

full participation of all in the life and bounties of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation as a whole.

HONORING CALIFORNIA'S
GEOTHERMAL INDUSTRY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor California's Geothermal Industry as we celebrate Geothermal Awareness Month. It is important to recognize the success of existing geothermal facilities in California and the great value in promoting the development of new geothermal power, one of California's greatest natural resources.

Geothermal energy is an excellent source of clean, renewable energy that supports thousands of jobs across our district and state. Not only does the production of geothermal energy boost our economy and reduce our dependence on foreign oil, it provides counties with important royalty payments which they use to pay for important priorities like public safety, road maintenance and law enforcement. Furthermore, geothermal energy is critical to California's renewable and low carbon energy goals.

Geothermal energy is locally produced and boosts rural economies through jobs, royalties, tax payments and more. While in development, a geothermal power project will employ hundreds of individuals during construction and post-construction, more than most other renewable technologies. I am proud to represent The Geysers, which lies beneath the surface of Lake and Sonoma Counties, employs 300 full-time employees at Calpine, fifty full-time employees at the Northern California Power Agency's two Geysers power plants and more than 150 contractors. The Geysers is also the largest taxpayer in both Sonoma and Lake Counties.

Geothermal power benefits communities across the state, while providing important environmental benefits. In the south, The Salton Sea Restoration and Renewable Energy Initiative, a plan to save an important source of water and minerals in the state, can add up to 1,700 megawatts of low-impact, cost-competitive geothermal energy to the State's power grid. In the north, the Geysers maximizes the economic and environmental benefits of the resource, and helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the equivalent of removing almost half a million cars from the road, meaning cleaner air for local towns and cities.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize May 21, 2015 as Geothermal Awareness Day and honor California's Geothermal Industry for ensuring that new and existing geothermal power is part of a diverse and sustainable energy mix now and in the future.

CELEBRATING THE PUBLIC
SERVICE OF JOSEPH HOUCK

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service of Joseph Houck, who retires after 30 years with the Summit Fire Department including seven years as Fire Chief and Director.

Chief Houck obtained an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Fire Science Technology from Union County College. He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program and also completed the New Jersey's Certified Public Manager Program and received a Bachelor of the Arts Degree in Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Chief Houck started with the Summit Fire Department in 1985 as a volunteer firefighter and became a career firefighter in 1987. Due to his dedication and skill he became a recognized leader in the department and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1995, Battalion Chief in 2000, Deputy Chief in 2005 and Chief and Director in 2008. In addition, Chief Houck served as a New Jersey State Fire Instructor and was the City of Summit's Fire Official.

During his accomplished tenure, Chief Houck achieved a number of significant accomplishments in service to the City of Summit and in the name public safety. The Summit Fire Department was accredited by the Center on Fire Accreditation International—the only Fire Department in the state to earn such recognition—and the Department's reputation for professional and timely service improved under his stewardship. He managed numerous disaster responses, including Hurricane Sandy, and was a vital part of the City's emergency management team. His insight, guidance and experience proved extremely valuable during challenging times.

Chief Houck has also been a member of the New Jersey Career Fire Chiefs Association and has been its liaison to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness Emergency Services Sector, a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and served on its Emergency Management Committee working on interstate mutual aid plans.

I wish Chief Houck many years of happiness in his retirement spent with his wife, Irene, and his children. I thank him for his dedicated public service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRUCE
FARRIS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of a local Fresno icon, Bruce Farris, who passed away on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at the age of 88.

Bruce was born on March 25, 1927, in Coldwater, Michigan, to Ross and Ruth Farris. At the age of four, with the Great Depression limiting jobs, the family gathered their belongings and drove to California in their Hudson

Essex automobile. They settled in Reedley and three years later moved to Fresno. There, Bruce attended Daily Elementary School, Hamilton Junior High, and graduated from Fresno High School in 1945. At Fresno High, Bruce played baseball, basketball, and most importantly, during his senior year, he wrote for the Fresno High Owl.

Following high school, Bruce attended Fresno State College for two years where he played basketball and wrote for the Daily Collegian as a reporter and an editor. After college, he worked for the Fresno Guide and the St. Louis Cardinals organization. At the age of 21, he was hired by the Fresno Bee. His career began by reporting on Fresno State athletics, and later expanded to a broader range of sporting events. What distinguished Mr. Farris from other reporters, and what made his career so impressive, was his enthusiasm for his job and his love for all sports. Additionally, Mr. Farris was unbiased and fair, making it a point to report objectively.

While working at the Fresno Bee, Bruce worked with a secretary named Barbara Harper, whom he married in 1955. Bruce and Barbara had three children, Greg, Nancy, and Sandra. They raised their children in a home on First Street, and opened their door to many, from people from church, to neighborhood kids, and friends, relatives, and foreign exchange students. Everyone was welcome in their home at any time.

In 1997, Mr. Farris was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame after decades of covering Fresno State athletics. Afterwards, Mr. Farris went on to report for the Fresno Bee as the newspaper's outdoors and golf writer. He worked at the Fresno Bee for 23 years before retiring in December 2002. Bruce had a truly amazing 52 year long career.

According to his daughter Nancy, Mr. Farris was defined by his faith, love of family, and love of sports, three things which led him to be such a great man. Mr. Farris' loss is heartbreaking for Fresno, and his passing will be felt by the many friends that he has gained throughout the years. Everyone that knew Mr. Farris describes him as a kind man who truly cared for others, and who was respected by everyone who had the honor of knowing him.

