

Throughout this coming year, the residents of Seaside Park are celebrating their 125th anniversary—a remarkable occasion for a thriving community that has accomplished so much over the years and has never lost its beauty or charm while proving to be incredibly resilient in the face of some unfathomable challenges.

Today, the borough is guided by the outstanding leadership of Mayor John Peterson, Jr.—who has served for a total of more than 15 years—and the diligent members of the borough council: President Matthew DeMichele, Frank “Fritz” McHugh, Gina Condos, Ray Amabile, Marty Wilk, Jr., and William Kraft. The Seaside Park community has so much to be proud of as they continue to build on their profound legacy as a community of neighbors who care for each other, warmly welcome tourists and visitors, and cherish the natural beauty of their area.

A life-long resident of Seaside Park and true steward of its breathtaking beaches, Mayor Peterson has embodied the spirit of Seaside and has been outspoken about the dangerous threat posed by the enormous and rushed offshore wind projects to the Jersey Shore, our local environment, the livelihood of local fishermen and the tourism that is the lifeblood of the region. His deep care for the people and our community-wide love for the environment will help ensure Seaside Park continues to prosper well into the future.

Seeing its enormous success today, it's important to note that Seaside Park had a very modest beginning—established first with only a small year-round population.

Reportedly, residents hauled sand to build the first roads in the early days of the borough, and many families raised cattle, horses and chickens.

Just a year after its founding, Seaside Park Union Church—then known as “Chapel by the Sea” was built, soon followed by St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.

Several markets, five movie theaters, a furniture showroom, an automobile dealership and a blacksmith were the foundation of the town's commercial activity, and a small room over Franklin Harris' General Store on Third and Central Avenues was used as the first classroom for students before a one-story schoolhouse was built in 1902.

Seaside Park's Life Saving Service—established in 1872—played a significant role in the development of the barrier island with stations located nearly every three miles from Barnegat Inlet northward. These buildings later became Coast Guard stations upon the creation of the service in 1915, and most of them still exist and are used today for other purposes.

In 1913, Seaside Park's volunteer fire department was founded, and its company built their first vehicle—a horse drawn hose truck. The large iron gong that alerted volunteers of an emergency sits outside the firehouse at the Municipal Complex to this very day.

Undoubtedly, the extraordinary spirit that moved the founders of Seaside Park to build such a close-knit community on this beautiful island continues to sustain its residents, who have overcome unimaginable trials with incredible fortitude in recent years.

Just a decade ago, Superstorm Sandy devastated Seaside Park, forcing families to abandon their homes that bore the brunt of the historic storm's wrath. Less than a year later, a

raging fire caused by a wire damaged from the storm's intense flooding engulfed several blocks of boardwalk that had been finally rebuilt.

Not too long after, Seaside Park came under attack in 2016 when a terrorist inspired by ISIS and Al Qaeda detonated a bomb along the route of the Seaside Semper Five Marine Corps Charity 5k race. Fortunately, no one was injured—but the shocking explosion on the streets of this small town shook the community, which had suffered three losses in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Through all these tribulations and more, the residents of Seaside Park have bounced back with great strength and unbelievable resilience. Despite the years, the storms and even the terrorist threat, their incredible tenacity and enduring perseverance—which is the very foundation of their storied beginning—offers great promise for the future of this vibrant community for decades to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE END OIL AND GAS TAX SUBSIDIES ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the End Oil and Gas Tax Subsidies Act of 2023. This legislation eliminates nearly a dozen of the most egregious tax breaks enjoyed by the oil and gas industry. President Biden proposed a similar initiative in his Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

The climate is changing. This fact is indisputable, as is the fact that humans are the primary cause of the changing climate. The United States emitted nearly 6 billion tons of greenhouse gases in 2020 and the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions comes from the combustion of fossil fuels.

Despite consistent profitability, fossil fuel companies receive billions of dollars in federal tax breaks and subsidies, which underwrite the costs of continued oil and gas production. These forgone revenues undermine the United States' ability to combat the climate crisis and invest in critical initiatives like education, housing, infrastructure, and healthcare.

Recent analysis released by the Stockholm Environment Institute found that just two oil and gas tax subsidies—the expensing of intangible drilling costs and the percentage depletion allowance—increased the value of new oil and gas projects by more than \$20 billion in some years. These two subsidies alone helped spur and sustain the shale development boom in the United States. Follow-up analysis examining the impacts of continuing these subsidies found that the subsidies increase average rate of return by 55 percent to 68 percent and more than 96 percent of the subsidy value goes to excess profits.

Oil and gas tax subsidies are unnecessary and a wasteful use of hard-earned taxpayer dollars. I look forward to working with my colleagues to rid them from the tax code once and for all.

RECOGNIZING THE HEGEMAN FAMILY AS NATIONAL OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARM FAMILY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jon and Amy Hegeman and their children, Ella Kate and Jon Henry for being named National Outstanding Young Farm family. This award is administered by the Outstanding Farmers of America and sponsored by the John Deere Manufacturing Company along with the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

The Calhoun County farmers received the honor during the Outstanding Farmers of America Awards Congress on February 18th in Appleton, Wisconsin after undergoing an intense application process gauging their farm growth, conservation practices and community involvement.

The Hegemans primarily raise plants for distribution to big-box stores. These plants include Dracaena Spike, English ivy, the polka dot plant, ornamental asparagus plants, Boston ferns, spider plants, purple heart and pothos.

Jon oversees a staff of 42 people in order to satisfy orders. Amy operates an equine business of raising quarter horses and teaching horseback riding lessons while also running the household. The Hegemans attend Grace Fellowship Church in Anniston.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this young family on this great honor. Congratulations to the Hegemans.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARKLAND

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my hometown, the City of Parkland, in celebration of its 60th anniversary.

Parkland is a diverse community of more than 34,000 people that was established in 1963. Nestled in the northwest corner of Broward County at the edge of Everglades National Park, Parkland is unique amongst its neighbors in its dedication to protecting its park areas. Given its name, Parkland boasts nine parks that span the city's landscape, each providing unique opportunities for recreation and relaxation for families. Beyond the parks, Parkland is a picturesque city, with numerous lakes dotting the landscape and tall trees lining the residential streets.

Unfortunately, Parkland has also experienced significant loss. On February 14, 2018, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School my alma mater, which educates many of Parkland's children, became the scene of one of the deadliest mass shootings in American history. But together, the resilience of this community was shown not only by its ability to unite and heal—but by its strength to transform this trauma into change.