

into the Army Ranger Hall of Fame, Bill began a career in Army intelligence.

In 1979, while in command of an electronic warfare company, Bill developed a key intelligence-gathering tool that was still being used a decade later during Operation Desert Storm.

The details of the intelligence system Bill developed are still considered classified but rest assured it was an asset to our troops in battle and may have saved American lives as it gathered intelligence on our enemies.

The Knowlton Award was named after Revolutionary War hero LTC Thomas Knowlton of Connecticut who was commissioned by George Washington to raise a regiment to perform desperate and delicate intelligence services and LTC Bill Anton has exemplified this tradition with his service to our country.

I congratulate LTC Bill Anton on this well-deserved honor.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF RICHARD SCHNELLER

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**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2013*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great solemnity to share with you the recent death of Richard Schneller.

Richard "Dick" Schneller, a tireless Connecticut resident who celebrated his 90th birthday just last March, leaves behind a storied life of service to his family, his state, and his country. A native of Essex, Dick attended Mount Hermon School and went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree from Yale University in 1943. Following graduation, Dick served his country with the United States Navy as a Lieutenant and participated in several South Pacific D-Day island invasions. After his military discharge, Dick applied his skills to his family's business, becoming President of The Verplex Company in 1952 and serving until 1972.

Dick proudly served his community and his government as a five-term State Senator representing Connecticut's 20th Senatorial district. From the time he entered the State Senate in 1975 until his departure in 1984, Dick maintained a fierce dedication to service of his state and his community. As a State Senator, Dick served successively on a number of committees, including the Education Committee and the Appropriations Committee. He served as chairman of the State Urban and Development Committee. Dick also held the title of Senate Majority Leader for the final three years of his tenure in the State Senate.

In addition to his commitment to the betterment of Connecticut government, Dick also played significant administrative roles in a broad range of local institutions. In his home town of Essex, Dick served for seven years as Chairman of the Essex Democratic Town Committee, was a member of the Essex Board of Finance, and was a member and chairman of the Regional District #4 Board of Education. He was also Charter President of the Essex Rotary Club and Founding Treasurer of the Essex Community Fund. Some of his other involvements in local organizations

include his work as Trustee of the University of Connecticut, the Connecticut Conservation Association, Middlesex Hospital, Connecticut College, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Mount St. John's School and the Middlesex County Y.M.C.A.. Dick proudly served as the President and Chairman on the Board of the Goodspeed Opera House.

Dick recognized the importance and inherent value in serving in a community, through his commitment to service in government, and also through his devotion to his local congregation, the Congregation Beth Shalom, of which he was a lifelong member.

On a personal note, Dick was a generous mentor for me and many others of a younger generation, serving in the Connecticut General Assembly. He imparted experience and good judgment to us all and was a great inspiration for those of us thinking about entering public service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Dick Schneller, and sharing our condolences with the family he leaves behind.

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HONORING JIM SWEENEY

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**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2013*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleagues, Representative COSTA and Representative VALADAO, to honor the life and career of Jim Sweeney, who passed away on February 8, 2013. Mr. Sweeney was the legendary coach of the Fresno State football team, leading the Bulldogs for nearly two decades and leaving an indelible imprint on his team, his school, and his community.

The son of a hardscrabble miner, Mr. Sweeney worked in the mines during his college summers. Afterward, he coached high school football for several years in his native Montana and then became an assistant coach of the Montana State Bobcats in 1960. Appointed head coach in 1963, he served five years in that position and eight years as head coach of the Washington State Cougars before becoming head coach at Fresno State, the position that would define his career.

During his nineteen years at Fresno State, interrupted by a two-year stint on the coaching staffs of the Oakland Raiders and St. Louis Cardinals, Mr. Sweeney elevated the Bulldogs to national prominence. A charismatic, no-nonsense leader, he brought an infectious enthusiasm to the entire community and inspired fierce loyalty in his players. He implanted an enduring team spirit with his resounding renditions of team fight songs and his inception of the "Bulldog born, Bulldog bred" chant that players still invoke today. In Fresno, Mr. Sweeney won eight conference titles and five bowl games on his way to amassing 144 victories, the most of any head coach in Bulldog history. Among his many well-deserved accolades, the team's football field was renamed in his honor.

Personifying excellence, hard-work, and integrity, Mr. Sweeney was well-loved in his

community and is a true California icon. His trademark wit and unceasing passion will be missed by the legions of fans and admirers he has left behind.

HONORING CRAIG SCOTT  
GRISWOLD

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Craig Scott Griswold. Craig is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 345, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Craig has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Craig has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Craig has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Craig designed and constructed new stairs and landings for the One-Room Schoolhouse operated by the Putnam County Historical Society at the City Park in Unionville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Craig Scott Griswold for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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HONORING MIKE WALKER

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**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2013*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the mark of a great community is found in its leadership. Hard working, always professional, and dedicated to long-term vision are the key qualities of a strong local leader. For the past 23 years, Brentwood, Tennessee has had the great honor of Mike Walker's leadership as City Manager.

Mike Walker has a strong history in leading and leading well. Serving as the administrative head of Brentwood's municipal government, Mike has been responsible for full service government including a \$60 million annual budget and 250 employees. In addition to his outstanding service to the City of Brentwood, Mike's legacy of excellence reaches to Oak Ridge, Knoxville, and the International City/County Management Association.

It takes a great number of talented people to keep a city running. Keeping such an excellent city like Brentwood on the right track requires more than talent; it requires excellence, dedication, and leadership. The City of Brentwood has been lucky to have Mike Walker leading the way. I ask my colleagues to join with me, Linda, Lauren, Evan, and Travis, in celebrating Mike's outstanding legacy of service and commitment.