

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN PETERSON

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Justin Peterson for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Justin has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Justin, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Justin's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Justin Peterson on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING SANDRA PORTER

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Sandra Porter who has volunteered at Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers since 2009. Sandra knows what it feels like to experience an unplanned pregnancy in difficult circumstances. She reflects on her own experience and helps counsel expectant women about the support available to them in difficult pregnancy situations. Because of her leadership, Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers has grown to four locations and is known for excellence of care. The organization provides medical verification of pregnancy services that includes an ultrasound at no charge to clients. Pregnancy and parenting education services offered through Oasis promote self-sufficiency for expectant and new parents. Clients earn education points to spend on the things they need to safely welcome their baby into their home. At every visit, clients receive diapers and wipes. The organization also provides community resource referrals. Sandra works tirelessly to support the organization's development team in raising needed funds. She actively assists in two major fundraisers each year. She introduces potential donors to the non-profit and speaks in churches about its services. No job is too big or small for her.

It is clear that Ms. Porter has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

HONORING SERGEANT NORMAN "NORM" CRONE FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COUNTRY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Air Force Sergeant Norman "Norm" Crone for his devotion and service to our Nation.

Norm enlisted in the Air Force as a young man, inspired by his father's passion for model airplanes. After undergoing basic training and aircraft and engine school to become a mechanic, Norm's role changed when he was instead asked to be a flight engineer due to a shortage. He serviced the C54 Globe Master aircraft mostly out of Wiesbaden, Germany, often flying over the Iron Curtain.

Norm had the unique honor of flying with "the Candy Bomber" himself, Colonel Gail Halverson, during the Berlin Airlift. Norm helped package and attach the parachutes to the Hershey's chocolate bars being dropped to the children. He reflected, "It was a heart-warming experience to see the children eagerly waiting below . . . knew we were making their day a little brighter."

Norm was discharged at the beginning of the Korean War, prompting him to reenlist and serve his country again. He was stationed in Kadena Okinawa, Japan, with a team carrying out bombing missions near the Manchurian border.

During his service, Norm suffered an injury in a plane crash. In Korea, he also had to bail out during a bombing mission, in which many servicemen did not survive. In honor of his remarkable service, he has received numerous awards, including the WWII Victory Medal, the United Nations Service with the Air Force, and the Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, it takes someone of extraordinary character to risk their life, time after time, for the sake of this country. As we mark the 75th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift, I want to thank Norm for his exemplary service to our Nation. We are forever indebted to his heroism and bravery in the line of duty.

RECOGNIZING ISOBEL SPRENGER

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Isobel Sprenger for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Isobel has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Isobel, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will

guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Isobel's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Isobel Sprenger on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING RON FLAVILLE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Ron Flaville. After growing up in a military family, Ron joined the Marine Corps after high school where he served as a Communications Center Operator, from 1996–2000. In 2001, he joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard deploying to Iraq in 2004. Two years later enlisted in the Army. Serving on active duty, he deployed to Iraq again in 2009. Medically retired in 2013, Ron moved to Florida with his wife and children and soon began to experience severe struggles with PTSD. Prescribed antipsychotic medications did little to alleviate his anxiety; mood swings and volatility . . . and the severity of his symptoms made his family feel unsafe. In 2013 Ron and his wife, Kellie, met Mary Peter, a nationally known Certified Dog Trainer (CDT) and founder of K9 Partners for Patriots. Under Mary's tutelage, Ron began training his German Shepherd, Sophia, to become a PTSD service dog. Working side by side with Mary as the first Veteran in K9P4P, he has since climbed the ranks from Certified Trainer to Veteran Liaison, to Treasurer; and was appointed Chief Executive Officer for K9P4P in 2019. Consideration of Ron's accomplishments is best appreciated by Veterans battling their own demons. They know PTSD has no cure and its 'triggers' are often unforeseeable. Trusting his training and his K9 partner, Ron found his path forward and was able to repair relationships and re-connect with his wife and children. With each responsibility more demanding than the previous one, the challenges he tackled at K9 Partners for Patriots showed each Veteran in the program they can do it; they've got reason to hope and to believe in better days ahead.

It is clear that Mr. Flaville has made a profoundly positive impact on our community and on the lives of countless people he has worked with in the fight against the horrific crime of human trafficking. I am grateful for his service.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KANSAS CITY NATIONAL SECURITY CAMPUS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Kansas City National Security Campus and its 75 years of contributions to national security.

