

RECOGNIZING ED MORRISON AND
SHELLY & SANDS INC.

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Ed Morrison, and the entire Shelly & Sands Inc. team of my hometown, Zanesville, Ohio, on winning the National Asphalt Pavement Associations' Sheldon G. Haynes Award.

To be eligible for the Sheldon G. Haynes award, a paving company must first win the Pavement Associations Quality in Construction award for a project using more than 50,000 tons of asphalt. Paving companies must submit projects from across the United States to be judged by an independent pavement consultant. The projects are then judged on pavement smoothness, safety, and durability, and innovative techniques used during the projects. Of the thousands of largescale paving projects submitted every year, four companies are considered finalists and only one company wins.

The I-77 roadway in Guernsey County, Ohio presented a unique paving challenge for Quality Control Director Ed Morrison and the Shelly & Sands team. Shelly & Sands began paving in the middle of a bridge construction project. The team used innovative thermal cameras to ensure even asphalt cooling for surface smoothness and durability. This was just one of many masterful techniques used by the Shelly & Sands team to achieve success in this project.

I again extend my warmest congratulations to Ed and his team on this prestigious award. I look forward to hearing more about their future endeavors and wish them continued success in paving high quality, largescale projects throughout Ohio.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4432—PRO-
TECTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUC-
TURE AGAINST DRONES AND
EMERGING THREATS ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of Congress, I rise in support of H.R. 4432, the Protecting Critical Infrastructure Against Drones and Emerging Threats Act, which requires a full assessment of threats relating to unmanned aircrafts, development and dissemination of a security threat assessment regarding unmanned aircrafts and similar technologies, and the establishment of secure communications and critical information technology infrastructure to properly utilize analytical tools.

By requiring the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security to prepare a threat assessment within one year of the bill's enactment to share with the House and Senate Homeland Security committees, Congress and the President can act swiftly to prevent any potential risks.

With national security as one of our nation's top priorities, we must begin to fully determine

the risks posed by this advanced and increasingly popular technology.

The data will be collected from agencies through data-mining and other advanced diagnostic tools at the Federal, state and local levels, as well as various infrastructure owners and operators.

Assessment of the data will include a report and classified plan to alleviate any potential threats through the use of unmanned aircrafts.

The Federal Aviation Administration reported a total of 1.1 million small hobbyist drones and about 412,000 commercial drone registrations for the year 2019.

The use of unmanned aircrafts is growing rapidly, both as a hobby and for commercial purposes, including in the oil and gas industry.

I ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to vote in support of H.R. 4432.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE JACK B.
WEINSTEIN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate U.S. District Judge Jack B. Weinstein of Brooklyn on his retirement after 53 years on the bench at the age of 98. Judge Weinstein is well known for his liberal sensibilities, especially for his suggested reforms of sentencing guidelines to reduce the length of time most offenders spend behind bars. I related to him as a champion of women's rights, criminal justice reform and the lack of sentencing alternatives for young offenders. A submarine officer in the Pacific Theatre in World War II, he returned home and was a 1948 graduate of Columbia University Law School. As a young lawyer, he worked on briefs in the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation case and recently lamented that, in New York as in so many other places, re-segregation of public schools is the reality. In a long and colorful career on the bench after being nominated to the district court by President Lyndon Johnson in 1967, Judge Weinstein presided at the trial of Vincent "The Chin" Gigante, the head of the Genovese crime family, and massive tort cases involving asbestos and Agent Orange. In a recent interview with *The New York Times*, he said that, although the country is "going downhill" with a "very conservative" Supreme Court at the moment, he was optimistic for the future because it is "essentially a good country made up of people who will fight for what's right." It's nice to know that Judge Weinstein, in retirement with his newly retired physician son, will be studying how post-Civil War Reconstruction devolved into Jim Crowism as they both pursue master's degrees in history. I wish Judge Weinstein, a productive and fulfilling retirement and thank him for his long service to our country.

CONGRATULATING HOBBIE VOLUN-
TEER FIRE COMPANY ON THEIR
70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration that I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Hobbie Volunteer Fire Company in Luzerne County, PA on their 70th anniversary.

