

Mr. Speaker, it is time that we take a stand to put an end to long-term homelessness in America. I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this critically important bill, so that we can end homelessness across this nation, because no person deserves to live without a home or to be on the streets.

OUTSTANDING CIVIC LEADERSHIP

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sgt. Matt Levan of the Sugar Land Police Department for being named the 2014 Officer of the Year. This award reflects his exceptional contributions to our community and his outstanding civic leadership.

Sgt. Levan began his service for the Sugar Land Police Department 19 years ago and continues to display leadership and commitment to his job. As a member of the Houston Metro Internet Crimes against Children Task Force, he has taken a special interest in the welfare of children in Sugar Land. Always going a step further, he makes a practice of sharing his experience and insights to empower the public to better defend themselves from criminal threats. Thanks to officers like Sgt. Levan, residents of Sugar Land can sleep better at night knowing that our police officers are dedicated to serving our community and keeping us safe.

I commend Sgt. Levan for his outstanding leadership and service to our community at the Sugar Land Police Department. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Sgt. Matt Levan on being named the 2014 Officer of the Year.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
CORPORAL TYLER SCOTT BREWER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life, and note the passing of Tyler Scott Brewer of Stanton, Kentucky, whom passed away on January 24, 2015 at the young age of 23.

According to his friends and family, Tyler lived a life of adventure, compassion, servitude and the natural ability to touch lives. His love for his family, friends, music, and his Kentucky home was sincere and eternal. Tyler was an absolute joy to be around, a true free spirit, and had a network of friends that stretched from coast to coast.

As a child, Tyler loved playing outside. He was especially fond of the days spent on Cave Run Lake with his family. He attended Bowen Elementary School and was praised by his teachers for being an excellent student and an extremely caring person; even at an early age he was an advocate for those who were different or less fortunate. It was in elementary school where Tyler was introduced to one of his passions, Powell County Pirate football.

Tyler started playing football in 5th grade and played all the way through his senior season of high school. He was a four-year starter on the varsity team while playing middle linebacker on defense and full back on offense. In addition to being an outstanding football player, he was also awarded the honor of Academic All State all four seasons of high school. Tyler graduated with honors from Powell County High School in 2010 and enrolled at The University of Kentucky (UK).

While at UK, Tyler decided to join the Marine Corps. He left for Paris Island, South Carolina in March 2011 to embark on the most rigorous training regimen required by any branch of the military; training that molds a recruit into a Marine. His proudest moment was his successful completion of the rite of passage known as The Crucible. Along with being a model Marine, Tyler earned the rank of Corporal in less than 3 and half years. Tyler served one tour in Afghanistan, as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, where he earned the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal.

Tyler left the Marine Corps in September 2014 to return to life as a civilian. Upon returning to Kentucky, Tyler enrolled in the welding program at Maysville Community and Technical College. He was extremely excited about the school but unfortunately he would never fulfill his goal of completing the program.

Tragically, on January 24, 2015, the bright light known as Tyler Scott Brewer was taken in an automobile accident. Over 1,000 mourners visited Tyler. The outpouring of love from people all across the nation was historic for his small Powell County community and a testament to the amount of lives he touched and affected in such a short amount of time.

Tyler was buried with full military honors and laid to rest at the Donnie G. Randall Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Stanton, Kentucky.

Tyler Scott Brewer was a son, brother, grandson, great grandson, nephew, cousin, Marine, and a true friend to all. His kind and loving spirit will be missed, but his legacy will not be forgotten.

MCCOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
NAMED A 2014 BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate McCoy Elementary School in Carrollton, Texas, for earning the distinction of being named one of the nation's most successful schools through the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program.

In 1982, the Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize schools for their high or significantly improved achievement. The program's goal is to identify the methods of thriving American schools to inspire others to imitate their successful practices.

In October of 2014, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan named McCoy Elementary School as a 2014 Blue Ribbon School. Schools selected for national honors reflect high standards and accountability to their stu-

dents and community alike. McCoy Elementary School remains committed to enhancing the quality of learning for its students. The tireless work of the school's educators and families cannot go unnoticed, commensurate with the hard work of the students who helped earn this award.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating McCoy Elementary School on its accomplishment as a National Blue Ribbon School.

HONORING ALAMEDA COUNTY AS-
SISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JOHN JAY ON RETIREMENT

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Alameda County Assistant District Attorney John Jay on his upcoming retirement.

John has devoted his career to achieving justice for the residents of Alameda County and to keeping them safe. Following law school he served as a law clerk in the Alameda County Assistant District Attorney's Office and then, in December 1979, was appointed to be a deputy district attorney.

Over his 35 year career, John has played a positive role in nearly every part of the District Attorney's Office. Early on he tackled some of the most serious felony cases in the county, proving to be an excellent trial attorney.

John first took on a management position in 1998 when he became head of the Alameda Branch. Later he became a preliminary examination team leader in the Wiley Manuel Branch and the Assistant in Charge of the Fremont Branch, a position he holds today.

John has been a terrific mentor to the many young prosecutors in the District Attorney's Office, including myself. He also taught outside the office as well, serving as a criminal law and evidence professor at Chabot College and Las Positas College. And, he worked with police officers to help them understand what a prosecutor looks for when presenting a case.

John has well earned his retirement. He looks forward to spending time with his wife Corrine and enjoying his interests in carpentry, travel and the outdoors.

I want to thank John for his years of dedicated service. I also want to wish him a very enjoyable retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 108, I was absent attending Auditor Tom Schweich's funeral in the State of Missouri. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".