

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL
PARK COLLEGE NIGHTHAWKS

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my hometown National Park College Nighthawks on winning the 2024 NJCAA Division II Basketball National Championship. After achieving a perfect 26–0 regular season record, the Nighthawks claimed the crown this year in Danville, Illinois. On his way to achieving greatness, head coach Dillon Hargrove was also named the NJCAA Region 2 Coach of the Year.

Nighthawk Taylor Harrell was named the tournament’s Pin Ryan Most Valuable Player. The sophomore center had 50 points, 35 rebounds, and 2 blocks throughout the tournament including a double-double of 18 points and 15 rebounds in the semifinals and 22 points and 8 rebounds in the championship game. I also want to recognize the coaches and staff who helped bring this championship back home to the Fourth Congressional District of Arkansas: Dillon Hargrove (Head Coach), Drake Henderson (Assistant Coach), Timothy Webb (Assistant Coach), Rich Thompson (Athletic Director), Mark Oliver (Sports Information Director). And the players who worked hard to achieve this great accomplishment: Hunter Burke, Siddiq Canty, Keryn Collins, Will Dykes, Taylor Harrell, Ja’Bryant Hill, Them Koang, Madison Peaster, Anthony Swift, Colen Thompson, Brody Tucker, Mondo Watkins, Nakavieon White, Chris Crew, Alveon Harris, and Tavarius Vinson.

Having been a college athlete myself, I have a deep-rooted appreciation for competitive team sports. One of the three key pillars my staff and I follow is “compete to win.” The NPC Nighthawks have done just that.

Mr. Speaker, this team has made Hot Springs and the state of Arkansas unbelievably proud, and I am honored to recognize and congratulate them today. These young men will forever be remembered in the history of Arkansas sports. I yield back.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF DR. MARION ROSS
FEDRICK

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving wife, dedicated mother, committed community servant, and effective higher education administrator, Dr. Marion Ross Fedrick. President Dr. Fedrick will be honored for her seven years of service at Albany State University during the annual Blue and Gold Gala that will take place on Satur-

day, April 6, 2024. Dr. Fedrick is leaving the university to become the new Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff for Georgia State University. She will also serve as Special Advisor to Chancellor Sonny Perdue for his Historically Black Colleges and Universities Initiative.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Dr. Fedrick has sought to better herself through education to serve others. She is a three-time graduate of the University of Georgia, earning a bachelor’s degree in adult education, with a concentration in organizational development, a master’s degree in public administration, and a Ph.D. in higher education.

Because of her commitment to excellence, she has excelled professionally. She has given her time and talents to several organizations to include Clark-Atlanta University, Emory University Hospitals, State of Georgia Office of State Personnel Administration, AT&T, and the Former Bell South Corporation. Dr. Fedrick also served as the University System of Georgia’s Vice Chancellor of Human Resources.

On August 14, 2018, the trajectory of Albany State University changed forever when Dr. Fedrick was appointed at the 10th President of the University after serving as Interim President and Executive Vice President. It has been said that: “Education is the passport to the future, it belongs to those who prepare for it today.” Dr. Fedrick used her time at Albany State to prepare thousands of young people to embrace their futures with confidence. She has done this by being a leader who has embraced focusing on the whole being of the student—academically, socially and spiritually. Dr. Fedrick has expanded access and opportunities for students by increasing campus-wide resources. Dr. Fedrick has truly lived by the words of Mary McLeod Bethune when she said that “We have powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we direct their power toward good ends.” Dr. Fedrick has helped all students who have come through the doors of Albany State during her tenure to direct their power towards the betterment of humankind.

Dr. Fedrick has truly advanced the University through a variety of initiatives to include a redesign of the university’s academic colleges, approval of the University System of Georgia’s first nexus degrees and the design and implementation of the University’s integrated student success model. As a result of her ingenuity and visionary leadership, the University has achieved a sixteen percent increase in retention and a six percent increase in enrollment.

