

group of African American servicemembers who served our nation honorably and with distinction in World War II. In recognition of their service and sacrifice, the Tuskegee Airmen were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on March 29, 2007. Although the Airmen are now well known for their wartime accomplishments, their feats of heroism went unheralded for decades.

Western Pennsylvania produced more Tuskegee Airmen than any other region in the United States. Hailing from cities and towns across Western Pennsylvania, including places like Erie, Aliquippa, Washington, Pittsburgh and Johnstown, ninety-five men and one woman served as flight instructors, pilots, bombardiers, navigators, and flight-line personnel.

They and their fellow Airmen served in the 332nd Fighter Group, which was based at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Tuskegee, Alabama.

By the end of the war, the Airmen flew more than 1,500 missions and 15,500 sorties in North Africa, continental Europe, and Sicily. The Fighter Group shot down 112 enemy aircraft, destroyed 150 planes on the ground, and boasted one of the most successful escort records in the military.

Western Pennsylvanians contributed honorably to this legacy.

Lieutenant Robert Johnson, an honors graduate of Schenley High School in Pittsburgh, was the youngest Tuskegee pilot commissioned in the Army Air Corps.

Lieutenants Elmer Taylor and James Wright of Pittsburgh and Carl Woods of Mars were killed in action.

Lieutenant Cornelius Gould, a graduate of Westinghouse High School in Pittsburgh, was shot down, captured, and held as a prisoner of war.

Lieutenant Calvin Smith of Aliquippa stood against discrimination when a group of African American officers were denied entry into an officers' club at Freeman Field.

Rosa Alford, the lone female from Western Pennsylvania, returned after serving honorably during the war to give back to her community, as a counselor at New Brighton High School in Beaver County.

On September 15, 2013, the country's largest outdoor memorial for the Tuskegee Airmen will be dedicated in Sewickley, Pennsylvania. This memorial will serve as fitting tribute to these individuals and all Tuskegee Airmen who served the United States with bravery, honor and distinction. They exemplify the very best our Commonwealth and nation have to offer. Amidst hardship and discrimination, the Airmen rose to the challenge and answered the call to service.

We are proud of these Western Pennsylvanians and honored to recognize them today.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHEF'S RESTAURANT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 90th anniversary of one of Buffalo's most beloved dining establishments, Chef's Restaurant.

In 1923, Chef's Restaurant opened its doors on the corner of Seneca and Chicago, and soon established itself as a fixture in the neighborhood.

During the restaurant's early years, a hard-working employee named Lou Billittier began to move his way up the ranks. Beginning as a dishwasher and busboy, Lou was promoted to a waiter. Eventually, he earned the title of restaurant manager.

By 1950, Lou had become co-owner of Chef's. Four years later, he stood proudly as the sole owner of the neighborhood staple.

For over 60 years, Chef's has stayed true to their motto, "Where family and friends meet to eat." The late Lou Billittier, along with his daughter Mary Beth and son Louis John, have worked tirelessly to run their establishment according to the values of community involvement and customer service. The Billittiers believe in being involved in the restaurant's day-to-day process, and know that a personal touch goes a long way.

Over the years, Chef's has mastered blending tradition and innovation. The restaurant began with just seven tables and a small banquet room. Three years ago, they implemented a drive-through window which enabled the restaurant's sales to increase. Now, the famous dining establishment is innovating again with their plans to create a food truck that will take Chef's notable Italian cuisine to the streets of Buffalo.

In addition to their renowned restaurant, the Billittiers are known for their charity. Lou Billittier memorably had former Buffalo Sabre Rob Ray shave his head in front of a crowd of supporters for "Bald for Bucks," a fundraiser for cancer research and patient support programs at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

On September 11th, 2013, in honor of its 90th anniversary, the restaurant will play host to the "World's Largest Pasta Dinner." Proceeds from the event will benefit the Wounded Warriors Project which honors and empowers wounded U.S. troops and assists in making their post-service transition a smooth one.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize Chef's Italian Restaurant for providing 90 years of dining and community service to Western New York, as well as the Billittier family for their continued hard work and generosity. As one of my personal favorites, I am proud to honor their legacy today, and I wish them the absolute best in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING COLLEGE HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor College Hill Missionary Baptist Church, which was organized in 1907 under an oak tree on the south side of Florence Avenue in west Jackson, Mississippi approximately 100 yards from its present site. College Hill emerged from humble beginnings and has made continual advancement in all phases of development.