In November 1948, during the presidency of Harry S. Truman—whose hometown I represent—the Atomic Energy Commission selected the Pratt and Whitney airplane engine production plant in Kansas City as a site to produce nonnuclear components for nuclear weapons. The Kansas City Division of the Bendix Aviation Corporation began operations in the spring of 1949.

Seventy-five years and several name changes later, the Kansas City National Security Campus' mission to ensure the United States nuclear deterrent is safe, secure, and reliable remains essential to America's national security.

The site works to provide the National Nuclear Security Administration with electrical, mechanical, and material components manufactured and procured to exacting quality specifications to help meet important national security objectives and keep our nuclear stockpile ready at a moment's notice.

Today, the site employs nearly 7,000 people dedicated to this important national service. The Kansas City National Security Campus' contributions to the Kansas City area are important to job creation and sustaining economic growth, and Missourians are proud of its central importance to our strategic deterrence.

It is a distinct privilege to represent the Kansas City National Security Campus in the United States House of Representatives. Please join me in recognizing the Kansas City National Security Campus for its 75 years of contributions to our national security.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH CAROLINA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS FOR HELPING BUSINESSES SUCCEED

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, small businesses continue to face major challenges due to lingering impacts of COVID-19, high inflation, and limited access to capital, and other resources.

Thankfully, in South Carolina and across the Nation, Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) provide critical assistance to small businesses through a network of over 3,000 skilled and trusted business advisors—at no fee.

The South Carolina SBDC, led by Director Michele Abraham with a team of over 50 professionals, assisted 4,523 individuals in 2023 alone to:

- Create and retain 2,355 jobs
- Obtain \$89.9 million in capital investments

Increase revenues by \$50.3 million
Start 203 new businesses, and
Win \$10.9 million in government contracts
This resulted in a net federal tax return for the jobs impacted of eight times what we invested in the program. In other words, the return on investment is stellar.

Hosted by a consortium of four universities—Clemson, South Carolina State, University of South Carolina, and Winthrop—the South Carolina SBDC serves all small businesses regardless of race, gender, location, or military status.

We are grateful for the work they do and the lives we see changed day-in and day-out.

RECOGNIZING AVERY DION

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Avery Dion for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Avery has overcome many challenges along the journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Avery, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Avery's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Avery Dion on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING DINEEN PARIS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Ms. Dineen Paris, a volunteer at Hope Services, a local nonprofit on their Dream Team. This group consists of volunteers willing to provide guidance, direction, and support to the Hope Services Executive Team. As part of this work, Ms. Dineen has been instrumental with fundraising and organizing a free dance for those living with disabilities. Dineen has also dedicated hours of support and was a key participant in the planning and launch of the Hope Services Life Skills and Vocational Training Center in Land O'Lakes, Florida that opened on February 10, 2023. The Center is dedicated to providing life skills to those adults living with disabilities throughout the communities we serve. Along with her late husband, Leonard, Dineen built and donated two Little Free Libraries of books that are now located at the Wesley Chapel District Park and The Tampa Premium Outlets. These libraries are available to all residents within our community. Dineen has been a champion for Hope Services throughout the larger community it serves and is a very generous donor monetarily in addition to her time and talents.

It is clear that Ms. Paris has made a profoundly positive impact on our community and on the lives of countless people she has worked with in the fight against the horrific crime of human trafficking. I am grateful for her service.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ALFREDA SCHMIDT

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, with a heavy heart I pay tribute to the remarkable life and enduring legacy of Alfreda Schmidt—a beloved Lansing icon, community advocate, and dedicated public servant who touched the lives of countless people throughout her 97 years on this earth. Alfreda was loved and respected for her commitment to service, compassion for others, and tireless advocacy. She was known affectionately as “The Lady with the Hat,” for her collection of over 100 hats, and was rarely seen without one. Just as she believed that each hat had a purpose, she believed her purpose was to help others.

Born in 1926 in Dansville, Michigan, she grew up on her family farm and would go on to attend the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and Central Michigan University. In 1951, she married her late husband, Frank Schmidt, at St. Mary Cathedral in Lansing, and together they raised four children, all instilled with Alfreda's beliefs that you never do anything alone, and that helping others is always the right thing to do.

