

CONGRATULATING JAMES W.
THOMPSON

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize James W. Thompson for his record-breaking catch. A native of St. Simons, 21-year-old James set a new state record for an almaco jack caught on July 28th.

Measuring in at a whopping 27 pounds and 8 ounces, it broke the previous record by 4 pounds. This is no small feat. The almaco jack is known for its strength and stamina, humbling anglers who do not take it seriously. With this catch, James proved that he is a skilled fisherman.

This is the third time in the past year alone that the record for almaco jack has been broken. It is a reminder that Georgia's coastal waters provide exceptional fishing for anglers of all ages.

It's important that we maintain the health and biodiversity of Georgia's waters, so that our children and grandchildren can enjoy one of our states' favorite pastimes.

CELEBRATING ROBERT WATTS'
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Robert Watts on his 90th birthday. Known as Bobby to many, Mr. Watts is revered for his commitment to the Buffalo community, his entrepreneurial spirit, and his selfless service to our country.

Born on September 2, 1934, Mr. Watts grew up in Buffalo, New York with his parents, Luther and Lola Watts, and his five siblings. After graduating from Seneca High School, Mr. Watts enlisted in the United States Navy in 1951. Stationed in Korea, Mr. Watts served his country with pride until his honorable discharge in 1959.

After his service in the military, Mr. Watts returned to his hometown of Buffalo. Here, he worked diligently at Bethlehem Steel, Curtiss-Wright Corporation, and New York State Thruway Authority and the Department of Corrections. Mr. Watts' exceptional work ethic and commitment to service shone through in every role he held.

Embracing his entrepreneurial ambitions, Mr. Watts opened the Stadium Liquor Store at the corner of Best Street and Jefferson Avenue, by the historic War Memorial Stadium, the then-home of the Buffalo Bills. For nearly 15 years, Mr. Watts' store was a community fixture, providing outstanding service to thousands of loyal customers and fans.

Following his time as a business owner, Mr. Watts joined the NFTA as a bus driver. He always engaged in friendly conversations with travelers, bringing a smile to passengers' days. After a long and successful career, Mr. Watts entered a well-deserved retirement in 1999.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Mr. Watts is deeply committed to his faith. As

a lifelong member of the Pilgrim Baptist Church, Mr. Watts is a cherished friend and mentor to all who attend the church.

Today, Mr. Watts is a devoted and loving husband, father, and brother. He continues to be an inspiration to all who know him, sharing his compassion and dedication to serving others. Please join me in celebrating Mr. Robert Watts on his 90th birthday and thanking him for his service to our country and to our Buffalo community.

CONGRATULATING DEA TUCSON
OFFICE FOR BEING RECOGNIZED
AT THE U.S. INTERDICTION CO-
ORDINATOR AWARDS

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the DEA's Tucson District Office EG-46 for their recognition at the U.S. Interdiction Coordinator Awards.

Strengthening border security and immigration enforcement, while ensuring public safety, is a must for our border communities.

These brave men and women put their lives on the line for us every day, serving on the frontline and ensuring the safety of our communities.

Their hard work and dedication are vital in combating cartels, stopping the flow of drugs, and protecting the citizens of southern Arizona.

In 2023, the Tucson District Office EG-46 conducted 45 drug and drug conspiracy investigations.

One of their major efforts was the DEA Initiative "Operation Overdrive" in April 2023, during which this dedicated group arrested approximately 80 percent of their identified targets.

They seized 1.1 million fentanyl pills, 26.4 pounds of fentanyl powder, and 42 pounds of methamphetamine—equating to 4.26 million deadly doses of fentanyl and 78,000 deadly doses of methamphetamine.

I am truly grateful for the relentless efforts and their commitment to protecting our community.

I thank them for their service and dedication to protecting our Arizona's District 6.

TRIBUTE TO FAIRFAX HIGH
SCHOOL'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fairfax High School in Los Angeles, California upon its 100th Anniversary.

Fairfax High School first opened its doors in 1924, welcoming students onto its campus. It was named after Lord Fairfax, an inspiring mentor and friend to future U.S. President George Washington. The school's first Principal was Rae G. Van Cleve, who served until 1938. Originally designed as an agricultural and mechanical school that taught "practical" skills, programs on the 28-acre campus in-

cluded architecture, forestry, agronomy, and landscaping gardening, as students in that area lived in what was then a largely rural part of Los Angeles. In a few short years, and after the gymnasium and a fine arts building were added, the high school was already an established, esteemed institution in the Fairfax area of Los Angeles.

During World War II, many Fairfax students and alumni joined the war effort by enlisting in the military, selling bonds and holding recycling drives. In the 1950's the school had a large Jewish student body and Modern Hebrew classes were taught. The 1960's and 1970's saw many foreign languages being offered including Latin, German, Hebrew and Chinese. While most of the original campus facilities were demolished in 1966 due to new seismic standards, the iconic rotunda and historic auditorium were spared by preservationists and retrofitted. In 1981 the Fairfax Magnet Center for Visual Arts opened and remains the only visual arts magnet in the Los Angeles Unified School District and in 1984, Dr. Virginia Uribe founded Project 10 at Fairfax High School, the nation's first on-site program that welcomed and supported LGBTQ+ students in a school setting. In the mid-1990's, a group of local theater artists held the first Melrose Trading Post flea market to support art, community and small business. Because of its success, the weekly marketplace now hosts hundreds of unique vendors featuring local dancers, musicians and thespians, and works with Greenway Arts Alliance to support Fairfax High School's leadership and arts programs.