In 1736, our nation's first fire company was founded in Pennsylvania by Benjamin Franklin. Since then, thousands of brave and courageous firefighters have carried on our Commonwealth's distinguished legacy of selflessness, community service and commitment to safety.

Each member of Hobbie Volunteer Fire Company has continued to build on the principles of professionalism and service since their founding on October 23, 1949. Over 70 years later, they have remained steadfast in their dedication to serving and protecting the people of Hollenback Township and the surrounding communities. This 70th anniversary is a great milestone for the Hobbie Volunteer Fire Company. I am grateful for all the past, present and future members of the department and their unyielding commitment to public safety.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hobbie Volunteer Fire Company on 70 years of serving and wish you many more years of safety and service.

HONORING WORLD WAR II
VETERAN PAUL GARCIA

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of United States Navy Veteran and Firefighter Paul Garcia who passed away on February 14, 2020 at the age of 93. Mr. Garcia hails from my hometown of San Antonio and is survived by his wife, Aurora Garcia; children, Marie Diaz de Leon and husband, David; Leroy Garcia and wife, Carrie; grandchildren, David Diaz de Leon Jr. and Frank Diaz de Leon; and 17 great grandchildren. A World War II Navy Veteran with over 25 years of civil service, Mr. Garcia's life represents honor and commitment. His journey is one of true distinction that warrants the highest praise. He will be greatly missed.

Paul Garcia was born on February 9, 1927 in San Antonio, Texas to Policarpo and Maria de Jesus Garcia, who migrated from Mexico in 1915. At an early age, he was interested in serving the country that he so loved, and he carried such adoration throughout his life. He joined the United States Navy at the age of 17, where he eventually served in the Pacific Theater and in the liberation of the Philippine Islands from Japanese Forces during World War II. Mr. Garcia's honorable service earned him the World War II Victory Medal, The

American Campaign Medal, The Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the Honorable Service Lapel Button and the Honorable Discharge Lapel Pin. Eventually, his journey led him back to San Antonio where he worked in civil service for 25 years at Kelly Air Force Base.

Madam Speaker, I am thankful to have known such a remarkable person who dedicated himself to service and family. Although I am deeply saddened by his loss, I am comforted by knowing that his memory will live on though his many loved ones.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE
TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH
IN WEST PALM BEACH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize the legacy of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, a historically black church located in West Palm Beach, Florida. The Tabernacle Baptist Church was established in 1893, before the creation of the town of West Palm Beach in 1894. The Church has proven to be a pillar and haven in the community throughout its 127-year history and continues to maintain its strong presence today.

The Church's leadership through various projects, such as the establishment of the U.B. Kinsey Educational and Community Center, and the Rosemary Village Construction Project, illustrates a dedication to a holistic, community-driven mission. The Church has also created the first school for African American children in Palm Beach County and continues to champion education through programs such as their scholarship committee. Throughout the years, the Church has remained a steadfast spiritual guide and support and strives to strengthen its presence in order to better serve Palm Beach County.

Under the leadership of Rev. Gerald D. Kisner, Pastor of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church for the past 23 years; Reverend Kevin L. Jones, Assistant Pastor of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church and the Church's Minister for Youth and Young Adults; and Ms. Gwendolyn Ferguson, Executive Assistant of the Church, they have carried the mission of the Church to serve as God's witnesses or ambassadors to people who are in need, through discipleship, outreach, teaching, preaching, community development, praise and worship.

Madam Speaker, the Tabernacle Baptist Church is indeed an exemplary part of our community. I extend my warmest congratulations to the Church for its contributions over these 127 years and wish them many more years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING STAFF SERGEANT DANIEL ACOSTA ON BEING NAMED THE HOMES FOR HEROES—HERO OF THE MONTH

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Staff Sergeant Daniel Acosta

on being named the Homes for Heroes—Hero of the Month.