Dr. Fedrick is widely respected by her colleagues because of her enduring commitment to student success, racial and social equity and the power of community. She has used her powerful voice to be a spokesperson for access, equity, and fairness. Dr. Fedrick has helped to strengthen the bond between Albany State and the greater Albany community. Dr. Fedrick has been associated with and contrib-

uted to a wide variety of initiatives in the University System of Georgia to include the mental health task force and The Georgia COVID–19 Health Equity Council. This initiative helped the Georgia Department of Community Health to improve its outreach to communities most affected by the virus. This ensured the fair distribution and administration of the COVID–19 vaccine.

Dr. Fedrick has accomplished much in her life but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of her husband, Horace and her daughter, Grace.

On a personal note, I have worked with many University Presidents over the years. Dr. Fedrick has been one of the most effective presidents that I will have worked with during my time in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the 765,000 people of Georgia’s Second Congressional District in expressing our deepest gratitude and best wishes to President Dr. Marion Ross Fedrick for her dedicated service to Albany State University. May God continue to bless her and her family as she enters a new chapter in her remarkable life.

COMMEMORATING B&B THEATRES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable journey of B&B Theatres as they mark their centennial milestone. As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of B&B Theatres, we reflect upon a century of enriching experiences, cherished memories, and cultural contributions in my home state of Missouri, as well as communities across the U.S.

Beyond its cinematic offerings, B&B Theatres has been a beacon of community engagement, fostering connections and bringing people together. Through partnerships with local organizations, schools, and charities, B&B Theatres has demonstrated a profound dedication to giving back to the communities it serves.

Moreover, B&B Theatres has continuously embraced innovation, adapting to the evolving landscape of the entertainment industry while staying true to its core values. From the introduction of state-of-the-art technology to the enhancement of amenities and services, B&B Theatres has consistently elevated the moviegoing experience, ensuring that patrons receive nothing short of excellence.

As we honor the legacy of B&B Theatres on this momentous occasion, let us extend our heartfelt congratulations to the founders, employees, and patrons who have contributed to its enduring success. May the next century be filled with continued prosperity, innovation, and memorable experiences for all who walk through the doors of B&B Theatres.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In recognition of its 100 years of unparalleled entertainment and community service, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the remarkable legacy of B&B Theatres and the profound impact it has had on our Nation's cultural landscape.

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE TEXAS LIONS CAMP

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Texas Lions Camp in Kerr County.

The Texas Lions Camp was incorporated as a 501(c)3 by the State of Texas on April 4, 1949. The polio epidemic was rampant during this time, and the Texas Lions were looking for ways to give children affected by polio a place where they could experience some normalcy in their lives. Congress passed two resolutions that authorized the sale of excess federal land surrounding the Kerrville Veterans Hospital. One of my predecessors, Congressman Ovie Clark Fisher, was instrumental in the passage of this legislation. Then-Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson was also an early supporter of Texas Lions Camp. Mr. Bill Mickelsen, a Lion from Kerrville, traveled tirelessly to Washington D.C. to advocate for the "Texas Lions League for Crippled Children" camp in Texas. Mr. Mickelsen and his friend J.C. "Buddy" Murray created a detailed scale model of the Camp and eventually constructed the buildings.

However, one of the strings attached to the sale of five hundred and four acres was that the Lions had to raise \$100,000 within six months to guarantee construction. In pursuit of these dollars, the Lions established their "life membership status." A Lion was Governor of Texas at the time, Allan Shivers. He broadcasted over the radio a call for donations to the Camp. Mr. Jack Wiech served as the first president of Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville. He went on a speaking tour across the State to drum up donations. As the six-month deadline loomed, the Lions were still \$20,000 short of their goal. Mr. Sealy McCreless of San Antonio wrote a check that pushed the Lions over their goal for the Camp fundraiser.

The next step was to begin construction and raise \$150,000 to cover those costs. The Lions hit the road again for a second fundraising campaign.

Mr. Herb Petry, the Lions Clubs International president at the time, said the Camp for special needs children "is the best example of Lionism in action." Mr. Petry went on to say that "what is being done in Kerrville under the banner of Texas Lionism must be pleasing in the sight of Him Who first taught us to serve, to be our brother's keeper, and to put the Golden Rule into practice."

