

HONORING SCOTT DE LEON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Scott De Leon, an esteemed member of our community. Mr. De Leon is being honored for his over twenty-three years of dedicated service with the County of Lake and his four decades of contributions to our community.

Born in Lakeport, California, Mr. De Leon graduated from Clear Lake High School as a member of the Class of 1982. Mr. De Leon completed his graduate studies at California State University, Chico in 1987 and in 1991, he earned his Civil Engineering License.

Following a decade of work for the private sector, including managing his own engineering firm, Mr. De Leon returned to the Lake County service as Water Resources Director in May of 2010. He held many roles in serving Lake County, including Water Resources Director, County Roads Commissioner, Community Development Director, and Public Works Director. His positive and team-focused leadership aided in the development of numerous staff that have become valued leaders of Lake County.

In 2015, Lake County commended his efforts when Mr. De Leon was honored for Outstanding Leadership in protecting America's Environment and Economy. Mr. De Leon played a pivotal role in reducing invasive-species related risk through Lake County's innovative Quagga and Zebra Mussel program, which earned him the "Outstanding Achievement by a Local Government" Award. In 2022, Mr. De Leon was recognized as the County Engineer Association of California's Engineer of the Year, culminating years of his dedicated contributions to this organization.

Mr. De Leon has made impactful contributions to our community, providing a great example for all Lake County youth of what can be achieved by leveraging experiences gained through opportunities and training for public service. Mr. De Leon is a supportive teacher and coach to Lake County youth. He founded Westshore Youth Basketball in 2007, and as coach led the basketball team at his alma mater, Clear Lake High School to great success.

Mr. De Leon is a proud husband of nearly thirty years to his wife, Melody, and is father to their two sons' Joseph and Max.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. De Leon for his dedicated service to our community. His passion, leadership, and unwavering commitment to service have left an indelible mark on us all. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his retirement here today.

HONORING SUPERINTENDENT JAY GOODING, SR.

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the remarkable Superintendent Jay Gooding, Sr. for being a pillar of

our community for decades. Pastor Gooding was raised in the Bronx and continues to give back to his home in so many ways.

Superintendent Gooding began his pastoral journey when he preached his first sermon in 1993 at Miracle Revival Temple. Only three years later Pastor Gooding established the Fellowship Tabernacle Ministries Church of God in Christ. After 13 years of ministry, he was appointed by his father to serve as Pastor at Miracle Revival Temple. As Superintendent in the Church of God in Christ Pastor Gooding oversees 5 churches and serves as their Vice Chairman to the Urban and Civic Affairs Department.

Aside from the positive impact of his ministry, Superintendent Gooding assisted a host of community organizations. He sat on the Board of Directors of the Bronx Business Alliance, served on community board 11, and currently works as the Director of Community Outreach for Jacobi Hospital's SUV (Stand Up to Violence) program. Pastor Gooding's work has touched so many different community members and I am forever grateful.

I thank Superintendent Gooding for all of his wonderful work for the Bronx and the people who make up the community. I look forward to hearing about the Pastor's continued successes and positive impacts on the Bronx.

RECOGNIZING THE HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

HON. GREG LOPEZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. LOPEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of America's heroic veterans and to recognize the Honor Flight Network, which conducts annual trips for veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour the memorials built in celebration of their bravery. On April 28, 2024, High Plains Honor Flight gave many of our courageous veterans this extraordinary opportunity, flying them to our nation's capital. I am pleased to congratulate the April 28, 2024, High Plains Honor Flight and to acknowledge the Korean and Vietnam War veterans of Colorado who took part in it.

Mr. Speaker, those who participated in this flight are as follows:

Korean War Veterans: Pasquale DeMarco, Patricia Gilmore, Kenneth Harvey, Howard Hoxie, Jerry Motooka, Wilbur Noffsinger, Richard Peterson, James Roppo, Terry Udell, Charles Wilson, Jesse Wilson, John Wolf, Wilbur Zeller

Korean and Vietnam War Veteran: Robert J Rea

Vietnam War Veterans: Dale Agesen, Gene Acklie, Gene Anderson, Richard Barrett, Larry Bauer, Mark Bolin, Patrick Branigan, James Brompton, Patrick Calavan, Christopher Cameron, Terrance Carney, Clyde Chess, Timothy Clark, Theodore Coffelt, David Cole, James Cowman, James Curwood, Donald Darnell, Darrel DeGrofftt, Dennis Dooley, John Dubler, Ronald East, Burton Eaton, Richard Ellin, Larry Erickson, Gilbert Espinoza, Donald Foster, David Franson, Jose Gonzales, Donald Greer, Louis Grill, John Grosvenor, Jr., Robert Hanzel, Randall Hayes, Thomas Herret, Jon Howdeshell, Lloyd Jacox, William Kaufman, Laurie King, Randall King,

