

TO CONGRATULATE THE FUND A
CURE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER
ORGANIZATION OF NEWTOWN,
PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, November has been designated Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. This disease and its alarming statistics call for aggressive measures to develop early detection and treatment tools before its incidence increases dramatically. More advanced scientific research will give hope to those diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, which is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate of just six percent. Since there are no effective early detection tools or curative treatments for pancreatic cancer, it is expected to become the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths by 2020. I, therefore, commend the Fund a Cure for Pancreatic Cancer Organization, of Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and its 2013 Run Over Cancer 5K that took place on July 6 with more than 250 participants. Congratulations for raising over \$35,000 for the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital's Pancreatic Cancer Research Team. The proceeds from this annual event will be presented to the hospital in Philadelphia on Dec. 2, 2013.

HONORING PHILLIP CHRISTOPHER
RUARK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Phillip Christopher Ruark. Phillip is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Phillip has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Phillip has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Phillip has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Phillip performed needed maintenance work in Wallace State Park in Cameron, Missouri, including raising the necessary funds and installing a handicap-accessible bench.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Phillip Christopher Ruark for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMEMORATING VINCENT
EVERETT FIELDS

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. LANCE. I rise today to honor the memory of Vincent Everett Fields of Long Valley, New Jersey who honorably served his country during the Second World War. Mr. Fields was a Private First Class, United States Marine Corps, and was killed in action during the battle of Iwo Jima on March 6, 1945.

Mr. Fields was 23 years old at the time of his death and left behind a young wife and a baby daughter. He was a member of the 5th Marine Amphibious Corps, which assaulted the Island with sea and air support. In the battle of Iwo Jima our Nation lost 6,800 American service members.

At the time of this tremendous loss, General James L. Jones, 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps, stated, "The valor and sacrifice of the Marines and Sailors who fought on Iwo Jima is, today and forever, the standard by which we judge what we are and what we might become."

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL
ENTREPRENEURS' DAY

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. ESTY, Mr. Speaker, today is National Entrepreneurs' Day, a time when we celebrate the hard work of small business owners, inventors, and start-up companies across the country. Entrepreneurs are truly driving growth in our economy, and the small businesses they create account for more than 97% of all employers in Connecticut.

I had the honor of celebrating National Entrepreneurs' Day yesterday—a day early—back home in Connecticut. I visited iDevices, a local company in Avon that creates wireless connectivity for smartphones and tablets. The company builds apps such as the iGrill Bluetooth cooking thermometer, the iShower, and the iKitchen. The CEO, Christopher Allen, started with one product, the iGrill, and \$150,000 of pre-seed funding through Connecticut Innovations. He used that money to grow his business and take his product to market, partnering with key tech players like Apple and receiving a major endorsement from Mark Zuckerberg. Last summer, the founder of Facebook, "liked" iDevice's iGrill, and his endorsement went viral sparking major traffic on iDevice's website and demand for their product.

Since their launch, iDevices has grown from a small staff of 3 people to a company that now employs 28 people. And they're still growing. Yesterday, Christopher told me they expect to have 40 employees by the end of the year. He has built a campus in Avon the likes of what one would expect to find in Silicon Valley that provides a nurturing environment for his engineers and employees to innovate and create new products. The company has also invested in our local students—they hosted four interns this past summer from

local colleges, and those interns will be returning as full-time employees upon graduation.

With all apologies to my colleagues in Northern California, Christopher has created a business in my district that attracts the talent and minds that would typically go to Facebook and Google. He and his team are providing a way to keep our homegrown New England talent in Connecticut for generations to come. iDevices and Christopher are just one of many entrepreneurs making a difference in Connecticut and across the country. I am proud and grateful that they call Connecticut home.

I look forward to continuing to work with my friend Rep. Scott Peters on issues to improve our economy and support job creation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF EDWARD O. WATTS, SR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Edward O. Watts, Sr., director of Watts Architecture & Engineering, who passed away on October 31st, 2013 in Buffalo at the age of 70.

A Western New York native, Mr. Watts grew up in Grand Island and graduated from Camden Academy in Alabama. He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tuskegee University, and went on to gain his master's degree from Baldwin Wallace College.

Mr. Watts began his career at Lockheed Martin in Atlanta as a design engineer, and moved on to work for DuPont in Cleveland, Ohio before being transferred to Niagara Falls. He was able to follow the American Dream and start his own business, now known as Watts Architecture & Engineering. The company began with just one employee—Mr. Watts himself—and now employs about 100 people. Recently, the firm celebrated its 25th anniversary. Mr. Watts received many business and design awards for his work, perhaps the most prominent being the U.S. Small Business Administration Graduate Firm of the Year Award in 2010.

Dedicated to giving back to communities that helped him grow, Mr. Watts was a member of the Tuskegee University Alumni Association, and frequently returned to the school to raise funds to upgrade the engineering department and for scholarships. He helped fund the Watts Family Scholarships at Alabama State University in honor of his mother, who was a graduate of the university. Mr. Watts also generously contributed to schools in his native Western New York. His company provides scholarships every year at the University at Buffalo for minority students, one for the School of Engineering and one for the School of Architecture. Mr. Watts completed the University at Buffalo Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership Program, and for more than 10 years he returned as a mentor for numerous business owners.

Mr. Watts was a member of the Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church and served on its board of trustees as church treasurer. His favorite pastime was playing the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail in Alabama—a passion he pursued at home as well. He organized the