

us commit to honoring that history by continuing to work together for a prosperous future for south Texas.

I give congratulations to everyone in Victoria on this historic day, and may God continue to bless and keep us in the days and years ahead.

HONORING SCOTT GRAY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Scott Gray as he is awarded the Airport Professional of the Year Award by the Texas Department of Transportation. This prestigious accolade is a testament to Mr. Gray's exemplary leadership, dedication, and contributions to the aviation industry.

During his tenure as the airport manager of Denton Enterprise Airport from 2017 to 2023, Mr. Gray demonstrated exceptional proficiency in managing the day-to-day operations, planning, and development of one of Texas' busiest airports. Under his guidance, Denton Enterprise Airport grew significantly, rising from 7th busiest airport in Texas as he arrived, to become the 5th busiest airport in Texas and among the top 60 nationwide, with over 212,000 operations in 2023.

Mr. Gray's strategic vision and strong analytical skills have been instrumental in the airport's growth and success. He oversaw significant milestones, including the delivery of the airport's second runway in 2019 and the expansion of the main runway in 2021. These achievements not only enhanced the airport's operational capacity, but also contributed to its standing as a vital regional transportation hub and ensured its place as an economic generator into the future.

Furthermore, Mr. Gray's leadership extended beyond Denton Enterprise Airport. As the President of the Texas Airports Council, he tirelessly advocated for the betterment and benefit of general aviation airports across Texas. His commitment to advancing the interests of the aviation community has left a lasting impact and has been widely recognized and appreciated.

Despite his departure from Denton and return to Arizona as the Aviation Director at the Buckeye Municipal Airport, Mr. Gray has remained an invaluable resource and mentor to others in the aviation profession. His willingness to share his extensive knowledge and expertise reflects his genuine passion for the industry and his dedication to supporting his colleagues.

Mr. Gray possesses the wide range of knowledge and competence that exemplifies a top-notch general aviation airport manager. His remarkable achievements and unwavering commitment to excellence make him truly deserving of the Airport Professional of the Year Award. I am honored to commend Mr. Gray for his outstanding contributions to the aviation community and extend my warmest congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 119, H.R. 7888; YEA on Roll Call No. 114, Biggs Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 7888; and YEA on Roll Call No. 115, Roy Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 7888.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION CHURCH

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Community Transformation Church on its centennial, which fell on April 14, 2024. Community Transformation Church is based in Houston, Texas, and has eight satellite campuses located across Texas and Arkansas.

The Community Transformation Church that exists today started with two different churches: Magnolia Park Assembly of God and Oaklawn Assembly of God. Magnolia Park Assembly of God was founded around 1924 by Rev. Jimmy McClellan. Two years later, in 1926, Rev. E.M. Yeats became the pastor and served until his retirement in 1976.

In addition to Magnolia Park, Rev. McClellan also organized the Oaklawn Assembly of God. During the years leading up to the 1976 merger, Revs. Worth Williams, Hardie Weathers, Cleddy Keith, and O.C. Bates all served as church pastors of Oaklawn.

After the two churches came together, they took on the name Christian Temple Assembly of God and met at the old Magnolia Park location. Thanks to the significant growth, a 10-acre plot was eventually purchased on Alameda Genoa Road, and the church began a million-dollar building campaign for a new sanctuary that opened on Easter Sunday 1983. Rev. Bates was the first pastor of Christian Temple, where he served for 25 years.

In June 2023, the church once again took on a new name: the Community Transformation Church. Pastors Don and Susan Nordin have led the church since November 4, 2001. Throughout the last 23 years, Community Transformation Church has started five campuses that were gifted away, given millions of dollars to mission efforts across the world, and much more to show the love of Christ across the region they serve. Community Transformation Church has also started eight residential drug and alcohol treatment centers and created a 38-acre ranch for rescued girls who have been trafficked.

Over the past century, it is evident the Lord has used this historic church to demonstrate the love, kindness, and generosity of Jesus Christ in the surrounding community and worldwide. May God continue to bless Community Transformation Church and its members for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. GREGORY ARMENIAN CHURCH

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate a milestone of profound significance—the 90th anniversary of St. Gregory Armenian Church in Indian Orchard, Massachusetts.