Thomas Kitzmiller, David Kling, David Krapes, Roger Krumbach, Bernard Larson, Robert LeDoux, Charles Livermont, Alan Lovely, Alonzo Martinez, David Martinez, James McBride, Lyle McBride, Arthur McKown, Edward Melko, Michael Melo, Dean Millard, Gary Mitchell, Quentin Moeller, Juan Mohr, Richmond Morse, Francisco Muniz, Louis Nagel, Fred Neal, Gilbert Pagat, Richard Panter, Dennis Patriquin, Richard Payne, Thomas Pearson, Kenneth Perkins, Joseph Perry, Robert S. Pickett, Robert H. Pickett, Jon Piper, Ronald Pretty, James Prince, Clarence Rarden, Norman Reichardt, William Rideout, Delbert Ritchhart, Feladelfio Romero, Steven Roon, Fred Ruppel, Donald Sammons, Jimmy Sanchez, Daniel Schell, Kenneth Schneider, Richard Searles, Robert Smith, Herbert Teter, Fred Thomas, III, Steven Thompson, Raymond Twiss, Donald Waldburger, Richard Walker, Duane Wallon, Robert Wardell, Robert Warner, Dan Watt, Clifford Wigfield, Steven Witmer, Gary Wright, Michael Wulfack, Michael Yoder, Ernest Young and James Zack, Jr.

It is my distinct privilege as the United States Representative of the 4th District of Colorado to recognize the honor, courage, and sacrifice of these heroes, along with that of all other members of America's Armed Forces. I thank them for their dedication and service to this Nation.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendments to H.R. 8997, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

These two amendments support essential funding for our National Labs and specifically for the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility, or CEBAF, at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, commonly known as JLab, in Newport News, Virginia. CEBAF is a world-leading facility studying the inner properties of nuclei, such as the quark and gluon structure of protons and neutrons. The research conducted at this facility has vastly improved our understanding of the fundamental make-up of matter and is actively supporting collaborative research globally in medium energy physics.

The first amendment highlights the need for funding critically needed infrastructure improvements at CEBAF. The workforce at JLab is rapidly growing with the increased use of CEBAF and the installation of the Department of Energy's High Performance Data Facility. For JLab to effectively support its employees and researchers, the lab needs increased funding to build a modern workspace to match the research conducted at this facility. The final appropriations bill should include \$32 million for JLab to update its CEBAF infrastructure.

The second amendment highlights the importance of an optimal runtime for CEBAF.

Currently, numerous PhD students and researchers are waiting to use the facility for experiments, and the backlog continues to grow as more scientists hope to use this critical technology. The funding in the underlying bill only allows CEBAF to operate 29 weeks of the year, but to meet the research needs and to optimize the use of this facility, CEBAF requires an additional \$10 million to operate for an optimal runtime of 34 weeks. An appropriation of \$160 million for CEBAF operations should be included in the final legislation.

I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman ROB WITTMAN, for cosponsoring these amendments that draw attention to the need for additional funding to spur innovation, create jobs, and facilitate incredible discovery. I urge my colleagues to support these amendments.

HONORING JOHN CARLSON, JR.

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Carlson, Jr., an esteemed member of our wildlife and conservation community. Mr. Carlson is being honored today for his extensive career in wildlife conservation spanning over 35 years and we thank him for his service.

Mr. Carlson was born in Chicago, and currently lives in Roseville with his wife Michelle. Together, they have two children, Zachary and Jacob. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Management from California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt and his Master of Science from Iowa State University in Wildlife Biology.

Mr. Carlson began his career 35 years ago as a biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game. From there, he was promoted to Wildlife Branch Chief and later, to Executive Director of the California Fish and Game Commission. After 21 years serving the Department of Fish and Game, Mr. Carlson went on to spend the next 14 years with the California Waterfowl Association, where he ended his remarkable career as its president. His long career in wildlife conservation is commendable.

