

Broadway Christian Church. He currently resides at Thomson-Hood Veterans Center.

Mr. Frederick is a true patriot. He and his fellow veterans are American heroes. As members of the "Greatest Generation", they willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am humbled to honor Mr. Paul Frederick and celebrate his 100th birthday before the United States Congress.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE
SEMICENTENNIAL OF THE CITY
OF FINDLAY BEING DESIGNATED
AS FLAG CITY, U.S.A.

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Semicentennial of the City of Findlay being designated as "Flag City, U.S.A.". Through a community-wide effort, spearheaded by the Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Findlay was named the Flag Capital of the United States on Flag Day, June 14, 1968. A proclamation by Congressman Jackson E. Betts became part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on June 12, 1968. Findlay was officially declared "Flag City, U.S.A." on May 7, 1974, by House Joint Resolution 1003, which was introduced by Congressman Tennyson Guyer.

The effort started with John B. Cooke, member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), who believed it was important to fly the American Flag. Mr. Cooke had the idea that every house in Findlay should fly an American Flag on Flag Day, June 14, so he went around the city speaking to businesses and individual citizens to make it happen. A fund was created by the John Hancock Chapter of the SAR to help fund Mr. Cooke's goal to buy 14,000 small flags. The goal was accomplished with enough money remaining to dedicate a plaque in memory of those men and women who fought for our nation's freedom.

The media was notified that Findlay would become the Flag Capital of the United States on Flag Day. On Wednesday, June 12, 1968, the Honorable Jackson E. Betts, Member of Congress from District 4, made a presentation in the House of Representatives and requested that a flag fly over the Capitol to mark the occasion. On June 14, 1968, flags waved, and the enthusiasm was set for the future flying of the National Flag. This tradition continued until 1974. By that time, Congressman Tennyson Guyer had replaced Congressman Betts in Congress. The Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce started a campaign to have the flags fly once again and for Findlay to become Flag City, USA. Finally, Congressman Guyer introduced House Joint Resolution 1003, and Findlay was officially declared Flag City, USA. Since then, Findlay's community leaders, businesses, and residents have taken great pride in this designation.

Findlay has become a growing community of over 40,000 citizens. It is an international community with several world-wide corporations and industries located in Findlay. For the last decade, Findlay has been named the Top Micropolitan Community in the United States by Site Selection Magazine. Every year, the

city is proving that its values are based on hard work, patriotism, and a spirit of outstanding American ingenuity.

Mr. Speaker, by celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Findlay's designation, we recognize the outstanding achievements and pride that Findlay citizens have for their city. Congratulations to the City of Findlay on 50 years of being designated as "Flag City, U.S.A."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 2964.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DRIVE CLEAN INDIANA

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere appreciation that I take this time to recognize Drive Clean Indiana as the organization celebrates its 25th anniversary on June 15, 2024. Through sustainable transportation and energy efforts, Drive Clean Indiana has enhanced the quality of life for residents and visitors of Northwest Indiana and throughout the state for the past 25 years.

Drive Clean Indiana, which originated as South Shore Clean Cities, Inc. before its statewide expansion in 2022, is a member-based, nonprofit coalition that aims to encourage the use of domestic fuels, improve air quality, strengthen energy security, reduce dependence on imported oil, and build the state and local economies. On June 15, 1999, South Shore Clean Cities was founded as the 71st Clean Cities & Communities coalition by the United States Department of Energy. Under the initial leadership of Liz Williams and Deb McClelland-Parker, the coalition continued to grow, serving Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties in Northwest Indiana. In 2005, Carl and Lorrie Lisek became co-coordinators of South Shore Clean Cities. Then, in 2011, Lorrie became the Executive Director of Wisconsin Clean Cities while Carl was named Executive Director of South Shore Clean Cities, a position in which he remains today with Drive Clean Indiana. Drive Clean Indiana's dedicated team has been recognized with countless awards and accolades throughout the years, and the organization is truly worthy of each of these honors. And I would be remiss if I did not mention that, in 2015, Carl and Lorrie were both inducted into the United States Department of Energy's Clean Cities & Communities Hall of Fame.