For nearly a century, St. Gregory has stood as a beacon of faith, unity, and community, enriching the lives of its members and serving as a cherished cornerstone of Armenian heritage throughout the Greater Springfield community. As the crossroads of New England, Springfield is home to a unique diaspora of different cultures and ethnicities, including a strong Armenian community with roots going back to the early 20th century.

As a great number of Armenian populations immigrated and settled in the Springfield area during the early 1900s, the need for a church and community center was quickly realized. Since its founding in 1934, St. Gregory has been a pillar of hope and support throughout our region, giving back not only to the community in western Massachusetts, but also providing humanitarian assistance to Armenians throughout the world. Their commitment to improving the lives of others is inspiring and has left an indelible mark on countless individuals and families.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the members of the St. Gregory Armenian Church as they mark 90 years of upholding the sacred traditions, values, and teachings of the Armenian Apostolic Church. As we reflect on the countless blessings bestowed upon St. Gregory, and the blessings bestowed upon the community they serve, we look to the future with great optimism and renewed vigor. I wish them much growth, spiritual enlightenment, and enduring unity for the next 90 years and beyond. Congratulations from the United States of America.

HONORING RICHARD A. DUERR, SR.

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Richard A. Duerr, Sr., a Naval veteran and firefighter, for his many years of service to our community.

Richard began his career in the United States Navy, serving our country as a Communications Yeoman 2nd Class from 1965 to 1969. Following his military service, Richard embarked on careers in the private sector, working for more than 16 years at Revere Copper and Brass in Rome, NY, and also at Sanford Fire Equipment and Turning Stone Resort Casino.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Richard has engaged in many years of service to his community. For 51 years, he has been an integral member of the Camden Volunteer Fire Department, holding vital roles such as Assistant Chief and Fire Police Captain, a position

he held for 26 years. Richard is a Life Member of the Volunteer Fire Police Association of the State of New York (VFPASNY), currently serving as president. He was also Chairman of the Seminar Committee for 15 years, Editor of the VFPASNY Newspaper and a trainer in multiple counties for the Fire Police Review Class for 12 years.

Richard is a Life Member of the Oneida County Volunteer Fire Police Association where he served as President for 12 years and has held various other positions including the role of Chaplain. Additionally, Richard contributed to the work of the New York State Chaplains Association, conducting memorial and funeral services, and to the Oneida County Volunteer Firefighters Association, where Richard is currently the Chaplain and Sergeant at Arms.

In addition to these many accomplishments, Richard has been a member of the American Legion Post 66 in Camden, New York for 26 years, and is a member of the Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY).

Richard has received various awards including the George Woodman Award for Excellence, seven President's Awards for Community and Fire Police Leadership, and the VFPASNY Fire Police Officer of the Year. These, along with several other certificates and plaques reflect Richard's many contributions.

On behalf of New York's 22nd District, I am pleased to recognize the service and accomplishments of Richard Duerr, Sr. I thank him for his dedication to our community and our country.

CELEBRATING THE 2024 NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPION UNIVERSITY OF DENVER'S MEN'S ICE HOCKEY TEAM

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate a momentous achievement by the University of Denver's men's hockey team. Over the weekend, the Pioneers secured their 10th NCAA national championship title. This year's national championship marked not only their second title in three years, but also helped the team break the record for the most national championships in history.

During my time in Congress, I've had the distinct pleasure of celebrating five championship wins from this remarkable team. Each time, it fills me with immense pride to be a Denverite and to join our community in celebrating the excellence and dedication of DU's hockey team.

Under the exceptional leadership of Head Coach David Carle, this victory marks the second championship win during his tenure, with the last one coming in 2022. Denver now stands alone as the most decorated program in college hockey history, surpassing esteemed rivals like Michigan and North Dakota.

