

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of the first naturalized Asian American to become a flag officer in the United States Navy, Rear Admiral Ming Erh Chang.

He was born in Shanghai, China, in 1932. Just over a decade later, in 1946, his family immigrated to the United States to escape the Chinese Communist Party.

His dream was to attend the U.S. Naval Academy. However, because he was not a citizen, he was not allowed to do so. He was not deterred.

Instead, he attended the College of William and Mary. After graduating, he joined the Navy in 1958, becoming one of the first officers to earn the rank of admiral after completing officer candidate school rather than the Naval Academy.

Rear Admiral Chang served our Nation honorably for 34 years before retiring in 1992. He dedicated the rest of his life to mentoring and promoting young Asian Americans so they could achieve the American Dream as he had done.

Rear Admiral Chang passed away in October 2017. He embodied what it meant to be an American, to serve our great Nation, and to carve a path forward for future generations of Asian Americans. It is a privilege to honor his legacy here today.

HONORING THE POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, the relationship between Poland and the United States and the contributions of Poles and Polish Americans to liberty during and since our American Revolution in 1776 are legendary.

As Polish Constitution Day approaches this Friday, May 3, our bipartisan House Polish Caucus will introduce a resolution recognizing the 105th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Poland and the United States. Those began on May 2, 1919, following the devastation of World War I.

Our Nation's enduring friendship dates back even further to Polish Generals Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Casimir Pulaski who nobly served during America's Revolutionary War fighting for America's independence.

During World War I, famed pianist Ignacy Jan Paderewski and Henryk Sienkiewicz traveled to the United States to promote the idea of an independent Poland.

Following World War I, President Woodrow Wilson delivered a compelling speech to Congress on January 22, 1917, advocating for Polish independence.

Let us pay tribute to the many contributions of Polish Americans and Poles to liberty on this Earth.

As Poland's first President Lech Walesa observes: "Every Pole is born with the Freedom gene."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to co-sponsor this bipartisan resolution.

WILDFIRE SEASON APPROACHING

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, with California's peak wildfire season approaching, many of my constituents are weary of the increased threat of wildfires. First responders' ability to detect wildfires and share information rapidly and securely during a wildfire is a matter of life and death.

That is why I am thrilled that the House this week passed the Fire Weather Development Act, which I helped introduce with Representatives GARCIA and CARAVEO. This bipartisan bill includes two bills I worked on that boost fire weather forecasting technologies and public safety communication standards, which I introduced after hearing from local, State, and Federal first responders.

I am proud to co-lead this common-sense bill, and I will continue to fight to get this across the finish line so we can improve wildfire readiness and protect our communities.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSION CORPS

(Ms. TOKUDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TOKUDA. Madam Speaker, the United States Public Health Service Commission Corps is one of the Nation's uniformed service branches on the front lines of public health access across our country and our world.

Since wildfires destroyed Lahaina last August, 86 officers have been deployed to Maui to support behavioral health, disaster recovery, and environmental health responses.

They provided clinical care, created safe spaces for people to face their trauma, and made sure that first responders got the mental health support they needed, too. They even help initiate a biosurveillance program to monitor toxic exposure on first responders and the Hawaii National Guard.

Understanding the importance of meeting people where they are at, they provided services at schools, at congregate and non-congregate shelters, and at community events. Working with trusted local entities, they developed a mandatory cultural briefing for all responders, greatly enhancing their ability to care for a community in crisis.

The next time you thank our uniformed service branches for their service to our country, remember the men and the women of the Public Health Corps. When the health and wellbeing of our communities are on the line,

when you need them, they will be there.

HONORING TERRY ANDERSON

(Mr. RYAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry Anderson, who recently passed at his home in Greenwood Lake, New York. Terry served our country with honor and distinction, first as a marine and later as a journalist.

In 1985, while reporting on the Lebanese civil war as the AP's chief Middle Eastern correspondent, Terry was abducted by terrorists from Hezbollah and held hostage for 7 years. Terry never lost his sense of humor or his fiery spirit.

After his return to freedom, his extraordinary humanitarian efforts uplifted lives in our community and across the globe. Terry cofounded the Vietnam Children's Fund, building over 50 schools for communities in need. It was my privilege to fight alongside him to end veteran homelessness through the Rumshock Veterans Foundation on whose board he served.

My thoughts and our whole community's thoughts are with Terry's family and the countless friends and colleagues that come from a life well lived and grounded in service.

I want to share in closing words from Terry himself: "If you keep the hatred, you can't have the joy." I think we can all learn something from Mr. Terry Anderson, a true American patriot.

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RECLASSIFYING MARIJUANA

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the news that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will soon reclassify marijuana as a less dangerous drug.

Reclassifying marijuana from a schedule I drug to a schedule III drug while not legalizing marijuana is an important step in normalizing cannabis use in the United States and recognizing that marijuana is not cocaine, and it is not heroin.

The order will broaden access to the drug for medicinal purposes and move us further away from a time of prosecution and incarceration for simple possession, something that has had damaging effects to Black and Brown communities across this country.

I commend President Biden for his important work on this issue. From pardoning thousands of Americans convicted of simple possession of marijuana to reviewing all Federal marijuana laws, the Biden administration is taking the necessary steps to improve marijuana policy in the United States.