

friendships and supported humanitarian causes. As a young leader, he was active in student council throughout his schooling. William was the recipient of a scholarship which allowed him to attend the University of Texas at Austin, where he received his Master's Degree in Mass Communications in 1976.

William previously served as an Educational Attaché to the Venezuelan Embassy in Paris, France and the General Coordinator of the G.M.A. Foundation. William was also the founder and president of several community organizations in Venezuela.

In 1989, William moved to Orlando, Florida, where he lives with his wife and four children. Since then, he has been very active within the Latino community, advising and counseling nonprofit organizations. An active community leader and incisive journalist, William has a passion to help his fellow citizens through life's struggles.

William has been an on-air personality for decades and a columnist with several publications. He is always available to individuals or community organizations in need of media support, especially those who seek support for social justice issues.

William's activism to promote Latin-American political development has won him recognition within the Latino community. He currently has a daily radio show, "Cara a Cara con William Diaz," which reaches eighteen counties. He is also the founder of Casa de Venezuela and the Made in Venezuela Business Club.

I am honored to recognize William Diaz, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his contributions to the Central Florida community.

HONORING LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR THEIR SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the following law enforcement personnel who have recently been honored by the Horseshoe Curve Benevolent Association for their tireless service and continued willingness to put their lives on the line to protect our communities. This year's honorees are Sergeant Jonathan E. Smith, Clarke County Director of Emergency Communications Pam Hess, Deputy Bryan Smith, Corporal Bradley W. Davidson, Officer Terry W. Fritts, Sergeant Frank Myrtle, Officer Brock Justice, Officer Tommy Gardner, Lieutenant Wally Stotlemeyer, K-9 Officer Kota and his partner Corporal Brittney Kotynski-Neer.

Sergeant Jonathan E. Smith has played a pivotal role in the implementation of the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP-2), a joint federal, state and local jurisdiction effort to better train first responders as well as traffic incident and management support staff. As the lead instructor for Northwestern Virginia, Region 2, Sgt. Smith has conducted more than 30 sessions of the program, instructing more than 900 people, in addition to continuing his supervisory responsibilities as a Virginia State Police officer. His efforts have brought nationwide praise to the quality of Virginia law enforcement.

Director of Emergency Communications Pam Hess has been with the Clarke County Sheriff's office since 1986. Today, she plays a crucial role as supervisor of the county's 911 center and de facto project manager for monitoring and upgrading the county's sophisticated communications equipment. In addition to these responsibilities, Director Hess still works shifts as an emergency operator and is on-call every hour of every day.

Deputy Bryan Smith has been a real asset to the Frederick County Sheriff's Office. Earlier this year, Deputy Smith played a critical role in resuscitating a motorist who was thought to have died in order to transport him to the Winchester Medical Center. Although the crash victim was beyond medical help, Deputy Smith's efforts gave him the chance to live.

Corporal Bradley W. Davidson has served in the Winchester Sheriffs Office since 2006 and was recently promoted to Corporal in January. Bradley has trained many of his colleagues on responding to active shooter situations. He also manages the Sheriffs office's external functions. He is known around town as a family man as well as a man of integrity.

Officer Terry Fritts has filled many roles in the Berryville Police Department, including providing technology expertise to investigating a bank robbery earlier this year, organizing Berryville's National Night Out and voluntarily handling difficult situations with citizens experiencing emotional crises. Throughout all this, he has been a great resource to Berryville and his colleagues in the police department.

Sergeant Frank Myrtle of the Winchester Police Department has played a critical role in investigating and seeking successful indictments for two recent felony murder cases involving child victims. He has also taken the lead in the effort to address prostitution in Winchester by leading countless sting operations.

Office Brock Justice has been an indispensable part of the Mount Weather Police Department. Officer Justice was trained in active shooter response tactics at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and has extensively studied past incidents, such as the Navy Yard shooting last year. He has designed and implemented active shooter practice scenarios for Mount Weather police, fire and EMS services to hone their skills and identify areas for improvement.

Officer Tommy Gardner serves the Northwestern Regional Jail. On the night of April 24, Officer Gardner, while off-duty, stepped above and beyond his call to duty and successfully negotiated the de-escalation of a dangerous domestic dispute in his neighborhood involving a firearm. He did his community a great service by his heroic actions.

