

Post 1619 have accomplished and thank them for their dedication to our veterans. Those who serve deserve the respect of a grateful nation, and the hard work of Post 1619 represents an important step in the right direction.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES  
HARRELL, JR.

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mr. James Harrell, Jr. of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, for his service in the United States Navy and his continued service at home with the Veterans of Foreign War post in Norwood, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Harrell served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. Upon returning home, he committed to selflessly serve his community and fellow veterans. He joined VFW Post 7213 of Norwood and eventually became Commander of the Post after holding several leadership positions with the organization.

In 2011, Mr. Harrell helped create the Interboro School District Memorial Day Contest to better connect students and veterans. Additionally, he helped implement the annual Flag-In Ceremony, where students place flags on the graves of over 5,000 veterans at Holy Cross Cemetery in our district. Mr. Harrell continues to dedicate his life to the service of our nation and even manages to help young people recognize the sacrifice that so many Americans have made for our country.

I commend Mr. James Harrell, Jr. for his honorable service to our country and I thank him for his continued effort to bring together his community to honor our country's veterans.

SECURING ELECTRONIC RECORDS  
FOR VETERANS' EASE ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3634, the Securing Electronic Records for Veterans' Ease (SERVE) Act of 2017. This is an important piece of legislation and I am proud to support it.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is an educational benefit program for veterans who have courageously served our country since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Through this bill, tuition and fee payments, as well as a monthly housing allowance, are paid to schools on behalf of veterans based on the length of their period of active duty. H.R. 3634 directs the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide these veterans with verification of the amount of their monthly housing stipend. This verification would also be available online in the same way that the VA provides information about other benefits it offers.

This bill is the simplest way to clarify a living expense for those who have sacrificed for their country. Since 2009, this program has

provided benefits to over 773,000 veterans and their family members, providing over \$20 billion in benefits. As a representative from Georgia, a state that hosts a number of military bases, supporting this bill is the least I can do to make life easier for veterans and their family members who are transitioning to life after active duty.

TRIBUTE TO DR. TAKASHI  
KITAMURA

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Takashi Kitamura, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern. On November 12, 2017, Dr. Kitamura received the Peter and Patricia Gruber International Research Award, from the Society for Neuroscience. Supported by The Gruber Foundation, the award recognizes young neuroscientists for outstanding research and educational pursuit in an international setting.

Dr. Kitamura has made three major contributions in his career to date. First, he demonstrated that there are two types of excitatory neurons in layer II of the entorhinal cortex, "island cells" and "ocean cells," both of which he named, and that pyramidal island neurons cluster in a series of bulblike structures while stellate ocean cells surround the structures. Second, in collaboration with another graduate student, he determined the function of each cell type, revealing island cells to control timing and navigation and ocean cells to encode static location. Third, he identified engrams and circuits crucial for systems consolidation of memory, which leads to the formation of long-term memories in the neocortex.

Dr. Takashi Kitamura earned his doctorate in biology at Kyushu University in Japan. His thesis, "Molecular Mechanisms of Adult Hippocampal Neurogenesis," sought to identify the role of entorhinal hippocampal neuronal circuits in the formation of episodic memory and revealed important insight that formed the basis for his postdoctoral research at the Mitsubishi-Kagaku Institute as well as further research at the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Kitamura's work is significant because it contributes significantly to the federally-funded research investment in my congressional district.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Kitamura. With distinguished academicians work like Dr. Kitamura, we will have better understanding of cognitive impairments and Alzheimer's disease.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, my vote was not recorded because I was traveling with the

Secretary of the Navy. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 622.

IN RECOGNITION OF FREDERICK  
M. LYNCH

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mr. Frederick M. Lynch of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania for his military service in the U.S. Air Force, and continued service in his community, particularly his efforts to improve his community's relationship with their law enforcement.