After an initial period of services in Robinson Hall, located on Rose and Pascagoula streets, the present site was set aside by Dr.

L. G. Barrett, the second president of Jackson College (now Jackson State University), as a gift to the people of west Jackson for religious services theory. Thus the bond between this church and the college was formed. The designated tract was to be used for none other than religious purposes.

The church was a frame building with no classrooms, kitchen, nor plumbing. After growth in membership, some renovations were made. In 1957, under the leadership of Reverend R. E. Willis, the Education Building was completed in 1967. The sanctuary was modernized and the church grew to full-time worship and an organization composed of various auxiliaries.

Under the leadership of Reverend Hoses J. Hine, pastor since August 1990, College Hill has experienced tremendous growth through restructuring, revitalization and initiation of new ministries. With Evangelism as the focus, membership has increased dramatically and the budget has grown consistently, College Hill has moved to two Sunday morning services, 8:00 and 11:00, and study service and activity throughout the week.

Building on a solid foundation, Pastor Hines ushered in the concept of Team Ministry. In addition to Evangelism, Christian Education, Community Outreach, Extended Ministries (Food, clothing and Health Care), Children and Youth Ministry have become major focuses.

In October 2000, College Hill completed and dedicated a new modern Family Life Center. Plans are underway for a new 700 seat new sanctuary. Founded on principles of ministry, mission and Christian education, College Hill's major focus for the future is evangelism (Matthew 28: 19–20).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing College Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

EASTLAKE ALL-STARS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary merit of the Eastlake All-Stars from Sammamish, WA today, September 12, 2013.

The Eastlake All-Stars (Northwest) won the WA state championship, and then the regional championship, defeating Billings, Montana (Big Sky Little League) 13–1 in four innings. They advanced as far as the United States semi-final of the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Their route was inspirational. After losing to New England, they rallied to defeat the Southwest, Midwest, and Southeast teams before advancing to the semi-final. Facing off against New England once again in a rollercoaster game, they were defeated 13–14.

Throughout the Little League World Series they demonstrated great cohesion and teamwork. Congratulations to the Eastlake All-Stars for an outstanding tournament at the Little League World Series; they are deserving of every special recognition. The players and coaches who made this excellent season possible are listed below.

Players: Will Armbruester, Cameron Bowers, Adam Carper, Jack Carper, Dalton Chandler, Jacob Dahlstrom, Bryce Delay, Nathan

Fitzgibbons, Jack Matheson, Dylan Matsuoka, Austin Oh, Zack Olson, Jack Rud, and Jack Titus.

Coaches: Rob Chandler, Matt Fitzgibbons, and Jamie Matsuoka.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND DESIGNATING MAY 16, 2014 AS “NATIONAL NONPROFIT DAY”

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the importance of nonprofit organizations and designating May 16, 2014 as “National Nonprofit Day.” I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my friend and colleague, Congressman TOM ROONEY for introducing this resolution with me.

Nonprofit organizations have made many important contributions to our nation. Over the past decade, the number of nonprofits has risen steadily, and there are approximately 2.3 million of them now operating in the United States. Whether these groups are working to improve education or to protect environmental resources, they all have the same goals: to enact meaningful change in our world and to improve human lives.

Many nonprofits support science and research that will have a significant impact on future generations. For instance, there are nonprofit organizations that support research to fight diseases such as Cancer and HIV/AIDS. Many other organizations advocate for vulnerable populations across the globe—for refugees, for the homeless, and for our nation’s veterans. They educate and teach, as well as engage with local communities to improve the quality of life for all.