These beliefs guided Alfreda through a long life of community and public service. She was elected to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, serving from 1979 to 1981 and 1998 to 2000. She also represented Lansing's 2nd Ward on the Lansing City Council from 1981 to 1993. Alfreda was one of the first women to join the South Lansing Kiwanis Club in 1989 and was named 2003 Kiwanian of the Year in recognition of her leadership and commitment to her community.

Throughout her decades of serving the public and taking on community projects, she stressed the importance of listening as the key to understanding people's problems. Frank would drive Alfreda all over Lansing to meet with people who had called Alfreda in the hopes she could help solve their problem.

Alfreda's dedication to Lansing knew no bounds. Among an endless list of city projects and improvements, she was the driving force behind raising hundreds of thousands of dollars and rallying 2,000 volunteers to build the Hawk Island Park playground in just one week. She led fundraising efforts to reopen the swimming pool at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center, a community center renamed in her honor in 2012.

Alfreda's passion for supporting veterans and honoring their sacrifices exemplified her deep sense of gratitude and respect for those who served our country. She advocated for Wreaths Across America, a nonprofit organization that distributes wreaths for placement on veterans' graves in military cemeteries.

She helped initiate Veterans Appreciation Day at the Ingham County Fair. Most recently, she served on the Mayor's Veterans Commission and just last month she raised funds for

a new sign honoring veterans at the Evergreen Cemetery in Lansing.

Alfreda Schmidt passed away on April 14, 2024, just a few months shy of what would have been her 98th birthday. I send my deepest condolences to her dear family, friends, and to all who knew and loved her. As we mourn the loss of a true Lansing legend, let us also celebrate Alfreda Schmidt's extraordinary life. May her memory be a blessing for generations to come. With profound gratitude for her contributions to her community, I ask that we honor her legacy of service, compassion, and unity here in the People's House.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to recognize and congratulate the Junior League of Midland on their 75 years of service to their community. What began with a charter membership of just 29 women has turned into a robust network of over 600 volunteer members, working on projects that greatly support the city of Midland and effectively training women to be leaders in the community.

For seven and a half decades, the Junior League of Midland has played a crucial role in developing community-oriented institutions such as the Museum of the Southwest, Teen Court, Rays of Hope, and many others. Beyond the development of these important institutions, their network of volunteers provides crucial support to the community—such as donating hygiene supplies to thousands of students in need, hosting after-school reading programs, and providing job-skills mentoring programs to survivors of domestic abuse.

The members of this organization spend countless unpaid hours working toward the greater good of the people of Midland; for that, I cannot thank them enough. I am confident that the Junior League of Midland will continue to inspire and be of service to others across the community for many more years to come.

Again, I want to congratulate the Junior League of Midland on their dedication to serving the Midland community for the past 75 years. I can say without a shadow of a doubt that I am beyond proud to represent these women in Congress.

RECOGNIZING AVA CONLEY-WILLOUGHBY

HON. BRITANNY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ava Conley-Willoughby for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Ava has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Ava, de-

velop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Ava's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Ava Conley-Willoughby on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING KATHLEEN COSSEY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, Kathleen Cossey. Since 1990, Kathleen, has been helping vulnerable children and has made a lasting imprint on the lives of the kids she has worked with. From 1990–2008, Kathleen volunteered 40–60 hours per week as a Guardian Ad Litem. She spent time with the kids assigned to her and advocated on their behalf within the judicial system. Since 2009, Kathleen has been volunteering with two other non-profits serving at-risk children in Citrus County, Voices for Children and Jessie's Place. Kathleen prides herself on being a consistent presence in the lives of the children she works with. She goes above and beyond in everything she does for both organizations. Kathleen is an invaluable volunteer in both organizations she serves. Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Ms. Cossey has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REBECCA NEIL FOSTER

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the incredible life of Rebecca Neil Foster. Rebecca was many things to many people: a beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, and most recently, grandmother. Above all else, Rebecca was an amazing human being and devoted Christian, who did everything to serve others and leave this world better than she found it.

Rebecca was born on September 30, 1968 to Wesley and Faye Neil. A native of Fentress County, Tennessee, she graduated from Clarkrange High School where she competed on the 1983, 1984, and 1985 girls' basketball state championship teams. Memories of those wins sparked joy throughout her life.

Rebecca earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and later a Master of Science in Nursing Informatics from Tennessee Technological University.