Lieutenant Wally Stotlemeyer serves with the Winchester Police Department and has been working with the Northwestern Virginia Regional Drug and Gang Task Force. He has exhibited tremendous leadership in overseeing the North End team as it manages the recent spike in regional Heroin overdoses—part of the drug epidemic that threatens communities across the United States.

Finally, K-9 Officer Kota was injured during the brave pursuit of two suspects in an attic. I join his partner, Winchester Police Department Corporal Brittney Kotynski-Neer in honoring Kota for his good work and welcome him back to duty at the Winchester Police Department.

I am proud to join with the Horseshoe Benevolent Association—which has been honoring local law enforcement since 2004—to recognize these officers for their bravery, dedication and strength. We owe them a sincere debt of gratitude for their service to the 10th District and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

I respectfully submit a speech given by Mr. Jim Wink at the Horseshoe Curve Benevolent Association's September 13th Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner.

LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION, DINNER 13
SEPTEMBER 2014

Good evening: My name is Jim Wink. On behalf of the Horse Shoe Curve Benevolent Association—I want to welcome everybody and thank you for coming out to recognize those who put their lives on the line to protect us.

Before we begin to serve dinner, please stand for a short prayer by Rev. Canon Dwight L. Brown, Grace Episcopal Church, Berryville.

Please join me in the Pledge of Alligence to our Flag.

The purpose of tonight's gathering is to enjoy the company, the food, the music, and—most important—to recognize local police and security officers who's dedication to serve their community—that's us—has been outstanding.

First: Let us recognize our guests. With us tonight are:

Each of the officers recognized tonight will get not only our respect and thanks, but also a plaque from the HSC Benevolent Association, a certificate of appreciation from the VA House of Delegates—compliments of Del. Randy Minchew, and U.S. Congressional Recognition—compliments of Congressman Frank Wolf. They will also get outstanding photos of tonight's activities compliments of Matt Baker.

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Sergeant Jonathan E. Smith

Sergeant Smith is devoted to the implementation of the SHRP-2—which is the strategic highway research program in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In conjunction with the VA Department Of Transportation, VA Department of Fire Programs, US Federal Highway Administration and multiple local partners involved in traffic operations, this curriculum was implemented in the Commonwealth of VA as a pilot "Train-the-Trainer" program for all First Responders.

The four hour course is nationally recognized traffic incident management responder training that is offered to all emergency responders and also those personnel who support traffic incident management operations. An important goal of the program is to reduce congestion through incident reduction, management, and response in order to improve travel times for both commuters and freight throughout VA.

SGT. Smith was tasked with being the lead instructor for the Northwestern portion of VA (Region 2). He has coordinated and jointly conducted 34 sessions of this training program to over 900 attendees in various locations across his assigned region. The work involved in the coordination of these classes include, but not limited to, arrangement of the training locations, advertisement of all classes, registration of each attendee, and following up with personalized certificates of completion.

SGT. Smith has forged relationships and gained the support and respect of many federal, state, and local agencies thought the development of this program, which has greatly enhanced the department's image by all cooperating agencies. Although he has dedicated numerous hours (both duty and

personal) to this program, he has maintained all supervisory responsibilities.

Sgt. Smith, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

CLARKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Pam Hess

Pam Hess is the director of emergency communications for Clarke County. She has been employed by the County Sheriff's Office since 1986. She is responsible for supervising the 911 Center, which includes the dispatching of all emergency services in Clarke County. This responsibility requires that Pam sometimes assumes the role of communications operator and work a shift, a duty that she takes on without complaint. Pam has become, by default, the project manager for all communications upgrades with our 911 center. She takes care of purchasing of complicated telephone equipment, and oversees the installation of this equipment in addition to all of the radio systems. She is really on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to answer questions from staff, and routinely act as a mechanic in keeping communications going. Pam, sounds like you are doing it all!

Pam: Congratulations, and thank you for being there for us.

FREDERICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Bryan Smith

On April 17, 2014, Trooper Joshua Myers of the VA State Police and Deputy Bryan Smith were involved in an incident where an apparent deceased motorist was resuscitated thanks to their quick actions after a single vehicle crash on the interstate. Upon VA state trooper Myers arrival no fire or rescue personnel were on the scene. Trooper Myers attempted to make contact with the driver of the tractor but he was unconscious and partially on the floor board. There was no breathing or pulse. Trooper Myers began to administer chest compressions and rescue breathing on the subject. Deputy Smith also stopped to provide assistance. He immediately relieved Trooper Myers of performing CPR and continue to sustain the subject while EMS was placing monitoring devices on him to include an AED. He continued for several minutes. The subject was transported to the Winchester Medical Center where he passed away next day. If not for Trooper Myers and Deputy Smith, he would have died in the truck. Deputy Smith excels in his every day job with the Sheriff's Office. He sets the bar high for fellow officers to follow.