Mr. Farris' wife, Barbara, died in 2007. He is survived by his one son, Greg, two daughters, Nancy and Sandra, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild on the way. Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the wonderful life and distinguished career of Bruce Farris. Mr. Farris' passing is a loss to our community. While his presence will be greatly missed, his legacy will continue through his writing.

MATTHEW GOELLNER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Matthew Goellner as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2015.

Matthew will graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 28, 2015.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Matthew's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass on what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Matthew and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Air Force officer.

As Matthew embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy.

I would like to send Matthew my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO PUBLISHER DOROTHY LEAVELL AND THE CHICAGO CRUSADER NEWSPAPER ON ITS 75TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the Chicago Crusader Newspaper is celebrating its 75th year Anniversary with a festive gala on June 5th, 2015 at the Loews Chicago Hotel and I take this opportunity to commend and congratulate them for 75 years of pleading the cause for Black America. To maintain itself for 75 years as a free and independent Black oriented publication is indeed a great business accomplishment.

The Chicago Crusader's mission has not changed since it was established by Mrs. Leavell's late husband, Balm M. Leavell and his late partner Mr. Joseph H. Jefferson. The Chicago Crusader was founded in 1940, was published in the Ida B. Wells Housing Development and financed with donations.

Mrs. Dorothy Leavell has worked at the Crusader for more than fifty years and has been editor and publisher, for forty-seven years since the death of her late husband. The Chicago Crusader Newspaper and Mrs. Dorothy Leavell affectionately know to "tell it like it is". In 1941, the Chicago Crusader acquired the Gary Crusader and they are recognized as one of Chicago and Gary's most successful Black owned business enterprises.

The Chicago/Gary Crusader maintains its roots in the heart of the Black community with its headquarters being located in the 6400 Block of South King Drive in Chicago. Mrs. Dorothy Leavell is a stalwart member and leader of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, has served as Chairman of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, is a patron of the Arts and a Crusader for Civil Rights, equal opportunity and equal justice for all.

We salute you Chicago/Gary Crusader, we salute you Mrs. Dorothy Leavell, may you and the Crusader forever live.

HONORING YOUNTVILLE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lee Hart and the Yountville Cemetery Association, caretakers for the George C. Yount Pioneer Cemetery in Napa County. The cemetery is named after George C. Yount, an early settler, who was also the first person to plant grapevines in the Napa Valley.

Yount himself was buried in the cemetery in 1865 before it was purchased by his son-in-law to be preserved for future generations. The Yountville Cemetery Association was created in 1892, and took on the responsibility for its upkeep and preservation. By 1959, California recognized the cemetery as a state historical landmark. The cemetery is the final resting place for over one hundred of our nation's veterans and their families, and also includes historic Native American burial grounds.

The association's all-volunteer staff continues to maintain the grounds year-round, along with responding to family requests and handling the few burials that still occur there each year. This year marks 150 years since Yount's passing and 50 years since Lee Hart joined the Association Board as its President.

Mr. Hart is a local historian and authority on Yount's history and has been volunteering at the George C. Yount Cemetery and Ancient Burial Grounds for 50 years. In 1965, the organization lacked organization and volunteers. Hart decided to help create a new board with by-laws and fifty years later continues volunteering. Hart was just 25 years old when he lost his parents three months apart in 1965. His mother's family, long time Yountville residents were buried in the Yountville Cemetery. As such, Hart made the decision to bury his parents in Yountville.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Lee Hart and the Yountville Cemetery Association at this time. Their commitment to maintaining the George C. Yount Pioneer Cemetery has preserved an important part of Napa and California's history.

THE UNITED STATES' COMMITMENT TO FIGHT AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, April 2nd was expected to be just another day at Garissa University College in Kenya. But in the early morning hours, students awoke in terror as armed gunman stormed the campus. They claimed to be militants from Al-Qaeda's offshoot—Al-Shabaab.

The students' fate was determined by their religion. The terrorists allowed Muslims to leave and kept an unknown number of Christians hostage. After nearly 15 hours of fear, 147 people were killed.

Groups like Al-Shabaab, ISIS, Boko Haram, and many more allow for no compromise and

are intent on spreading oppression and fear amongst those who do not share their ideology.

I commend the first responders and ordinary Kenyans who showed tremendous heroism that day, and my deepest condolences go out to the families and victims of this senseless attack.

H. Res. 213 reaffirms United States' commitment to the multilateral, global fight against violent extremists.

We must be vigilant in this fight, and we must allow for no compromise when there are threats to freedom.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING GRANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Granger Middle School in Aurora, Illinois, for being named an Illinois Horizon School to Watch by the Association of Illinois Middle-Grade Schools.

The Association of Illinois Middle-Grade Schools recognizes educational programs that promote quality and fairness in order to provide educators, parents, and students with the best learning environment possible. Alongside the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grade Reform, the Association of Illinois Middle-Grade Schools designates certain institutions that fit these criteria as an Illinois Horizon School to Watch.

Granger Middle School was included for the second time on this list because the faculty, staff, and students have consistently demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, sensitivity to the needs of their students, and a commitment to creating equal opportunity in the classroom. Additionally, Granger Middle School's dedicated faculty and involved parents make them one of the best middle schools in the state of Illinois. These qualities create not only a terrific educational experience inside the classroom, but also produce a community that supports and encourages students long after their time at Granger is complete.

Congratulations to Granger Middle School for being named an Illinois Horizon School to Watch.

INTRODUCTION OF SIMON WIESENTHAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to introduce the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act.

This important bill will support efforts around the country to increase awareness and understanding of the Holocaust through educational programs. States across the country encourage their schools to teach about the atrocities