Mr. Mickelsen worked tirelessly for fifteen years to construct the Texas Lions Camp based on his original small-scale model. Famous Kerrville names, including Hal Peterson and Howard Butt of the HEB Grocery Company, donated resources to round out the construction and supplies for Camp.

Over the years, the Camp adapted to allow other special-needs children to participate.

Children living with blindness, hearing and speaking disorders, and various crippled limbs all enjoyed Texas Lions Camp together. This defied the original prognostications of psychologists in the 1950s, who believed children with varying disabilities could not get along. However, they learned to help each other and combine their strengths to thrive. Several hundred adult blind were also trained at the Camp through a contract with the State of Texas for a couple decades into the 1980s.

Every summer, children with physical handicaps such as diabetes, down syndrome, polio, missing limbs, blindness, and other disabilities are accommodated every year at a weeklong camp session at no cost to their families. Over 82,000 children have attended Texas Lions Camp since it opened in 1949. The Camp motto is "All Can Do!" Campers experience a zip line, climbing wall, ropes course, fishing, boating, swimming, archery, arts and crafts, miniature golf, and much more. Therapeutic horseback riding was added in the 1980s and became a favorite pastime for campers. A more recent addition is the family camping experience, allowing the families of kids with special needs to experience Texas Lions Camp.

On a more personal note, my grandfather was afflicted by polio, and my grandmother was his devoted caregiver. I will never forget their sacrificial love for one another and my family. I am grateful to the eight hundred Texas Lions Clubs International that work tirelessly to provide funds for children with special needs to attend Texas Lions Camp.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CLAY
ADAM BRYANT

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Clay Adam Bryant, a cherished resident of Pottsville, Arkansas, whose passing on March 23, 2024, leaves a profound void in the community and in Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District.

Born on March 21, 1977, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Adam was the beloved son of Clay and Dianna Bryant. Throughout his life, he exemplified compassion, dedication, and a steadfast commitment to service. Adam's legacy as a devoted firefighter spanned over 24 years, during which he selflessly served the Chickalah and Pottsville Fire Departments. His bravery and resilience in the face of danger touched countless lives and inspired admiration among his peers.

Beyond his role as a firefighter, Adam was known for his caring heart and willingness to lend a helping hand. He found joy in coaching softball for his children, embodying the values of teamwork and camaraderie. A staunch supporter of the Razorbacks, Adam's passion for sports brought together friends and family in celebration of shared victories.

In his spare time, Adam found solace in the great outdoors and enjoyed hunting and fishing. His presence brought warmth and laughter to every gathering, especially when surrounded by his family, including his wife, Esperanza, his children, grandchildren, brother, sister, nieces, nephews, and a multitude of cherished friends.

As we reflect on Adam's life, let us remember his infectious smile, his dedication to his community, and his profound impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him. May his legacy of kindness and service to others continue to inspire future generations.

May we honor Adam's memory by embracing the principles of compassion, unity, and selflessness that defined his life. Our thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones during this time of loss.

RECOGNIZING RABBI BENNETT
MILLER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rabbi Bennett Miller as he celebrates his 50th year in the Rabbinate. It is my honor to join with the members of Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple and the greater community in celebrating this milestone.

Upon becoming a rabbi in 1974, Rabbi Miller served under Rabbi Harvey Fields at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple. In 1977 he became Senior Rabbi at Anshe Emeth, where he continued to serve until his retirement in 2018.

Following his retirement, Rabbi Miller became Rabbi Emeritus of Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple; he also served for one year as the Interim Senior Rabbi at Temple Emanu-El in Westfield. He also served as National Chair of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) and currently serves as Chair of the URJ/ARZA Herzl Society. As Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Miller provides pastoral guidance and leadership to the congregation and continues to support Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple's mission of religious education, spiritual growth, and social action.

Rabbi Miller attended Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati and earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. In 2024, he received the Builders of Zion Award and in 2023 he was the recipient of Matan's Trail Blazer's Award.

Despite his retirement, Rabbi Bennett Miller has continued to provide outstanding rabbinical leadership and contributions to the community. I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Rabbi Miller on his 50th year in the Rabbinate and thanking him for his ongoing service.