Drive Clean Indiana's transition to the statewide coalition is a testament to its extraordinary results. The organization has consistently exceeded expectations and surpassed its goals, while its membership has seen immense growth. Since its inception, the organi-

zation has managed many programs and projects including NIPSCO's IN-Charge Project, the BP Cleaner Air through Diesel Emissions Reductions Grant Program, and the Green Fleet Program. More recently, the organization has been heavily involved in fostering the use of electric vehicles across the state through its management of the Go Electric Vehicle Indiana (GOEVIN) program and the Indiana Clean School Bus Consortium (ICSBC). The ICSBC recently secured an award announced by President Biden and the United States Environmental Protection Agency that will bring 51 electric buses to Indiana school districts. It has also collaborated on many other projects including the Midwest Hydrogen Hub, which will promote clean energy through the production of hydrogen by leveraging renewable energy, natural gas, and low-cost nuclear energy. These are just a few of the many remarkable programs and projects in which Drive Clean Indiana is involved.

Over the past 15 years, Drive Clean Indiana has helped to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2 million tons, the number of gasoline gallon equivalents by 300 million gallons, and the number of oil barrels by three million. For their truly innovative and successful energy and transportation initiatives, the organization's members and leaders are worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Drive Clean Indiana on this outstanding milestone. For 25 years, the coalition has continued to make great strides toward improving the quality of the air we breathe and, in turn, improving the lives of countless individuals. Its steadfast commitment to Northwest Indiana and throughout the entire state is recognized and appreciated by all.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF MS. JENNIFER BRINKLEY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the retirement of an exceptional individual, Ms. Jennifer Brinkley. With a career spanning over four decades, Jennifer has dedicated herself to public service with unwavering commitment and integrity.

Jennifer began her journey in 1984 as the municipal court clerk for Tupelo. Her exemplary service and dedication quickly became apparent, and in 2012, she joined the District Attorney's Office for Mississippi's 1st Circuit District. Throughout her tenure, she has been a cornerstone of our community, bringing efficiency, dedication and a profound sense of justice to her role.

Her professionalism and demeanor significantly enhanced the productivity of both the municipal court and the District Attorney's Office. Jennifer's legacy will have a lasting impact on our judicial system and community.

Her professional accomplishments are matched only by her dedication to her family, community, and church. Jennifer's active involvement has made her a beloved figure in all these circles, demonstrating that her impact extends far beyond her professional achievements.

As Jennifer retired at the end of May, her legacy of hard work, compassion, and community service will continue to inspire us all.

We wish Jennifer a joyous and fulfilling retirement. May this new chapter be filled with happiness, peace, and cherished moments with her loved ones. I thank Jennifer for her remarkable service and for being a beacon of dedication and kindness.

Congratulations to Jennifer on her well-deserved retirement.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF AARON DAVID ATTEBERY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of my constituent, Aaron David Attebery, who passed on April 4, 2024, after a long battle with cancer at the age of 35. While his illness was painful and debilitating, he never let it diminish his spirit and contributions to his family, friends, and community.

Aaron lived in the state of Missouri most of his life. He earned the highest rank of Eagle Scout as a youth and attended the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, MO, and graduating Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Missouri S&T.

Aaron began his career working with the John Deere Company where he worked to improve diesel engine performance. He later went on to work for Black & Veatch where he met the love of his life, his wife Rachel Attebery. Aaron will be missed by all, and his legacy will be felt by all who were lucky to know him.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JACK SIMES

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Jack Simes as he retires after more than four decades of federal service.

Mr. Simes has dedicated 43 years of public service to our country and to nine Southern California counties that are home to more than 23 million people. For the last seven years, Mr. Simes served as the Southern California Area Manager for the United States Bureau of Reclamation. As Area Manager, Mr. Simes was responsible for implementing water reclamation and reuse projects under the Title XVI authority, conducting water and related resources planning, water conservation field services, and Native American Affairs. Mr. Simes established constructive working relationships with dozens of locally led water and power districts, guiding them through the process of seeking federal financial assistance for much needed infrastructure improvements.

Mr. Simes brought a can-do spirit and commitment to work that inevitably turned his colleagues and stakeholders into friends. Notably, he has a sign in his office detailing his

motto: be good, be kind, and be of service. Mr. Simes leaves behind a legacy that will be impossible to match.