Deputy Smith, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

WINCHESTER SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Corporal Bradley W. Davidson (Harley)

Corporal Davidson has been with the Sheriff's Office since January 2006. He was promoted to Corporal in January 2014. Corporal Bradley is in charge of all outside Sheriff's Office functions such as evictions, levy's, distress warrants and paper service. Bradley has played a very important role within the Sheriff's Office to ensure that the office continues to move forward in a positive way. Bradley is a true professional in dealing with the public with delicate situations. Bradley is a person that can be counted on to answer the call when situations arise that extra help is needed.

Bradley attended active Shooter Instructor School, then came back and prepared lesson plans and started training the Sheriff's Office. He is currently working on mass training and drills for the Joint Judicial Building. Corporal Bradley is married with one little girl. Bradley, in his off time is a large supporter of WVU football and he spends a lot of his time in the Fall hunting. His other interest is Harley Davidson Motorcycles. He is a

good family man as demonstrated by his desk area full of family pictures. Corporal Davidson is a person that the City of Winchester can be as proud of as we in the office are. Bradley is a true professional and friend that we in the office all enjoy coming to work with.

Corporal Davidson, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

BERRYVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Terry W. Fritts

Officer Fritts has served with Berryville since 2007 and holds a variety of certifications including defensive tactics and Speed Measurement Instructor, field training officer, police cyclist, and intoxilyzer operator. Terry is always willing to assist his fellow officers with assignments and has advanced skills in dealing with technology issues that has proven to be a tremendous asset to the department. He constantly looks for ways to develop and refine procedures within the department so they are more user-friendly and efficient. There does not seem to be any problem associated with technology that Terry is not equipped to tackle.

Officer Fritts proved to be instrumental in the investigation associated with a bank robbery that occurred in Berryville this year. While he was not the initial officer involved, he asserted himself as part of the Berryville Police Department team and worked diligently to collect and compile information that ultimately led to the apprehension of four suspects that are currently awaiting trial. This is an example of the type of dedication and drive that Terry routinely displays.

Another attribute is his willingness to be involved with the community that he serves. For the past several years he has coordinated the National Night Out event. The event is a showcase of community resources dedicated to public safety. Each year Terry makes it bigger and better. This past August Terry again pulled off a fantastic event that displayed how community policing in a small town can bring us all together for a safer community. In addition to this event, Terry often spends time listening and educating local business owners and members of the community while patrolling the downtown district. By having a rapport with those in the community he is often the officer that people ask for by name when they have issues or questions. He also takes a special interest in handling situations where a person finds themselves in an emotional crisis and is in need of assistance. Officer Fritts is very aware of the resources that are available for those in a mental crisis and those who could benefit from community resources that are not directly supplied by law enforcement. He works very closely with representatives from Social Services and often takes part in Family Team Meetings with a multi-disciplinary team that works with a family to identify problems and offer solutions in order to improve quality of life issues. According to his boss, Officer Terry Fritts has done a tremendous job representing the Berryville Police Department in a professional manner.

Officer Fritts, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

WINCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sergeant Frank Myrtle

Sergeant Myrtle has been instrumental in leading two felonious death investigations within the past year. Both of these investigations involved very young children. One was a high profile case involving a child who was the victim of a house fire that was intentionally set by his mother. The other case, which has yet to go to trial, involved a child who was allegedly assaulted by her

mother and who subsequently died of those injuries. Sgt. Myrtle took the lead in both investigations and successfully sought indictments for felony murder in both cases. The first mother was convicted and received a 36 year sentence for her crimes. Sgt. Myrtle invested countless hours of investigation in both cases. He did this while taking on other cases and maintaining his administrative duties as a supervisor in the Criminal Investigations Division.

In addition, Sgt. Myrtle has made eradicating the crime of prostitution in Winchester a priority. He has recognized that prostitution leads to the more serious offenses and has spent untold hours conducting sting operations to arrest both Johns and Prostitutes operating in the city. According to his superiors, Sgt. Frank Myrtle's hard work and dedication to the citizens of Winchester and to his co-workers should be recognized.