She had a distinguished 29-year career in healthcare, most recently in the role of Chief

Nursing Officer for Cumberland Medical Center. In 2019, she graciously agreed to take on a new occupation focused on constituent care rather than patient care as my District Director for Tennessee's 6th Congressional District.

Her dedication to service lives on through her family. Rebecca took enormous pride in her husband, Allen, who serves as Mayor of Cumberland County; her daughter, Brooke, who followed in her footsteps in nursing; and her son, Shade, who is a sworn police officer for the City of Crossville. She is also survived by her mother-in-law, Edna Foster, a daughter-in-law, Haley Foster, and a son-in-law, Trevor Wright.

Rebecca had a lifelong passion for singing. She served as Music Director at Oak Hill Baptist Church for nearly 15 years. In fact, just last Sunday Rebecca was on stage with her daughter singing her heart out and worshiping the Lord with the help of the pulpit to keep her balance.

There are simply very few among us as special as Rebecca Neil Foster.

She was first diagnosed with cancer in 2023. During the difficult period that followed, many around her were fearful, but she chose to be faithful. Despite the intense treatments she underwent and the sometimes-painful side effects she endured, she continued to work as she was able, and did so with a smile on her face. In fact, if you've talked to Rebecca since last July, you were much more likely to find her smiling and showing pictures of her precious granddaughter, Asà, than talking about her health battle.

The day before her passing, Rebecca shared a page from her prayer devotional on social media. It was titled "Unafraid," and based on the book of Hebrews, chapter 13, verses 5 and 6, which reads, in part, "I will never leave you; I will always be by your side." Rebecca never questioned the presence of the Lord. She lived a full life as a result. She knew God's plan for her was not to live in fear—but to live in faith and to love others while she was here.

Rebecca knew each day and the good things in it are blessings from God. She kept cheerful faith throughout a painful health struggle. This week she went home to Heaven and received her eternal reward. Glory be to God for Rebecca Foster who came into our lives, and with her talents and vivacious spirit, left us forever changed for the better.

HONORING EULESS POLICE OFFICER JERRY LEE COOK

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Officer Jerry Lee Cook's retirement after 39 years with the Euless Police Department. I want to thank him for his commitment to our community and dedication to our country. Before his work as a police officer, Jerry enlisted in the US Navy in 1970 and served as an Aviation Mechanic before being honorably discharged as an E-5 in 1978. After being in the military, his training led him to Isfahan, Iran where he worked as an Aviation Mechanic for Bell Helicopter International. When he returned to North Texas, he joined

the Texas Army National Guard and became an Aviation Support Technician full-time.

Inspired by his experiences serving as an aviation mechanic and working in Iran, Jerry wanted to continue to help people which led him to a career in law enforcement. He was hired as a patrol officer by the Euless Police Department on April 1, 1985, and after serving eight years in the patrol division. Jerry was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the community services division where he taught youth the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, also known as D.A.R.E. It was during this time that Jerry developed a strong interest in computers and even taught himself how to operate them. His talents were quickly recognized by the department, and they transitioned him into the position of a computer technician in the Technical Services Division. His mechanical mind and dedication to learning the technical equipment used by law enforcement left an immeasurable impact on the Euless Police Department.

During his 39-year law enforcement career, Jerry received numerous commendations from colleagues and the community. He was presented with the W.M. "Blackie" Sustaire Memorial award in 1992 and 2007 in addition to winning the Distinguished Service Award in 1999. Jerry never lost his positive attitude when faced with mounting responsibilities and was always eager to share his knowledge and take the time to teach others.

It is an honor to recognize Jerry on this momentous occasion and thank him for his service to our country and North Texas.

RECOGNIZING PEYTYNN ADAMS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peytynn Adams for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Peytynn has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Peytynn, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Peytynn's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Peytynn Adams on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING TINA FARRELL

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Tina Farrell. She and her husband, Steve, are co-owners of Team Farrell, located in Port Richey. Tina is a hero to the limited-income, medically uninsured patients served by Good Samaritan

Clinic because her efforts on behalf of the non-profit help provide free healthcare, including prescriptions, for our medically fragile friends and neighbors throughout Pasco County. Tina has served as Chair of the organization's annual Nurses Gala and Co-chair of its annual Festival of Trees for more than 10 years. These two events raise between \$125,000 and \$150,000 annually for the clinic. Tina is a driving force for these events, and is hands-on in every aspect, from recruiting sponsors and participants to developing themes, menus and picking the entertainment. She is never one to rest on her laurels, challenging her committee and the community to new levels of creativity each year.