RECOGNIZING THE EVERETT HIGH
SCHOOL RIFLE TEAM

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Everett High School Rifle Team on winning the 2024 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Rifle Championships held in Meyersdale, Pennsylvania.

The discipline, focus, and sportsmanship demonstrated by each member of the Everett High School Rifle Team are a testament to

their character and the exceptional coaching they have received. Through countless hours of practice and unwavering determination, they have honed their skills to perfection.

Under the leadership of Coach Coltin Rice, the team has gone undefeated since 2017. Their dedication, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to excellence have propelled them to new heights, setting the bar even higher for future teams.

On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate the Everett High School Rifle Team, and wish them every continued success in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THIENSVILLE VILLAGE PRESIDENT VAN MOBLEY

HON. GLENN GROTHMAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the remarkable leadership and service of Van Mobley, President of the Village of Thiensville, whose unwavering dedication has significantly enriched the lives of his constituents and propelled the progress of his community over the last twelve years.

Throughout his dedicated career, Van Mobley has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to public service and community development. His journey began in 2006 when he was appointed to the Village Board as a Trustee, filling a vacant seat, and subsequently earning the trust of his constituents through two additional three-year terms. In 2012, he was elected Village President, a position he has since held for four consecutive three-year terms.

Under President Mobley's stewardship, Thiensville has experienced remarkable growth and advancement. His visionary leadership has spurred significant infrastructure improvements and development projects throughout the village. Notably, he spearheaded the development on South Main Street, overseeing crucial water infrastructure installations and the establishment of key properties, including the Thiensville Health Alliance, Reuter Insurance, and a new Village parking lot. His pivotal role in the Pigeon Creek flood control project has been instrumental in safeguarding Main Street from flooding during major rain events.

President Mobley's commitment to collaboration and intergovernmental cooperation has been exemplified by his efforts to merge fire and EMS services with the City of Mequon, resulting in the formation of the Southern Ozaukee Fire and EMS Department. This innovative partnership has garnered recognition from the Wisconsin Policy Forum for its effectiveness and efficiency.

Beyond infrastructure, President Mobley has overseen numerous enhancements in Village Park, including the construction of the Port Washington State Bank River Stage, new Comfort Station, playground upgrades, and boat launch improvements. Van Mobley's dedication to preserving Thiensville's rich history and heritage is evident in his personal investment in the historic Thiensville State Bank building on Green Bay Road, which he purchased and meticulously renovated.

In recognition of his exceptional service and tireless efforts on behalf of the residents of Thiensville, I extend my heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to Van Mobley. His accomplishments have had a profound and lasting impact on the community, and I wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND PROFESSOR EMERITA DR. ANN WYLIE'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, a great Marylander and important member of our University of Maryland community celebrated her eightieth birthday: Dr. Ann Wylie. She has educated countless students from across Maryland and America ever since she first became an Assistant Professor for the University of Maryland's Department of Agronomy in 1972. The following year, she became a founding faculty member of the University of Maryland's renowned Department of Geology.

From the President's Medal and the Scholar-Teacher Award at the University of Maryland, College Park, to the Butler Prize awarded by the Geological Society of Washington, Dr. Wylie has received widespread acclaim for her research and leadership in academia. Crucially, Dr. Wylie has displayed a commitment to service that deserves the admiration of every Member of this Congress. Her work on how exposure to minerals—including many mined in Maryland—affect human health has helped us better safeguard the well-being of the American people. Whether for the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. geological survey, the U.S. Bureau of Mines, or the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, she has made important contributions to our government's understanding of these issues.

As a Terp, I'm also grateful for her leadership in the University of Maryland, College Park's administration. Throughout her distinguished career, she has served as Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Provost, Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Interim Dean of the Graduate School, and many other vital positions. My staff and I have had the pleasure of working closely with Dr. Wylie on many occasions over the years—especially when she served as Chief of Staff to my friend Dan Mote during his tenure as the university's president.