In addition to being a force for change and progress, the nonprofit sector is vital to the economic security of the United States. In fact, the growth rate of the nonprofit sector has surpassed the rate of both the business and government sector. In 2010, nonprofits added nearly \$780 billion to our national GDP and employed 1 in 10 working Americans. Nonprofit organizations also facilitate charitable giving and community activism, and the combined donations and volunteer hours of individuals to nonprofits are worth billions of dollars annually.

But perhaps most importantly, nonprofit organizations are founded and managed by people trying to make the world a better place. Whether they are abroad or at home, the work that these men and women do is incredibly meaningful. Without the people behind these organizations—working tirelessly to change the world, sometimes just one life at a time—the nonprofit sector would not be the force for good that it has become today.

Mr. Speaker, nonprofit organizations advocate for solutions to some of the great challenges facing our nation and the world, and they deserve to be recognized for their valuable contributions to society. No matter their focus, nonprofits play a pivotal role in shaping the future of America. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and to join me in designating May 16, 2014 as “National Nonprofit Day.”

RECOGNIZING THE CHEEKWAGA PATRIOTIC COMMISSION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission as they are awarded the 2013 Community Service Award by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

The Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission was established almost 40 years ago in response to the Town of Cheektowaga’s designation as a National Bicentennial Community by the state and federal governments. The founding officers devoted their time to planning a number of activities to celebrate our nation’s 200th birthday, including a flag pole dedication, Appreciation Days for the Town’s veterans and firemen, and the unveiling of the Town’s Bicentennial Calendar. Their dedication demonstrates the pride the officers have in their country, which is both honorable and commendable.

The Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission continues their great work today, giving residents and businesses in Cheektowaga the opportunity to show their patriotism. The group sponsors and coordinates the July 4th Parade as well as the activities and fireworks display in Town Park. These activities bring together the community to celebrate their pride in the United States of America.

The Commission donates their time and talent to projects that benefit and entertain the residents of Cheektowaga and Western New York. They worked with the Town Park Homeowners Association, the Polish-American Festival Committee, the Federation of German-American Societies, and the Cheektowaga Cultural Society to establish a pavilion in Town Park.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize my good friends in the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission for the important role they have played in our community for the past 40 years. I sincerely appreciate their efforts, and wish them much continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING BIG SURF WATERPARK

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Big Surf Waterpark, a beloved institution of Tempe, Arizona for the past 44 years, for their designation as a Historical Mechanical Engineering Landmark by the Arizona delegation of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

No other amusement or water park has received this honor, and Big Surf is just the third landmark designated in Arizona by the ASME. It is easy to forget how innovative the design of Big Surf’s Waikiki Beach Wave Pool was at the park’s opening in 1969. Phil Dexter invented the wave generation process after a 1965 trip to the California coast. He sought to

recreate ocean waves, first building a tabletop prototype for which he applied for patent rights in 1966, and then a 1,000-gallon, 40-foot by 30-foot prototype in an abandoned billiard hall. The Big Surf pool is an exact replica of the model and was built, designed, and engineered by John Hauskins, then a 19-year-old student at the University of Arizona, at the scale of 2.5 million gallons of re-circulating water within a span of 2.5 acres. To this day, children enjoy the same original components for generating waves as they did in 1969, and Mr. Hauskins continues to serve our county in innovative ways as director of transportation.

The innovations at Big Surf have come to define the waterpark industry and signify, then and now, the spirit of industry prevalent in Arizona’s Ninth District. I am proud to congratulate Big Surf Waterpark, Phil Dexter, and John Hauskins on their honor conferred by ASME, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT TRENT BROWN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trent Brown of Boy Scout Troop 120 in Solon, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Trent landscaped and installed a bench and grill at Lake Macbride State Park. The work ethic Trent has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Trent on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Morning Star Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi.

In the summer of 1925, Morning Star Baptist Church came into existence as a result of a split from Pearlie Grove Baptist Church of