Sergeant Myrtle, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

MOUNT WEATHER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Brock Justice

According to Brock's superiors, he has continually shown himself as a professional police officer displaying the highest degree of competence and dedication to the mission at Mount Weather. As one of the department's officers that have completed the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's Active Shooter Instructor Course, Brock has worked tirelessly to improve the department's capability for effectively responding to and mitigating the impacts of an active shooter incident. He spends countless hours reviewing after action reports of shooting incidents such as the shooting at the Washington Navy Yard last year capturing ways for improving the department's training, equipment, tactics and procedures for such incidents.

Early in fiscal year 2014 Officer Justice developed a challenging, reality-based training exercise to assess Mount Weather Police, Fire and EMS responses to an active shooter incident. The exercise utilized evaluators from outside agencies and allowed the department to identify areas for improvement starting with individual officer skills all the way through incident management. He has also conducted several classes for FEMA headquarters personnel and other tenant organizations at Mount Weather. These classes focused on teaching personnel on how to react to a shooting incident in their respective work areas.

Officer Justice, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL JAIL

Officer Tommy Gardner

On April 24, 2014 Officer Tommy Gardner was headed home after completing his Tour of Duty. It was approximately 1830 hours when he arrived at his residence. As he was getting ready to enter his home he noticed a crowd of people gathered at a nearby residence. Tommy walked over to see if he could be of assistance. When he arrived at the nearby residence there was a woman on the porch. She had called 911 on her cell phone. The woman informed Officer Gardner that the male had been involved in a domestic and that he had a gun in his back pocket. Officer Gardner noticed the outline of what appeared to be a gun. He started talking to the male. He instructed the male individual to put down the gun. After several commands the male complied and laid the weapon on the trunk of a vehicle he was standing beside. Officer Gardner quickly approached the male, ordered him to lay face down on the ground. He then placed his knee in the center of the male's back detaining him until

WPD arrived on scene approximately 30 seconds later. The male was arrested.

Officer Tommy Gardner's handling of this situation is remarkable for several reasons. First, he went above and beyond his Call to Duty. He is employed as a Correctional Officer at Northwestern. He was also off duty at the time. He was under no obligation to become involved in the situation. His strong character and desire to help those in his community propelled his actions. Second, Officer Gardner showed exceptional courage. When he walked over to the crowd of people he was informed that the individual was under extreme duress and had a handgun in his possession. He could have simply done nothing and waited for the police to arrive.

Instead, Officer Gardner chose to establish a dialogue and de-escalate the situation even though he knew he would be in harm's way. Officer Gardner's actions on the date personify those of the law enforcement community who chose to put the safety of the citizens above their own.

Officer Tommy Gardner, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

NW DRUG TASK FORCE

Lt. Wally Stotlemeyer

Wally Stotlemeyer is a Lt. with the Winchester Police Department currently assigned duty with the NW Virginia Regional Drug and Gang Task Force. The recent spike in heroin overdoses has put a tremendous strain on the resources of the task force. A large number of the deaths have occurred in the Region Wally and the North End Team is responsible for. Wally is the supervisor of the team and he has exhibited tremendous leadership skills in managing the increase in their cases. Practicing leadership from the front, Wally regularly appears on the scene of the tragic events and makes sure that these cases receive the proper attention to insure our valley is safe. In addition, Wally is always present at meetings where his opinion matters. He is truly working this epidemic from both ends and deserves to be recognized for his efforts.

Lt. Wally Stotlemeyer, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

WINCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

K-9 Officer Kota

Cpl. Brittney Kotynski-Neer

Officer Kota has been with the Winchester Police Department since May, 2009. On January 3rd of this year, Kota was injured while helping apprehend two suspects hiding an attic crawl space during a burglary. He fell eight feet through the ceiling to the floor below and broke his right front leg and injured his "wrist". Despite his injuries, he climbed up a flight of stairs to return to Cpl. Brittney's side in the attic. Kota returned to work last week.

Officer Kota, congratulations and thank you for being there for us.

