5.2 million since 2005.

Bill Haneke's memoirs were published with the title *Trust Not* which recounts the harrowing events in Vietnam where he was given up for dead, until he was miraculously saved by a caring Army medical staff and a voice from above to reassure him.

I congratulate Bill on his recent retirement from the FOTWF Board after 18 years of service. Bill represents the best of Virginia, a Commonwealth made stronger through our ability to keep our promises to our veterans, our military families, and our allies. I thank Bill Haneke for his advocacy, his compassion, and his deep and abiding sense of service to our veterans, our country and our Commonwealth.

MAURICIO GARCIA

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mauricio Garcia for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Mauricio has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Mauricio, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Mauricio's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Mauricio Garcia on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING FRED JOSEPH JOHNSON, JR.

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred Joseph Johnson, Jr., on the occasion of his recognition as a 2024 Southern University at New Orleans Center for African and African American Studies Living Legend. Mr. Johnson is receiving this high honor because of his dedicated service to the citizens of New Orleans.

For over 30 years, Mr. Johnson has dedicated his life to counseling families and individuals in the process of becoming and maintaining the rights, responsibilities, and privileges of homeownership. In 1993, Mr. Johnson served as a co-founder of The Black Men of Labor Parade Club. BMOL focus is on preserving the history and culture of traditional jazz music, which is passed on from generation to generation, seeking to preserve traditional New Orleans Jazz by hiring musicians that play New Orleans Jazz Music as it was performed by such great Brass Bands as the Olympia, the Onward, the Tuxedo and the Eureka.

Fred J. Johnson, Jr. is known best as a community and cultural activist who focuses on creating social change. He has been employed with the Neighborhood Development Foundation since its inception in 1986 and was appointed as Chief Executive Officer in 2009. He remains committed to directly serving the needs of clients in asset building through the homeownership process. As a counselor and advocate for homeownership

who has a no-nonsense delivery of the message, he is often asked to deliver that message by participating in numerous community lectures, forums, and television and radio talk show appearances.

As a counselor, Mr. Johnson provides housing and financial counseling to individuals and families seeking to build their assets through the purchase of property. He assists clients in the development of action plans to build their assets and resolve credit issues and advocating for clients throughout the entire home purchase process. Moreover, Mr. Johnson provides educational services to non-profit organizations and businesses around the country to enable them to provide those same services to their communities. As a housing advocate, Mr. Johnson participates in several housing organizations that shape housing policies and the industry that is responsible for its governance. He is presently the President of the Louisiana Housing Education Collaborative and a Board Member of the Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance.

I am humbled to know and call him a personal friend. Fred is such a great man who has done so much to improve the lives of countless residents across my district. We are so honored to have Mr. Johnson, a true advocate for mankind.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to severe weather in D.C., my flight was rerouted and I was unable to vote during the Quorum Call on January 9, 2024. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted: PRESENT on Roll Call No. 1.

COMMENDING ROBERT EDMUND ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Robert Edmund on his retirement.

On June 24, 2022, Robert Edmund retired from Edmund Optics as its Chief Executive Officer. Over the years Robert Edmund has made a substantial impact during his tenure and fulfilled many achievements that advanced the growth of the small family company into a successful and accredited industry.

Prior to his accomplishments in the optics world, Robert Edmund graduated from the University of Buffalo's Organizational Development Program. He also received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management at Georgetown University's School of Business. Not only was Robert Edmund a vital part of Edmund Optics, Inc., he was in the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, and was a former instructor officer, and vice-captain. He was also the past president of the Barrington Lions Club, as well as a SPIE Fellow in 2021, founding chair of the Advisory Board at the University of Arizona College of Optical Sciences,

former president and board member of the Direct Marketing Association, and past chair and board member of the Optical Society of America.

Over the span of fifty years, Robert Edmund applied many different approaches that carried the business to where it is today. When he first began at Edmund Optics, Inc., he created an innovative telescope, while also creating processes in direct marketing known by all industries, beyond optics. Robert Edmund was recognized for all his work by being named Direct Marketer of the Year in 1983 by the Philadelphia Direct Marketing Association.

Today, Edmund Optics has become the world leader in optics, thanks to Robert Edmund's metamorphic strategies. Edmund Optics is now a leading global supplier of optics, imaging, and photonics technology that has served a variety of markets including Life Sciences, Biomedical, Industrial Inspection, Semiconductor, R and D, and Defense since 1942.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Robert Edmund, a Barrington resident dedicated to his community and who is a true leader of his industry.