While in the Air Force, Mr. Lynch served in the Honor Guard and as a Security Specialist. Following his service he returned home to North Wales, Pennsylvania with a commitment to continue serving the public.

After his decision to dedicate his life to public service, Mr. Lynch enrolled in and graduated from Upper Gwynedd Township's Police Academy. After entering the force, Mr. Lynch realized he had found his calling. He particularly enjoyed his work to help bring closer his community and their law enforcement.

This effort took many forms. He became a leader at the Upper Gwynedd Junior Police Academy where he trained young officers for twenty-one years. He also taught the Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or DARE, program in local schools, expanding the program's positive impact on youth throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania. Today, Mr. Lynch continues to be active in the Police Academy, as well as the area's Boy Scouts troop, where he serves as a mentor to young scouts so they may contribute to their community just as he has throughout his career and beyond.

I thank Frederick M. Lynch for his service to the United States. Through his time in the military, to his many contributions in his local community, his commitment to be a positive influence for others has been unwavering and invaluable.

VETERANS APPRENTICESHIP AND  
LABOR OPPORTUNITY REFORM  
ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 7, 2017*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3949, the Veterans Apprenticeship and Labor Opportunity Reform (VALOR) Act. H.R. 3949 aims to increase access to apprenticeship training programs for veterans.

Currently, apprenticeship programs are registered state-by-state, creating a cumbersome paper trail and bureaucratic barriers to opening new programs. This legislation aims to streamline this registration process to ensure that veterans have access to as many apprenticeship training programs as possible.

It is crucial that returning veterans have the skills to join the workforce, and apprenticeship programs are a great way to ensure that these

heroic men and women are prepared to rejoin civilian life. H.R. 3949 will strengthen accessibility to these programs, which is why I am pleased to support this legislation.

# RECOGNIZING ELAINE ROBERT ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. JOYCE BEATTY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary public service of Elaine Roberts on the occasion of her retirement. Elaine has spent the last 17 years in Columbus and Central Ohio, serving as the Executive Director of the Columbus Airport Authority beginning in 2000 and then as President and CEO of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority when it was created in 2003.

Our regional airport authority oversees three air facilities: John Glenn Columbus International Airport, Rickenbacker International Airport, and the general aviation airport, Bolton Field. Those three airports, and the businesses associated with them, have flourished under Elaine's leadership and now collectively support 54,000 jobs and \$6.6 billion in total annual economic output. I greatly appreciate the work she has done to encourage entrepreneurship in the airports, particularly for African-American businesses.

During her tenure, Elaine oversaw \$1 billion of investment in airport improvements, including the terminal modernization at John Glenn International and a new control tower at Rickenbacker. I am also thankful for Elaine's contribution in honoring Jerrie Mock—a fellow-Ohioan and the first woman to fly solo around the world in her plane, the Spirit of Columbus—with a life-size statue in the main passenger concourse.

From the very beginning, Central Ohio has played a leading role to advances in aviation, and we are particularly proud of Elaine who stood out as one of the leading women in her field. She was recognized as a "Champion of Change" by the White House in 2015 and won the 2016 Distinguished Service Award from the American Association of Airport Executives. Earlier this year, the YWCA honored her with its Women of Achievement Award, and the Women for Economic and Leadership Development presented her with their Riveter Award. Elaine also serves on the board of the Columbus Partnership and Experience Columbus.

Elaine has been a steadfast leader over the years, and I am happy to call her a friend. On behalf of the people of Columbus, I thank her and wish her the best.

After 35 years in the aviation industry, Elaine plans to retire to South Carolina by the end of the year. I sincerely hope that she and her wife, Dale, will travel back to Columbus from time to time to visit and to see her lasting, positive impact on our community.

# IN RECOGNITION OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY COMMISSION AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2017 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Fairfax County History Commission and to congratulate the recipients of the 2017 Achievement Awards.