That, ladies and gentleman, highlights how lucky we citizens of Northern Virginia are given the outstanding people we have protecting us. Thank you for coming and don't forget them.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, to keep the government open, the House is considering a

continuing resolution (H.J. Res. 124) that permits government agencies to continue spending at the 2014 level through December 11, 2014. As a result, it allows a rate of overseas contingency operations spending at the Department of Defense, Department of State, and other agencies that if sustained over the entire fiscal year would total \$92 billion. This sum exceeds what the Administration requested for overseas contingency operations for 2015 by \$26 billion. Budget Committee Chairman PAUL RYAN and I agree that this bill should not be interpreted as endorsing the expansion of overseas contingency operations spending above what our military commanders say is needed to support our troops engaged in war operations. Congress will revisit the full-year funding needs for overseas contingency operations at a future date, including whatever resources may be necessary to counter emerging threats, including those ISIL poses. Over the course of the CR period, the Administration should spend OCO funding at a rate that will still allow for full-year funding at no higher than the level military commanders say is needed for 2015.

The OCO budget has been misused to get around discretionary funding caps over the years. Billions of dollars of non-war related activities have been funded in the OCO budget. For 2014, Congress shifted \$9 billion of non-war activities into the OCO budget so it could free up funds within the budget caps. Over 2001 through 2014, Pentagon OCO cost reports indicate that \$71 billion of non-war funding was provided through war appropriations.

This is a problem that both Chairman RYAN and I have been looking at in the Budget Committee. We both agree that the OCO budget should only be used to fund those requirements that are related to the transitory, non-recurring costs of war activities. In fact, the Budget Committee adopted report language as part of the budget resolution affirming that goal. It says, "Abuse of the OCO/GWOT cap adjustment is a backdoor loophole that undermines the integrity of the budget process. The Budget Committee will exercise its oversight responsibilities with respect to the use of the OCO/GWOT designation in the FY 2015 budget process, and it will oppose increases above the levels the Administration and our military commanders say are needed to carry out operations unless it can be clearly demonstrated that such amounts are war-related."

We should provide our military and diplomatic corps all the resources they need to carry out the important missions the country gives them. However, we should not use the OCO budget as a back-door mechanism to get around discretionary funding caps. The continuing resolution gives the Administration the spending authority needed to keep the government open and to give the necessary resources to support those engaged in operations overseas. It does not give the Administration a blank check to finance non-war activities.

In the coming months when the House considers the final full-year appropriation for overseas contingency operations, I am committed to working with Chairman RYAN to ensure that funds appropriated in the OCO budget will only be used for war-related costs.

RECOGNIZING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 225th anniversary since the creation of the United States Customs Service, the oldest legacy agency consolidated into the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), within the Department of Homeland Security.

The history of the U.S. Customs Service is in many ways the history of the nation. In the years after the American Revolution, our young Nation needed to generate funds to power its economy and rebuild its infrastructure. On July 31, 1789, the First United States Congress, in its fifth act, created the U.S. Customs Service, staffed by official Customs collectors. In this role, a Customs collector had the responsibility to supervise the collection of custom duties on imported goods in a particular city or region to enforce the newly passed Tariff Act.

Customs collectors also oversaw the building of revenue cutters, to patrol our coasts, and lighthouses to guide ships to our ports, which was essential to the Nation's maritime security and trade activities. For over 100 years after its birth, before the passage of the Sixteenth Amendment, the tariffs collected by the Customs Service were the primary source of funds for the entire government, which paid for the nation's early growth, infrastructure and land purchases such as the Louisiana and Oregon territories.

The responsibilities of the U.S. Customs Service would be reshaped and refocused following the attacks of 9/11. The Homeland Security Act of 2002 transferred the U.S. Customs Service in its entirety from the Department of the Treasury to the Department of Homeland Security.

Today, CBP manages the Nation's 328 air, land, and sea ports of entry. CBP officers, like their predecessor Customs inspectors, serve on the frontlines, securing our homeland from transnational threats, including terrorists, terrorist weapons, drugs and other contraband, while simultaneously facilitating the legitimate flow travel and trade across our borders.

While the responsibilities of a CBP Officer have grown since 9/11, Officers continue to perform essential revenue-collecting services as when established by the founders of the Republic, and enforce hundreds of immigration, agriculture, and trade laws.

The men and women of CBP are still making history. They continue to fuel our Nation's economy and support American jobs by facilitating legitimate trade and travel while keeping our borders secure.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to commend the men and women of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection for their many years of service and wish them a happy 225th anniversary.