For a century, Fairfax High School has provided thousands of students with an excellent education. The school has produced notable alumni across many fields, including well-known late actors Mickey Rooney, Carole Lombard, and Ricardo Montalban, former Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, molecular biologist and public health advocate Marion Nestle, and former Los Angeles Clippers basketball player Craig Smith.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring Fairfax High School upon its centennial celebration. The entire Los Angeles community joins me in thanking the school for the outstanding educational opportunities it has provided for the youth of California's 30th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING STEVE STIRLING

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and thank Steve Stirling, who is retiring as CEO of Medicine for All People (MAP) International.

MAP International is a Christian, non-profit, global health organization that provides medicine and health supplies to those in need.

This organization is headquartered in Atlanta and does amazing work worldwide. Steve has successfully led this organization since 2014.

Steve has an impressive leadership background in both the non-profit and corporate spaces, and he brought that valuable experience to MAP for over a decade of loyal service.

He has worked tirelessly to bring health and hope to millions of people around the globe.

In addition to his strong leadership, he has led MAP International into entering its 70th year of service with a promising future that includes extending its impact across the globe.

I want to recognize and congratulate Steve on his outstanding career with MAP International and wish him a happy and healthy retirement. I also want to recognize Chris Palombo as the new CEO and congratulate him on his achievement.

CELEBRATING MILLARD FILLMORE SUBURBAN HOSPITAL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital. For half a century, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital has provided the highest level of healthcare to the Town of Amherst and the Weston New York community.

On August 12, 1974, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital opened as a full service community hospital with 150 beds. This achievement was the culmination of thirty years of hard work from community members and organizations in the Town of Amherst and the Town of Clarence. The hospital was built on 31.5 acres of land generously donated by Charles K. Basset, who wanted to address the ever-growing need to have a hospital in the community.

Additionally, the Women's Auxiliary of the Amherst-Clarence Hospital Association was instrumental in the hospital's development, pledging over \$100,000 in 1969 for its construction. The Women's Board of Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital continues to play a vital role in the hospital today, hosting fundraisers to support facility upgrades and fund services in the community.

Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital underwent significant expansions and renovations in 1987, 2008, 2015, and 2018, now standing as a four-story, 400,000 square foot facility. The 2015 expansion, in collaboration with John R. Oishei Children's Hospital, added a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to the hospital. This addition has allowed for Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital to bring comprehensive maternity care to the northtowns of Western New York.

Today, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital is a full acute care hospital with 265 beds. It provides inpatient and outpatient care, diagnostic testing, and subspecialty services equivalent to those often seen in city medical centers. Further, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital was one of the first hospitals in Western New York to offer robotic surgery, with a current fleet of five robotic-assisted consoles.

Please join me in congratulating the employees and leadership of Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital on their 50th anniversary and thanking them for providing quality medical care to Western New York.

CONGRATULATING KIMBERLY ALLEN WHO RECEIVED THE PERFECT ACT SCORE

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kimberly Allen, a Sahuarita High School student, who scored a perfect 36 on the ACT exam.

With this achievement, Kimberly joined a select group, as only 0.18 percent of test takers achieved a perfect score in 2023.

This means that, out of nearly two million students, just 2,543 students in the country earned this honor.

Kimberly's achievements go beyond academics. She serves on the Sahuarita Teen

Advisory Board, where she organizes events and programs for local teens.

She also volunteers with the Animal League of Green Valley, sharing her lifelong love of animals.

As for her future, Kimberly aspires to pursue a career that combines her passions for science and art.

I am excited to see what the future holds for Kimberly and congratulate her on this incredible achievement.

I am proud to represent her and so many other bright students in Congress.

HONORING TRAVIS JORDAN PAMENI AND OWEN JAMES ELLIOTT

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 9, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of two Georgia national guard soldiers, Travis Jordan Pameni and Owen James Elliott. Both at the young age of 23, Travis and Owen passed away in Baghdad on Wednesday from unrelated, non-combat causes.

Mr. Pameni was assigned to the 1st Battalion of the 121st Infantry Regiment based in Lawrenceville, and Mr. Elliott was assigned to the 1st Battalion of the 188th Field Artillery Regiment based in Savannah. Mr. Elliott's unit was deployed in the Middle East in December of 2023 and focused on air defense artillery.

We are extremely saddened by the loss of Specialists Pameni and Elliott. Both were devoted, selfless individuals, who served the state of Georgia and our Nation.

The contributions and memory of Specialists Pameni and Elliott will forever be cherished by the state of Georgia and our country. I extend my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of Mr. Pameni and Mr. Elliott.