

John Mercer Langston, the first African-American member of Congress from Virginia, served as Virginia State's first president. Dr. Makola Abdullah, the 14th and current president, is the youngest African American ever to receive a Ph.D. in engineering.

I call on my colleagues to join me in celebrating Virginia State University's receipt of this momentous award in recognition of its invaluable contributions to Virginia and the entire nation.

TRIBUTE TO CLARK V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 24, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of *Clark v. Board of Directors*. The decision *Clark v. Board of Directors* rejected segregation and race discrimination and helped advance civil rights in the United States. Drake University of Des Moines, Iowa will be hosting a commemorative celebration.

Susan Clark, a 12-year-old African-American girl was denied admission to her neighborhood public school based on her race. In 1868, the Iowa Supreme Court ruled in favor of Susan Clark, declaring that, "separate but equal" was unconstitutional according to the equality provisions of the Iowa Constitution. *Clark v. Board of Directors* is considered a landmark decision made 86 years before the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954. Russell Lovell, a Drake University emeritus law professor, said, "*Clark v. Board of Directors* was one of the most important court cases in our history. The decision continues to be vital and relevant today—not only in its rejection of segregation and racial discrimination, but also as a leading precedent for the Iowa Supreme Court's independent constitutional analysis."

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the 150th anniversary of *Clark v. Board of Directors* because of the important role this decision has played in our history to eliminate racial discrimination and segregation. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in celebrating this monumental decision.

CONGRATULATING SKYWEST AIRLINES ON BEGINNING ITS SERVICE AT PLATTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 24, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate SkyWest Airlines on beginning its round-trip service between Plattsburgh, New York, and Washington Dulles.

On March 20, 2018, SkyWest won approval from the U.S. Department of Transportation to become the new Essential Air Services Provider at Plattsburgh International Airport. SkyWest, branded as United Express, will offer 12 round-trip flights a week to and from

Washington Dulles International Airport. This new connection between the Washington metropolitan area and the North Country will serve employers and institutions for business travel, foster tourism in the Adirondacks, and link Plattsburgh with the rest of the world through greater access to international flights. SkyWest will also proudly take over as the flight provider for the North Country Honor Flight to continue serving North Country veterans and their families.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to welcome SkyWest to Plattsburgh International Airport and to the North Country, and wish them the best of luck as they begin this important service to Northern New York. This connection presents a major opportunity for the community, and I look forward to seeing the economic development that it will bring to the region.

HONORING MR. GILLIE CASTILLO

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 24, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gillie Castillo, whose career included service to our country as well as to the City of Albuquerque. Mr. Castillo is a beloved member of our community filled with unconditional love who makes friends everywhere he goes.

Born in Valencia, New Mexico in 1934, Mr. Castillo joined the Navy in 1952 and served during the Korean War as well as in the years that followed. Part of his service took place on the USS *Randolph*, an Essex-Class aircraft carrier. Mr. Castillo completed his service in 1955, but to this day he remains deeply proud to be a veteran and appreciative of his opportunity to serve our country.

After returning home from the Navy, Mr. Castillo married Cathy Apodaca, who he met at a dance in 1954. The couple has been married for 63 years and has six children, 11 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren. Mr. Castillo attends St. Anne Catholic Church in Albuquerque.

For years, Mr. Castillo worked for the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department. He began at the Los Altos Golf Course and went on to serve as a supervisor at the Arroyo Del Oso Golf Course, retiring in 1988. He also supervised the building of the Puerto Del Oso Golf Course. Mr. Castillo's work led him to develop a love for golf, and he often played five to seven times per week.

Mr. Castillo's passion for staying physically active also extended beyond golf. He was the coach of many of his son's baseball teams and attended all of his grandchildren's softball games. He also played and umpired in many senior softball leagues himself.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States and the City Albuquerque, I want to thank Mr. Gillie Castillo for his valuable service to our country and community, as well as for his friendship.

TRIBUTE TO S. S. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 24, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a special Iowa church congregation in Atlantic, Iowa. Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church celebrated Mass to commemorate its 125th anniversary on Sunday, August 5, 2018.

In 1870, Father Moynaghgan gathered families together and organized an Atlantic congregation. Father Edward Gaule became the first resident priest for the local parish in 1873. The Diocese of Des Moines was formed in 1911 and included southwest Iowa and Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. The church has been through many changes and renovations, including new buildings, a rectory, and a Parish Center. On September 15, 2017, Father Chinnappan Devaraj became the current pastor and Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church remains one of the bedrock institutions of this Iowa town.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate the members of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church for their many years of faithful attendance and service to God. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church and wishing the Church and the community of Atlantic nothing but joy in the years ahead.

DEATHS FROM GUN VIOLENCE

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 24, 2018

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Americans are dying from gun violence and this Congress continues to do nothing.

Gun violence in America has become a daily reality in our cities, in our suburbs and in rural communities, yet this Republican-controlled Congress does nothing.

Instead, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle offer their 'thoughts and prayers' on social media while collecting NRA checks with zero after zero on them.

Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker, money has poisoned our politics with deadly results. No other peer nation sees the level of gun violence that occurs in America—perhaps because our peer nations don't have a gun lobby dedicated to a dangerous and misguided 'gun everywhere, commonsense nowhere' agenda that kills Americans on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the names of 244 Americans, from just three Congressional districts: Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District, North Carolina's 13th Congressional District and North Dakota's At-Large Congressional District, who've been lost to gun violence in recent years.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 17TH DISTRICT

1. Michael Davis
2. Sharae Thompson
3. Xander Thompson, 3