The final game was a testament to the Pios' skill and determination. Sophomores Jared Wright's and Rieger Lorenz's second-period goals, combined with the exceptional goaltending of Junior Matt Davis, secured a decisive 2-0 victory over the top-seeded Boston College.

Davis's performance throughout the tournament was nothing short of outstanding, stopping 35 shots with 23 crucial saves in the game's third period alone. Even Coach Carle described his performance as "superhuman." Davis was named the NCAA Tournament Most Outstanding Player with 138 saves, only allowing three goals.

Saturday's victory over Boston College followed DU's overtime victory against Boston University in the semifinals, Cornell in the second round, and the University of Massachusetts in the first round.

The championship win was not just about the individual capabilities of these players; it represented the values of hard work, teamwork, and dedication of the Pios. The team played a remarkable game, showcasing the pure talent of their student-athletes. The team's impressive talent not only led to their championship win, but to their incredible winning season overall—finishing with a record of 32-9-3.

I extend my congratulations to Coach Carle, the DU hockey team, and the entire DU community on this incredible, well-deserved achievement. They have not only made Colorado proud but made history in college hockey, and I look forward to supporting their future championship victories.

I congratulate once again the 2024 NCAA men's hockey champions—the University of Denver Pioneers. Or, as we say in Denver, "Go Pios."

RECOGNIZING STEVE SPRATLIN'S 33 YEARS OF SERVICE AT SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steve Spratlin's 33 years of service on the occasion of his retirement from Southern Union State Community College.

Mr. Spratlin began his career with the College in 1991 as Special Activities Coordinator, serving as an external liaison for the college. As a result of diligence, skill, and dedication, he advanced to the positions of Director of Institutional Research, Planning and Development in 2002 and Associate Dean of Instruction in 2009, the position he currently holds. Mr. Spratlin has spearheaded the SACSCOC reaccreditation efforts of the college for many years, and has served on numerous committees. His significant contributions to Southern Union and his dedication to serving exemplify his profound influence within both the college and the broader community.

Mr. Spratlin is highly respected among his colleagues, known for his wise counsel, sound judgement, and love and dedication to SUSCC. He has been instrumental in helping the college earn numerous awards for excellence and receive grant funds from local, state, regional, and national organizations. The inspiring leadership and guidance he has displayed throughout his tenure at the college will be dearly missed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Steve Spratlin's tireless years of service to

Southern Union State Community College and wishing him the best in his retirement.

HONORING BRUCE PARSONS

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bruce Parsons on the occasion of his retirement as Principal of Plymouth Regional High School.

Bruce first came to New Hampshire as the principal of Wentworth Elementary School in 1991. Soon after, Bruce transferred to Plymouth Regional High School as Assistant Principal and was promoted to Principal in 1993. He has held that position ever since—more than 30 years. Among his many accomplishments, Bruce's colleagues have called him an effective leader, creative problem solver, and passionate educator. I commend Bruce on his retirement after three decades with Plymouth Regional High School and his unwavering dedication to our state's students.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Bruce for his years of service to our community and for being a part of what makes the Granite State such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. I am honored to recognize and congratulate Bruce on his retirement and wish him the best of luck in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GENERAL ERIK PETERSON'S SERVICE AND RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Representative FULCHER and Senators MIKE CRAPO and JIM RISCH to recognize the retirement of Lieutenant General Erik Peterson for his 38 years of exemplary service to our nation.

Lieutenant General Erik Peterson's journey began in Idaho, where he received his education from elementary school to university, ultimately graduating from the University of Idaho's College of Mines and Earth Resources in 1986. Upon graduation he received his Army commission as a Distinguished Military Graduate of the University of Idaho's Chrisman Battalion.

Nonetheless, his educational career did not end there. He earned Master's Degrees in Business Administration and National Security Strategy. In addition, as part of his professional military education, he completed the Aviation Officer Advanced Course, and attended the Combined Arms Service Staff School, Command and General Staff College, and the National War College.

Throughout his career Lieutenant General Erik Peterson held key command and leadership roles, including four tours with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. He served as the Director of the Flight Concepts Division at Fort Eustis, Virginia, and held roles