MIA QUINONES

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mia Quinones for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth Award.

Mia has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Mia, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Mia's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Mia Quinones on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF PATSY ANN (PAT) DANNER

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense pride that I rise today to honor a great Missourian, former Congresswoman Pat Danner (MO-6) on her 90th birthday. An experienced leader, innovative thinker, and dedicated professional, Pat serves as a prime example of a true public servant and moreover, a kind human being.

Born January 13, 1934, in Louisville, Kentucky, Pat grew up in Bevier, Missouri where she attended public schools and then graduated from Northwest Missouri State University Cum Laude with a BA in political science. On the pursuit to grow as a leader and further

involve herself in public service, Pat went on to work as the District Administrator to Congressman Jerry Litton following graduation. As a testament to the unwavering commitment to her community and serving others, she was appointed to a sub-cabinet position in the Administration of President Jimmy Carter.

In 1982, Pat attained a momentous milestone in her career by securing a coveted position in the Missouri State Senate through a triumphant electoral victory over incumbent Senator Hardin Cox and was re-elected in 1986 and 1990. As a pivotal turning point, Pat successfully ran for Congress in 1992, defeating the incumbent Republican Tom Coleman and secured her seat in Missouri's Sixth District. She was re-elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994, 1996, and 1998.

Beyond her extraordinary career accomplishments, Pat's courageousness and resilience as she underwent breast cancer stand as evidence of her unshakeable willpower. As a proud breast cancer survivor, Pat has shared her positivity, vibrance and fearlessness to all those around her. Her dedication and love for her family has created long lasting bonds with a marriage of over 41 years with her husband Markt Meyer and four children, Stephen, Stephanie, Shane, and Shavonne. Their close-knit family made up of 10 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren have continued to serve as an important pillar in Pat and Markt's life, bringing them joy and fulfillment to their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Missouri's Fifth Congressional District as we forever enshrine Pat's legacy and wish her the happiest of birthdays. On this special occasion, let us celebrate this milestone and Pat Danner's achievements throughout her distinguished career but most importantly, her impact as a lifelong friend, partner, mother and a proud Missourian.

URGING THE EXTENSION OF PRO-GROWTH TAX PROVISIONS

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of extending the pro-growth tax provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA).

In 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed the TCJA into law, which ushered in prosperity to the American economy. These benefits included significant investments in American workers, families, and local communities. Thanks to House Republican leadership and Chairman JASON SMITH, Congress has prioritized the restoration of these important provisions, such as the full and immediate expensing for research and development, full expensing of investments in new equipment, machinery, and technology, and business interest deductibility.

Under these important TCJA provisions, job creators across our nation increased innovation, expanded facilities, and reinvested in their employees. For example, the International Paper Company utilized the research and design expensing reforms to advance efficiency and safety standards at their box plant in Eighty-Four, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I hear across southwestern Pennsylvania the need to restore these vital

TCJA provisions. I urge Congress and the Administration to recognize the opportunity before us. Restoring these provisions can strengthen the U.S. economy, help create new American jobs, and increase our nation's competitiveness. I stand with the businesses and workers in my district, and I encourage my colleagues to extend these expired provisions immediately.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM PAGE

HON. MARCUS J. MOLINARO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of William (Bill) Henry Page, a fixture of the Dutchess County community who was beloved by all who knew him. William recently passed away on December 23, 2023, at the age of 82.

William was a lifelong resident of Dutchess County and active in his community. In 1962, he married the love of his life, Helen Marie Wilser, in Poughkeepsie, NY. Today, their three sons are raising their families in Dutchess County. William served on the Board of Directors of H.G. Page, the company founded by his father Henry Page, Sr. He and his beloved wife Helen successfully grew Park Page Associates into a prominent real estate development company. In addition, he served on many boards throughout the community and received honors including the Lagrange Symbol of Freedom Award, Family of the Year, and LaGrange Rotarian of the Year.

William, who was also known as "Bill," will be remembered for his tenacity and affection for those around him. At the age of eighteen, he was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, but he never let his diagnosis stand in his way. He enjoyed conversation, red wine, and time spent with his family. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the memory of William Henry Page, a man who made a lasting difference in his community.

ALLI GIBSON

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alli Gibson for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Alli has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Alli, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alli's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Mandalay Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Alli Gibson on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.