Throughout his career, Mr. Carlson has worked tirelessly to give back to our community. As president of California Waterfowl, he directed and oversaw the fee-title acquisition of lands for habitat protection and public use and education, the acquisition of water for the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, and the establishment of upland habitat cover to benefit nesting waterfowl and other wildlife. His commitment to conserving wildlife by emphasizing the need for sound science when making wildlife conservation-related decisions and his positive approach to work is honorable.

Mr. Carlson's dedication to service is further evident through his community involvement. He is an Alumni Fellow of Cohort 12 of the National Conservation Leadership Institute, which provides education and training to wildlife conservation professionals. Additionally, he worked as part of the California Department of Fish and Game Leadership Academy, a program for those interested in careers in wildlife

conservation. Mr. Carlson's philanthropic work did not stop there. For several years, he mentored a young 'student at risk' as part of the Student Buddy Program. We are thankful for his service and wish Mr. Carlson a wonderful retirement.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. Carlson for his dedicated service to the wildlife conservation community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING REVEREND DR. KEITH ELIJAH THOMPSON

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the Reverend Dr. Keith Elijah Thompson. A man of God who is known across the community as a man who inspires, teaches, and instills hope in those around him. Dr. Thompson started out by leading a small home-based bible study for members of his community. His passion for ministry grew and in 1980 he became the founder and pastor of Bronx Miracle Gospel Tabernacle Word of Faith Ministry. Dr. Thompson's ministry continued to grow and later he founded the Brooklyn Miracle Gospel Tabernacle. As his ministry grew, Dr. Thompson's teaching and faith expanded.

Dr. Thompson's community impact has been a blessing in the Bronx. In 2008, he founded the Bronx Resource Community Center. This faith-based community institution helps to improve the lives of community members through skills training, technology training, and other enrichment programs. In 2002, because of his dedication to others, May 24th was declared as Bronx Miracle Gospel Tabernacle Day.

Throughout his four decades of ministry, Keith Elijah Thompson has spread love, positivity, and community inside and outside of the Bronx. Again, I want to celebrate the work of Dr. Thompson and his ministry. As a community staple, I look forward to his continued positive impact.

HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL WINN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Chief Mike Winn as he retires from the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department.

With a passion for public safety, Winn first began his career as a call firefighter with the Greenfield Fire Department in 1991 while attending Greenfield Community College. After graduating in 1993 and receiving his EMT-I certificate, Winn took on a full-time position with the Greenfield Fire Department and continued to move through the ranks, first as a career firefighter, then a captain, before being named Acting Chief in 2008, and later Chief in 2010.

Over the years, Winn had always enjoyed spending time on Cape Cod. In June 2013,

Winn made the move to live on Cape Cod full-time when he was brought on as Fire Chief of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department, after his predecessor, Chief John Farrington, retired after 40 years in the position. Over the next 11 years, Winn diligently served the Barnstable villages of Centerville, Osterville, and Marstons Mills, responding to countless emergencies and helping to guide the community through uncertain times during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Winn not only mentored and shared his expertise with those working alongside him in the Greenfield and Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Departments, but also with firefighters across the Commonwealth. Throughout his career, Winn served on the Massachusetts Hazardous Materials Response Division, the Southeastern Region Homeland Security Advisory Council, and served as President of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts.

On June 28, 2024, during a change of command ceremony, Chief Winn officially retired from the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department and passed the torch to Chief Bryon Eldridge. Over the last 33 years, Winn has dedicated his career to serving the people of Massachusetts, and I wish him many years of well-deserved happiness in retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Chief Michael Winn, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his career and thanking him for his years of service.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NELSON MANDELA ON NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorated Nelson Mandela International Day on July 18th, I take this moment to honor the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela, a South African anti-apartheid and civil rights activist. Mandela's lifetime commitment to fighting on behalf of marginalized groups in South Africa and the world is the reason for Nelson Mandela International Day. This day should reflect the values and integrity we should have in advocating on behalf of the most vulnerable.

Nelson Mandela International Day was first Declared by the United Nations in 2009. The day reminds us never to get complacent about today's injustices and to fight for tomorrow's freedoms. With its timeless message of equality and justice, Mandela's legacy should serve as a call to action for our youth to pursue equitable justice, especially when democracy is under attack. In the words of Mandela, "To be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

Mandela's tenacity and struggle against systemic injustice under South African apartheid are world-renowned. His influence transcends borders, inspiring a global civil rights and social justice movement. Despite Mandela's many accomplishments and distinguished honors, such as a Nobel Peace Prize, his journey to becoming a celebrated civil rights leader