

HONORING DR. DANIEL P. KING

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Daniel P. King, an educator, innovator, and leader.

For the past 12 years, Dr. King served as superintendent of the Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District (PSJA ISD), working tirelessly to ensure PSJA ISD provides its students with the resources necessary to succeed. He announced his plans to retire from his position this past fall, and I find it only fitting to take this time on the House floor to honor a man that has done so much for South Texas. Dr. King spent 42 years in public education, 20 of those years as superintendent at two school districts in the Rio Grande Valley.

During Dr. King's tenure, he introduced programs and procedures that have had lasting positive effects on the students and the PSJA community as a whole. He was one of the first to start an Early College High School Program in South Texas that provides thousands of students concurrent and dual enrollment opportunities, college and career connected pathways, and the opportunity to graduate with college credentials up to an associate's degree while still enrolled in high school.

Dr. King demonstrated his commitment to replacing outdated bilingual education models with dual language or dual immersion programs to equip students for a brighter future. His actions afforded students the opportunity to graduate from high school ready for higher education, putting PSJA on the course to become a national leader in producing college ready, academically bi-literate, high school graduates. Thanks to Dr. King, our students are more prepared and able to be successful and productive members of society.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Daniel P. King has worked diligently to give countless students the tools they need to succeed. He is a pillar of our community and an example to us all. It is an honor to represent a selfless and committed individuals like him. Dr. King has forever changed and strengthened the foundation of education in South Texas. I wish Daniel P. King and his family all the best in their future endeavors and thank you for this time.

RECOGNIZING JACK BARRY,
BRADY STERGION, AND TOM
PLUNKETT

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize three outstanding citizens from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout: Jack Barry, Brady Stergion, and Tom Plunkett.

These three emerging leaders are committed to service to our community. For their Eagle Scout projects, Jack beautified the Lower Makefield Veteran's Park, Brady built new shelving and stocked the pantry for the St. John the Evangelist Shared Meals Program, and Tom installed twenty flagpoles at Washington Crossing National Cemetery.

On behalf of all residents of the First Congressional District, I congratulate Jack, Brady, and Tom on their achievements.

HONORING RESIDENTS OF THE
VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE, ILLI-
NOIS ON THEIR 140TH ANNIVER-
SARY AS A VILLAGE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the residents of La Grange, Illinois as the village celebrates its 140th anniversary.

La Grange enjoys a long and vibrant history beginning in the early 19th century. The area, originally consisting of prairie land, was first settled as a result of land grants offered by President Martin Van Buren. One of the early residents was Franklin D. Cossitt. After leaving Tennessee, Mr. Cossitt moved to Chicago and started the largest wholesale grocery business in the area. The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 destroyed Mr. Cossitt's business and drove people westward to the suburbs.

Mr. Cossitt's dream for constructing a community began when he bought and developed 600 acres of land that was later incorporated as the village of La Grange in 1879. In 1873, Mr. Cossitt quickly began laying out streets and building homes. By 1890, La Grange had already seen tremendous growth and now included twenty-eight retail businesses, a new high school, churches, a newspaper, paved roads, and a railroad station. The Village of La Grange quickly became known as the largest town between Chicago and Aurora.

The Village of La Grange has continued to develop and today is home to more than 130 businesses and 15,550 residents. Although La Grange has come a long way, it is still a safe and quiet place to live. The La Grange historic district is home to many of the original buildings built by Mr. Cossitt in the 1870's. Because of the quality of the architecture and the historic significance, the Village of La Grange historic district was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

I am proud to represent the residents of La Grange and I will gather with them on the Village Hall lawn on August 8th to celebrate the village's anniversary. I ask you to join me in honoring the residents of La Grange, Illinois, on their 140th anniversary as a village. May they enjoy this celebration and may the Village continue to thrive as a close-knit community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROCK
CREEK NATIONAL PARK ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce a bill to redesignate the National Park Service-owned Rock Creek Park, in the District of Columbia, as "Rock Creek National Park." Renaming this park will highlight its significance to the nation, including visitors to the nation's capital, and will help get much-needed funding for the park's inviting

trails, waterways and other unique features. No additional federal funds will be required.

Rock Creek Park is already a national park, established by Congress in 1890 "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States," and is the oldest urban park and the third federal park ever created, after Yellowstone and Sequoia. Rock Creek Park was designed to preserve animals, timber, forestry and other interests in the park, and to ensure that its natural state is maintained as much as possible, for all American people, not just for D.C. residents.

Over time, several structures have been established or donated to further preserve Rock Creek Park. In 1892, for example, the federal government acquired Peirce Mill in Rock Creek Park, one of the mills used by local farmers during the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. In 1950, the Old Stone House, located at 3051 M Street NW, with its great pre-Revolutionary War architecture, was acquired by the park. The building was restored, and programs explain the house's rich history from the colonial period to the present day. The Fort Circle Parks were also acquired to interpret and preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington, which created a ring of protection for the nation's capital during the Civil War.

Today, Rock Creek Park offers residents of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Northern Virginia, as well as thousands of visitors, an escape from our increasingly urban environment. Residents and tourists alike enjoy many activities in the park's 2,000 acres, including hiking and biking on the historical trails, horseback riding, picnicking, tennis and other recreational activities in some of the open fields. Our residents have expressed their appreciation by volunteering to clean up and maintain the trails and waterways.

Redesignating Rock Creek Park as Rock Creek National Park will help recognize the national status of the park and protect and revitalize this remarkable resource in our nation's capital.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
NIGHT OUT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Converse, Texas for their work in fostering better police and civilian relationships through the National Night Out program.

Currently celebrating its 36th Anniversary, the National Night Out (NNO) is a unique crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW). Founded in 1984, it has grown from a small idea to a national event celebrated by civilians and law enforcement agencies throughout the country. With over 38 million "neighbors" and 16 thousand communities participating, it provides a unique opportunity for civilians to learn more about the law enforcement in their community.

Throughout its history, it has worked to foster positive community relationships between civilians and law enforcement. It actively engages participants in fun, informational activities that heighten awareness of law enforcement efforts in crime and drug prevention,