Tina and Steve raised their family in Pasco, built a business there and have become philanthropic pillars of the community. Tina has a genuine love of nurses and the nursing profession for all they have done. In addition to their outstanding support of Good Samaritan, Tina, supports: The Angelus and Pasco County Sheriffs Charities. She has also created her own non-profit, Farrell Cares, to support other projects in the community. Every August, they buy shoes for kids going back to school and also help with electric and water bills. They've even built a one-of-a kind, custom air conditioned, wheelchair-accessible castle for a six-year old girl with a rare genetic condition. They step up to proactively identify unmet needs that exist and they work to find a way to solve the problem.

It is clear that Ms. Farrell has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DAVE RICHARDSON, UNITED STATES NAVY, PH.D., FOR WINNING THE 2024 UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY MILITARY PROFESSOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Dave Richardson, United States Navy, the 2024 recipient of the United States Naval Academy Military Professor Teaching Excellence Award.

This award, initiated in 2014, is bestowed biennially in even-numbered academic years upon a military faculty member at the Naval Academy whose contributions to the academic, professional, and moral development of midshipmen reflect the highest principles of excellence in education. Eligible faculty are those military faculty members who have exhibited continued excellence in teaching and sustained contributions to the intellectual professional development of midshipmen.

A third generation Navy Sailor, Dave is currently a Permanent Military Professor and academic Department Chair of the Political Science Department at the United States Naval Academy. He has achieved excellence at every echelon of academia: graduating with merit from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1995, with his M.S. in Leadership from the Naval Postgraduate School in 2000, with distinction from the Naval War College in 2007, and finally with his Ph.D from The George Wash-

ington University in 2018. Prior to his selection as a Permanent Military Professor, he earned a noteworthy reputation as a career Surface Warfare Officer of the highest caliber, culminating with his service as the 10th Commanding Officer of the USS *Porter* (DDG-78) out of Norfolk, VA.

Teaching a wide range of political science core, elective, and capstone courses, as well as courses in naval leadership, CAPT Richardson continuously inspires midshipmen to the highest levels of academic accomplishment through innovative and interactive classroom activities. Focused on the holistic development of future officers in the naval service, he is widely recognized for his ability to achieve course objectives while also personally engaging every midshipman in his classroom regarding their unique leadership journey. From freshmen courses in U.S. Government and Constitutional Development to upper-level courses in Political Science Methods and Civil-Military Relations, his students respond positively to his ability to be simultaneously rigorous, enthusiastic, caring, and firm but fair. In addition to serving as the department chair, Dave actively leads from the front as an academic advisor, honors program advisor, and senior honor and conduct remediator. His dedication and impact to the mission of the Naval Academy are evident from his consistent engagement with groups of midshipmen large and small based on his significant operational tours, command at sea experience, and scholarly work.

The people of Minnesota's Third Congressional District and this Nation are lucky to have people like Dave teaching at our service academies and leading the nation's sons and daughters in our military. I wish to congratulate him on this great accomplishment and thank him for his decades of faithful service to the Nation. Bravo Zulu to Dave.

HONORING 1ST LIEUTENANT FRED ZIMRI WASHBURN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Fred Zimri Washburn, as the Middleborough community comes together to dedicate the 1st Lieutenant Fred Z. Washburn Bridge in his honor.

Born on October 11, 1944, to parents Margery and Zimri Washburn, Fred was raised on Fuller Street in Middleborough, Massachusetts, alongside his siblings, Margery and David. After Fred graduated from Memorial High School in 1962, he went on to receive a degree from Wenworth Institute before joining the United States Army. Fred first completed his basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, followed by Officer Candidate School in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Fred later earned his pilot wings as a 2nd Lieutenant at the Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia.

Fred was deployed to Vietnam on May 30, 1968, as an Army 1st Lieutenant in the 71st Assault Helicopter Company, where he piloted helicopters in rescue missions. Fred would write home to his mother about the feeling of reward he felt for helping to save the lives of his fellow service members. Fred's unwavering

commitment to rescuing Americans injured in combat was undeniable throughout his time bravely serving in the U.S. Army.