Mr. Speaker, we at the University of Maryland, College Park, could never have known just how lucky we were to have Dr. Wylie join our community more than a half century ago. She has propelled the university and its students to greater heights and leave an indelible mark on campus. I ask that all my colleagues join me in wishing my fellow Terp well as she marks this terrific milestone. May they also join me in thanking her for her many years of service and leadership.

HONORING TONY SPANIOLA

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an incredible advocate—Tony Spaniola—whose unwavering commitment and tireless work have made an indelible mark on his community, the state of Michigan, and beyond.

In 2016, Tony's world shifted when he learned that his home, and many others near Lake Huron in Oscoda, Michigan, had been exposed to contamination from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, more commonly known as PFAS, a class of chemicals used by industry and, in Oscoda's case, our military. At the time, the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda had been identified as the first site contaminated with PFAS in Michigan, and the first U.S. military PFAS site in the country.

This revelation ignited a fire within Tony—one fueled by a determination to confront the threat of these "forever chemicals." Studies have shown PFAS exposure may lead to an increased risk of cancer, decreased fertility in women, developmental delays in children, and other health risks. Tony became a driving force behind efforts to address PFAS contamination on local, state, and federal fronts.

His leadership was instrumental in the founding of the Need Our Water (NOW) community action group in Oscoda. Tony's vision also extended beyond Michigan, as he co-founded the Great Lakes PFAS Action Network, and also serves on the leadership team of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition. He played a pivotal role in the creation of the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team, where he currently serves on the Citizens Advisory Workgroup. Furthermore, his efforts contributed to the establishment of the bipartisan Congressional PFAS Task Force of which I am proud to be a member—a group dedicated to advancing legislative solutions and raising awareness about the urgent need to address PFAS contamination nationwide. Because of his relentless advocacy and uncanny ability to bring stakeholders together, Tony has earned the respect and the ear of senior Pentagon leadership, including Undersecretary of Defense Bill LaPlante, and has played a major role in pushing the Department of Defense to act more urgently on PFAS cleanup.

Tony has been an advocate his entire life, which can in part be attributed to the influence of his father, Francis Spaniola, a retired Army officer who served in the Michigan House of Representatives from 1975 to 1990, representing Corunna in Shiawassee County. During his father's tenure in the state legislature, when the toxic flame retardant polybrominated biphenyls, more commonly known as PBB, was mistakenly sent to Michigan farmers as livestock feed and entered the food supply, Tony worked alongside his father at the forefront of tackling the PBB health crisis. Together, they initiated legislation that led to the creation of the Michigan Cancer Registry, regulated PBB, and compensated farmers for poisoned livestock.

I have had the privilege of bearing witness to Tony's unwavering passion since I took office in 2019 and remain grateful to have been

able to work with him in our fight to clean up contaminated sites across Michigan and this country.

In recognition of his extraordinary contributions to our state and his steadfast advocacy on behalf of impacted families and communities nationwide, it is my honor to recognize his service.

HONORING ALVIN JOSEPH PICARD,
VETERAN OF THE GHOST ARMY,
FOR RECOGNITION WITH THE
CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Alvin Joseph Picard, a son of South Louisiana who by nature of his service in World War II has been recognized with the Congressional Gold Medal—the highest expression of national appreciation through Congress.

Mr. Picard was a native of Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, born on December 9, 1919. He grew up amid the Depression and reached adulthood at a time of national crisis. When America entered the Second World War, Mr. Picard enlisted in the United States Army. He held the rank of Technician Fifth Grade with Signal Company of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops. This top-secret unit is now known fondly as the “Ghost Army.” The 1,100-man unit was assigned a critical task: to mask and misrepresent the whereabouts, trajectory, and strength of Allied forces in Nazi-occupied France.

Operating in the European theater, the Ghost Army was engaged in battlefield operations beginning in June of 1944. The unit’s deception strategies were critical to many Allied victories across Europe, including the D-Day landings. As a Cryptographic Technician in Signal Company, Mr. Picard employed “spoof radio” to confuse Axis forces and conceal the movements of other Allied troops. His efforts and those of others in the Ghost Army saved countless American lives.