A citizen of Joliet, Staff Sergeant Acosta served as an explosive ordinance disposal technician in the United States Air Force from 2002 to 2009. While serving in Iraq in 2006, he sustained serious injuries from an improvised explosive device. He was later awarded the Purple Heart by Brigadier General Frank Gorenc.

Today, Staff Sergeant Acosta is a veteran service officer working as a senior caseworker with the Will County Veterans Assistance Program and is on advisory boards for other non-profit organizations such as the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes and Tee it Up for the Troops. He is also a board member for Adaptive Adventures, an organization dedicated to providing outdoor sports opportunities to people with physical disabilities and their families. I commend him for his service to our great nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the service and sacrifice of Staff Sergeant Daniel Acosta. His service and sacrifice for this country are truly honorable.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, because of my attendance at a Vermont memorial service to give the eulogy for a friend and prominent Vermonter, I was unable to vote on Roll Call 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call 60: "Aye"; Roll Call 61: "Nay"; Roll Call 62: "Nay"; Roll Call 63: "Aye"; Roll Call 64: "Nay"; Roll Call 65: "Nay"; Roll Call 66: "Aye"; Roll Call 67: "Nay"; Roll Call 68: "Nay"; Roll Call 69: "Aye"; and Roll Call 70: "Aye".

CELEBRATING ESMERALDA
LONGORIA GARCIA

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, Esmeralda Longoria Garcia will be a centenarian on February 24, 2020 and her family will celebrate this milestone on Saturday February 22, 2020 at her home.

She was born on February 24, 1920 in Alice, Texas to her parents Leonardo Longoria and Luisa Lopez Longoria and raised in Sarita, Texas. She attended first grade in Sarita, and her father took her to school on horseback. From second to twelfth grade she went to school in the Alice Independent School District. She spent 9 months with her uncle Julian Gomez to attend school and spent her summers with her parents in Sarita.

She attended Texas College of Arts and Industries in Kingsville, now known as Texas A&M University Kingsville.

She taught elementary school at Kingsville ISD her first year from 1946 to 1947. She

taught in three different elementary grades in three different schools—Nayer, Saenz, and Mary R. Garcia—in the Alice Independent School District from 1947 to 1981.

She retired with 35 years of dedicated service as a teacher.

She married Alberto Arambula Garcia from Palito Blanco, and they lived in Alice, Texas. They had one son, Alberto Garcia Jr., two grandchildren, Victoria and Bryan Garcia, and two great grandchildren, Mila Jo and Rowen.

She has been a member of the Beta Pi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma for 57 years and a member of Tri-County Retired Teachers Association since 1981.

Congresswoman SYLVIA R. GARCIA proclaims, "Tia Mere, you have a heart of gold, a century of experiences and wisdom, and you are by far the most extraordinary person I have ever known."

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 5273
SECURING AMERICA'S PORTS ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committee on Homeland Security, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5273, the "Securing America's Ports Act."

I voted for H.R. 5273 because it secures America's land ports of entry along the border by increasing the rate of expeditious scanning of commercial and passenger vehicles entering the United States.

But Madam Speaker, this bill does more than just secure the border.

H.R. 5273 also encourages the continuation of cross-cultural interactions through tourism and trade across an increasingly secure border and encourages the rich diversity of interactions and cooperation between the United States and Mexico as well as ensures mutual economic success.

As many of you know, Texas shares the longest border with Mexico of any states in the Union at 1,254 miles.

Over time, the southwest region of the country has become the largest manufacturing corridor in the world.

In 2019, it was estimated that two-way trade between the United States and Mexico surpassed \$600 billion.

Trade between Texas and Mexico alone was approximately \$200 billion each year.

In fact, in a single day, more than one million people come and go across the border, along with 300,000 vehicles and over 75,000 trucks.

This magnitude of crossings at the border demands our attention.

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) uses these systems to inspect contents of commercial and passenger vehicles for potential contraband, such as drugs, without physically opening or unloading the vehicles.

My congressional district is home to one of the most racially and culturally diverse communities in the United States.

In the 18th Congressional District of Texas, 39.1 percent of people identify as Hispanic or Latino, 39.9 percent identify as Black or African American, and 45.4 percent identify as White.