The Fairfax County History Commission was established in 1969 to help identify, document, record, and preserve the county's rich historic past. Fairfax County was founded in 1742 by Lord Thomas Fairfax and his cousin, William Fairfax and is celebrating its 275th anniversary. Earlier this year, the current Lord and Lady Fairfax traveled from the United Kingdom to participate in the celebration of this milestone. Each year the Commission bestows awards to local residents or organizations that have contributed to the preservation of our history. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the following 2017 award recipients:

The 2017 Distinguished Service Award is being presented to Melanie Manikas and Mary Ellen Zavaleta in recognition of their efforts in preserving, researching and maintaining the history of Burke, Virginia by involving the Cherry Run Elementary School fourth grade classes of 2015 in creating, composing and executing a video on this topic. The documentation and preservation of this information in an enlightening and entertaining video will be helpful for historians, students and the general citizenry of Fairfax County for generations to come.

The Nan Netherton Achievement Award is being presented to Nathaniel Lee for his research, documentation, authoring and chronicling of the history of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad in his book, "The Iron Road of Franconia". This railroad connected the area of Franconia, Virginia to the remainder of Virginia and Washington. Its existence encouraged connections to multiple areas outside Northern Virginia—allowing the growth of commerce, dissemination of communication and passenger travel to points beyond Fairfax County.

The Mary Fehringer Award is being presented to the Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT) for their 25th Silver Anniversary Commemorative Publication. This fine catalogue documents their twenty-five years of educational contributions to Fairfax County and beyond via their monthly, well-attended (100+ guests) meetings. In addition, the Bull Run Civil War Round Table has been host to over 293 lectures and 128 tours, and has assisted in the placement of over 70 historical marker/kiosk panels, which were supported by BRCWRT or authored by its membership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Fairfax County History Commission for their extraordinary efforts to preserve and protect the history of Fairfax County and in congratulating the recipients of the 2017 achievement awards. Their dedication will ensure that the history of Fairfax County is available for generations to come.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 13, 2017*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, on November 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, I was ill, so I was not present for the Roll Call votes held on those days. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Aye" on Roll Call 607, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3562, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title, and for other purposes.

"Aye" on Roll Call 608, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1066, the VA Management Alignment Act.

"No" on Roll Call 609, on approving the journal.

"No" on Roll Call 610, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 607, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3043) Hydro-power Policy Modernization Act and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3441) Save Local Business Act.

"No" on Roll Call 611, on agreeing to H. Res. 607.

"No" on Roll Call 612, on approving the journal.

"Yea" on Roll Call 613, on the motion to recommit H.R. 3441, the Save Local Business Act.

"No" on Roll Call 614, on passage of H.R. 3441. This bill would effectively eliminate joint employment from the National Labor Relations Act and Fair Labor Standards Act, blocking workers from holding a joint employer accountable for wage theft, equal pay violations, and other unfair labor practices. Today, many employers seek to avoid their legal obligations to ensure that workers receive the wages they are due and bargain in good faith, and H.R. 3441 would make it more difficult for workers to hold the joint employers who set many of the conditions of their work accountable.

"No" on Roll Call 615, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3911, the Risk-Based Credit Examination Act. H.R. 3911 would weaken oversight of major credit rating agencies such as S&P and Moody's, which were at the center of the 2008 financial crisis, and create the possibility of credit rating agencies challenging the SEC in court if they felt the examinations were not "appropriate".

"No" on Roll Call 616, on ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 609, providing for consideration of H.R. 2201, the Micro Offering Safe Harbor Act.

"No" on Roll Call 617, on passage of H. Res. 609.

"Yea" on Roll Call 618, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4173, the Veterans Crisis Line Study Act.

"Yea" on Roll Call 619, the Rush Amendment to H.R. 3043.

"No" on Roll Call 620, on passage of H.R. 3043, the Hydropower Policy Modernization Act. I recognize the need and importance of modernizing the licensing process for hydropower projects to both power companies and the workers who build, operate, and maintain them. However, I have concerns that H.R.