

year, 1,357 of Weyerhaeuser's employees participated in more than 164 service projects and contributed more than 31,820 volunteer hours. Through their efforts, 164 WAVES grants were awarded last year to the community. Additionally, Weyerhaeuser has instituted an Employee Volunteer of the Quarter program to honor Weyerhaeuser employees who significantly impact their communities through their personal efforts.

Recently, Weyerhaeuser teamed up with World Vision, a non-profit faith-based organization focused on fighting poverty and injustice, creating Operation Diaper Drive. Operation Diaper Drive is an annual event held by Weyerhaeuser employees where diapers are collected and donated to low-income families. In March of this year, nearly three quarters of a million diapers were distributed to families throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Weyerhaeuser Company on their recognition. Weyerhaeuser continues to strive as a leader in the community and in the nation for their impressive philanthropic work.

ANNOUNCING RECIPIENTS OF THE
2013 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN
COMMENDATION FOR THE THIRD
DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 16, 2013

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor fourteen distinguished military veterans, community servants, and American patriots who call the Third District of Texas home. All faithfully answered the call of duty and placed service above self for the sake of our great nation. Each one leaves a legacy to be remembered, for future generations to follow, a legacy of bravery, loyalty, dedication, and sacrifice. For their selfless service, bold leadership, and undying commitment for their neighbor and nation, the following individual has been selected as a recipient of the third annual Congressional Veteran Commendation:

Sergeant James Fairbairn served in the United States Marine Corps from 1950 to 1954. After completing boot camp, James headed to Korea in December of 1950 where he joined the 2nd Platoon of Able Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment of the 1st Division. It was in this assignment that Mr. Fairbairn served as a fire team leader during an attack against a strong enemy force. Without regard for his personal safety, he was able to rush and attack the enemy, which ultimately resulted in overrunning the enemy and completing the mission.

For his heroism in battle and his distinguished years of service, James Fairbairn earned the Bronze Star Medal with Combat Valor, a Presidential Unit Commendation Ribbon, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, and numerous other decorations.

As a resident of Richardson, Texas, Mr. Fairbairn has continued to serve his community. He served as the president of the Dallas Chapter of the 1st Marine Division Association. He has also worked extensively with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots pro-

gram. He currently represents the Sons of the American Revolution on the Volunteer Board of the Dallas Veterans Affairs Hospital.

Sergeant James Fairbairn, let me both thank and congratulate you on your exceptional service to our country and community both past and present. It is my pleasure to award you the 2013 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFESERVE
BLOOD CENTER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 16, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to National Blood Donor Month and to recognize the great work being done by the volunteers and professionals who comprise the LifeServe Blood Center.

Established in 1969 by President Nixon, National Blood Donor Month is celebrated in January to bring awareness to the immeasurable difference made by blood donations. During National Blood Donor Month, we thank those across the country who have saved lives by donating in the past and encourage previous and first-time donors alike to schedule an appointment. Each year, only 10 percent of those eligible to donate blood choose to do so, although nearly 38,000 pints of blood are needed every day to sustain a sufficient and secure blood supply.

As one of the largest blood centers in the country, LifeServe Blood Center assists more than 100 hospitals in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota by providing much-needed blood and blood supplies. In addition to their role as a local blood supplier, LifeServe also provides a wide range of healthcare solutions to our communities including transfusion medicine, cellular therapy, and research. It is blood centers like LifeServe that stand ready, in the face of disasters and emergencies, to meet the blood supply needs of our cities, states, and nation.

Mr. Speaker, the great work done every day by LifeServe, and all blood centers across the country, provides a crucial and life-saving service to our communities. In honor of National Blood Donor Month, I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in encouraging regular blood donations in this time of need and thanking all blood donors for their invaluable and selfless contribution. It is a great honor to represent the men and women of LifeServe in the United States Congress and I look forward to all of Iowa's participation in the busiest National Blood Donor Month yet. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO NACARSIA "NIKKI"
MAYES

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 16, 2013

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to bring your attention to a very special person, someone I respect and whose friendship I value. I'm referring to Nicarsia "Nikki" Mayes

who after 36 years of dedicated public service, will be retiring this December.

Nikki started work here in 1977 as an elevator operator and it was not long before her professional and cheerful manner caught the eye of her superiors. In 1980, she became the first African American woman ever hired by the Office of the Doorkeeper. It was a tremendous achievement then and it remains an exceptional moment in both her personal history and the history of this body.

As her career progressed she joined the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and served as a member of the Chamber Security Division. Her career is a testament to what dedication, hard work and a positive attitude can accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, I don't need to remind you that our work here can be difficult and stressful. But that's what makes Nikki such a treasure. Even when there was tension inside the House Chamber, there was friendship and kindness waiting at the door.

Nikki, I wish you the best of luck as you embark on this next part of your life. You will be greatly missed by me and every one of my colleagues.

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Captain Shep Stahel served in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1989. After earning a Navy ROTC Scholarship to Tulane University, Mr. Stahel's Naval career began during his college years where he served on summer midshipman cruises; one in the North Sea with NATO forces and the other in Hong Kong. After graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Economics, he commissioned as Ensign and served for two years as Navigator on the USS Matthews and then as Executive Officer on the USS Duval County. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, the USS Duval County operated out of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, training soldiers to conduct amphibious landings.

After transitioning from active to reserve duty, he served as commanding officer of Surface Warfare Units in both Trenton, New Jersey and Buffalo, New York until he moved to Dallas to command a unit at Naval Air Station Dallas.

This year, Mr. Stahel retired from IBM after 50 years of service. During his time there, he managed business affairs for IBM Corporation's legal department in the South-Southwestern region of the U.S. Additionally, for the