As a direct result of Mr. Simes's exemplary work, the federal government was able to financially participate in and expedite the development of hundreds of millions of dollars in locally developed water resiliency, conservation and water supply projects that are operating today.

Mr. Speaker, Jack Simes has been an invaluable resource to Members of Congress, our staff, and to the constituents and water agencies we represent in the West. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mr. Simes and wish him and his wife, Karen Simes, a rich and rewarding retirement.

HONORING THE WORK OF BOB PAUTKE

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Bob Pautke, Executive Director of LEAD Clermont Community Leadership Program in Clermont County, Ohio.

Since 2012, Bob has dedicated his time to helping local small business owners and community leaders build their leadership skills to improve the economic vitality and quality of life in Clermont County. He touched the lives of hundreds of LEAD graduates throughout his time.

While Bob's time with the LEAD Clermont Community Leadership Program is ending, Bob's dedication to the Clermont County community continues. He also volunteers with numerous programs throughout Ohio's Second District, including the Clermont County Boys and Girls Club and the Great Oaks Career Campuses Business Advisory Board.

I know Bob's commitment to bettering Clermont County will continue, and I thank him for his tireless dedication to our community.

RECOGNIZING DR. PAUL LEBLANC'S SERVICE TO SOUTH- ERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVER- SITY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Paul LeBlanc for his more than two decades of service to Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). An immigrant, a first generation college student, an acclaimed author, and a renowned instructor, Dr. LeBlanc's impact as President and CEO of SNHU cannot be understated. I commend Dr. LeBlanc for his enduring legacy as an educator and an innovator in higher education that will continue to enrich the lives of people across our nation.

After earning his master's degree and PhD, Dr. LeBlanc worked at Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company and transitioned to a career in education. Dr. LeBlanc held the title of President at Marlboro College in Vermont be-

fore joining Southern New Hampshire University in 2003.

At the time he took the job, SNHU was a local institution with an enrollment of 2,000 students and was struggling economically. Under Dr. LeBlanc's leadership, SNHU transformed itself and has grown to have a worldwide enrollment of more than 225,000 students. Today SNHU is accessible, equitable, and affordable and is the largest non-profit university in the country. After two decades of Dr. LeBlanc's leadership, SNHU has been named one of the "World's Fifty Most Innovative Companies" by Fast Magazine and Dr. LeBlanc himself received numerous accolades, including from Forbes Magazine, Washington Monthly, and the TIAA Institute.

After decades of hard work, including a three month assignment at the Department of Education in 2015, Dr. LeBlanc is stepping aside from his role as President and CEO of SNHU. As a lifelong learner, Dr. LeBlanc hopes to explore and research the development of artificial intelligence during a year-long sabbatical.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I offer my sincere appreciation to Dr. Paul LeBlanc. Dr. LeBlanc has revolutionized education across the State of New Hampshire and country, and he has helped thousands achieve goals that they never thought were possible. I look forward to seeing what his next chapter holds and wish him the best in his academic and professional career.

HONORING SOUTH BEND POLICE OFFICER DAN NAPOLITAN FOR HIS LIFESAVING ACTIONS

HON. RUDY YAKYM, III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize South Bend Police Officer Dan Napolitan, whose quick thinking and decisive action last month likely saved the life of one of his coworkers.

On the evening of May 6, 2024, Officer Napolitan was working the front desk at the South Bend Police Department. Normally, Dan would have been out walking the beat or patrolling the streets of South Bend that night. However, sidelined by a foot injury, Officer Napolitan had recently started light duty assignment while his foot healed.

As he was working, Dan noticed something was wrong when his coworker seated nearby started coughing forcefully. When she stood up from her chair and began walking toward him, Officer Napolitan immediately realized that she was choking. Acting quickly, Dan delivered several back blows to his coworker to try to dislodge the food, but she continued to struggle to breathe. Dan then performed the Heimlich maneuver and some additional back blows, which ultimately cleared his coworker's airway and averted an even scarier outcome. Officer Napolitan's ability to keep a clear head and execute quickly and professionally under pressure likely saved his coworker's life.

For his actions, Officer Napolitan has already been recognized with the South Bend Police Department's Lifesaving Award; an award presented to those who have shown