Thirty years after the war, a U.S. Army report noted: “rarely, if ever, has there existed a group of such few men, which had so great an influence on the outcome of a major military campaign.” While aiding the victory in Europe, the Ghost Army also laid the foundation for modern defense strategies, on which our national security depends. As we confront present threats in psychological, cyber, and information warfare, the legacy of the Ghost Army and soldiers like Mr. Picard endures.

Although the Congressional Gold Medal reaches Mr. Picard posthumously, he is survived by a grateful family, community, and country. On behalf of Louisiana’s 3rd District, I thank Mr. Picard for his service. May God bless his family and his Veteran Brothers of the Ghost Army.

HONORING SCOTT NICHOLAS

HON. NICK LaLOTA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. LaLOTA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of the late Scott Nicholas, a remarkable individual from Smithtown, New York. Scott Nicholas was not only a Captain in the United States Naval Reserve but also a dedicated professor at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY.

Mr. Nicholas graduated from the State University of New York Maritime College and served in the United States Naval Reserve from 1999 to 2010. His contributions during Operation Iraqi Freedom aboard the USNS *Algol* earned him well-deserved recognition. Furthermore, he served with distinction on the USNS *Mendonca* and *Pililaau* from 2006 to 2008 and as Captain on the USNS *Brittin* from 2008 to 2010.

Beyond his service in the Naval Reserve, Mr. Nicholas continued to serve his country as a professor of Nautical Sciences and Simulation at the United States Merchant Marine Academy until his untimely passing on November 19, 2023. His dedication and commitment to his Nation exemplify true heroism.

My heartfelt condolences and profound appreciation for his service extend to his beloved wife, Heather, and his entire family. May the United States and the State of New York forever cherish patriots like Scott Nicholas. May his legacy endure, and may he find eternal peace.

RECOGNIZING THE ALZHEIMER’S
ASSOCIATION 5TH ANNUAL GALA

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Alzheimer’s Association on their 5th Annual Gala and thank them for their work to increase awareness and understanding of this disease and other related dementias. I’m grateful for how they empower North Texans with knowledge and strategies to cope with the complexities of Alzheimer’s disease.

The Dallas and Northeast Texas chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association advocates for those in our community impacted by Alzheimer’s disease, while pushing forward vital research endeavors focused on treatment, prevention, and finding a cure. Leading the way in Alzheimer’s research, the association is a critical piece of expediting global advancements towards ultimately ending the heart-breaking effects of this disease on individuals and families. As they celebrate their 5th anni-

versary, I sincerely thank the Dallas and Northeast Chapter for their tireless work in our community.

RECOGNIZING MOTAZ AZAIZA

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Motaz Azaiza, a Palestinian journalist, for his ongoing coverage of the Palestinian people and his commitment to telling their stories.

Mr. Azaiza has focused his life’s work on capturing the daily life of Palestinians in Gaza. Since the war began, he has bravely used his platform to document the ongoing genocide in Gaza and the lives of the innocent people who have been killed. Mr. Azaiza’s images on the ground have exposed the war crimes being committed by the Israeli government for the world to see. We applaud his efforts and bravery for risking his life to report on these atrocities.

Please join me in recognizing the numerous contributions of Motaz Azaiza in the field of journalism

RECOGNIZING THE HOT SPRINGS
WORLD CLASS HIGH SCHOOL
EAST TEAM

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 5, 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Hot Springs World Class High School Education Accelerated by Service and Technology (EAST) team on winning the 2024 Founder’s Award at the 2024 EAST Conference. This award is given to students who demonstrate a commitment to EAST’s core values of authenticity, innovation, collaboration, dedication, and service. Mr. Speaker, it is evident that these students exemplify all of these and more. The team’s accomplishment stems from an interactive map they created for the solar eclipse passing through the state of Arkansas on April 8, 2024. The map allows individuals to see all viewing options for this once-in-a-lifetime event happening across the country. I am proud of the students for collaborating with the local community, working as a team, and accomplishing their goals.

I’m proud to recognize the students on this team and their EAST facilitator, Ms. Breanna Burris, for all their hard work on this extraordinary project. They have not only achieved a prestigious national award, but they have simultaneously improved the lives of their peers in Hot Springs.