Sadly, we lost Fred too soon on October 2, 1968, nine days short of his 24th birthday, after his helicopter was shot down in the Quang Tin Province of South Vietnam. For Fred's bravery and sacrifice for our country, Fred's name is listed on panel 42W, line 65 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

After Fred's family and former Middleborough classmates took note that there was no memorial for Fred in his hometown, the community came together to request that the town allow for the culvert bridge on Wareham Street to be renamed in Fred's memory. The measure was approved by the Middleborough Select Board earlier this year, and on April 24, 2024, the bridge will be dedicated in Fred's honor and named the 1st Lieutenant Fred Z. Washburn Bridge.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of 1st Lieutenant Fred Washburn. I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Fred's siblings, Margery and David; Steve Adelman, the Town of Middleborough's Veterans Service Officer; and the Middleborough Memorial High School Class of 1962 for their work to ensure that Fred's dedication and sacrifice for his community and our country be remembered for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING ALEJANDRO VALDEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alejandro Valdez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Alejandro has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Alejandro, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alejandro's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Alejandro Valdez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING EMILY HARRINGTON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Emily Harrington. She joined the Gulf Coast Manatees Homeschool Group in 2023 and has been an incredible member and volunteer that goes above and beyond expectations. Although she is somewhat new, Emily jumped right in with facilitating classes, becoming the Volunteer Coordinator and helps assist with anything

needed in the group. Emily spearheads the Nature Journaling class and has a passion for teaching children. She is a natural leader. She loves to volunteer and offers ideas for the co-op. She always gets involved in each community service projects and helps with community outreach. Emily teaches the younger age group and they love her. It is easy to see the joy she feels as they learn and grow. She is truly an unsung hero, as it is important to have a great role model, friend and fellow teacher by one's side.

Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Ms. Harrington has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

RECOGNIZING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE RABBIT HOLE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense pride to recognize and celebrate the grand opening of the newest addition to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, the Rabbit hOle. Garnering attention on the local and national level, the Rabbit hOle will undoubtedly provide new experiences for children and adults alike as they take on a one-of-a-kind approach to a children's literature museum that has not been pursued before. Through its focus on literature, arts, education, and inclusivity to visitors of all ages, the museum will show its dedication to our community as well as enable others to see the array of activities that Kansas City has to offer. I am truly honored to represent an organization who has worked tirelessly to bring innovation and new opportunities to our community.

The Rabbit hOle's creation can be traced back to married couple Pete Cowdin and Debbie Pettid, who co-founded the museum in 2015. As a result of nearly 30 years in business as booksellers and owners of a local children's bookstore, the Reading Reptile, located in Kansas City, Missouri, the owners decided to venture into a new adventure. It was during their time in this capacity that Cowdin and Pettid began thinking about the possibilities of bringing a book to life by creating an immersive experience for children's literature. After having this idea for nearly two decades, Cowdin and Pettid took a leap of faith and began working to bring their vision into fruition.

As they began working towards the development of this project, their core values focused on creating a culture that centered around the love of children's literature that could remain accessible to all visitors of all ages, builds on the enjoyment of literacy while providing a hands-on experience. Moreover, with a special commitment and diligence to the children who would one day visit the museum, Cowdin and Pettid focused on envisioning a place that would not only be a colorful place for children but one that could further their curiosity and involvement with literature.

In testament to that mission, the Rabbit hOle has secured the rights to over 70 works

from the last century of children's literature with the idea to provide permanent exhibits of classic works as well as rotating installations. Through their desire to remain inclusive and accessible, the Rabbit hOle has pursued works from diverse backgrounds to ensure that visitors from all backgrounds can have access to exhibits that may reflect their own lives and experiences. Beyond their work in diversity, this organization remains invested in the improvement of our community through enhanced programs and experiences they plan to provide to Kansas Citians, visitors, and educators.

This organization will bring an out-of-the-ordinary experience to educators and students as they visit the museum where they will have the ability to have access to a print shop, story lab, resource library, among other new novelties that will enrich the diversity of activities available to schools. Through these activities and possibilities, visitors, especially children, will feel empowered to explore and create their own stories along the way. There lies no doubt that our youth will feel inspired to engage in new ideas and perspectives that will lead to an overall better understanding of the world around them as they continue to grow. Our community is proud to have an organization that supports and stands for these values in our own backyard.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the grand opening of the Rabbit hOle and their tremendous accomplishment and service to the Greater Kansas City area. Their enthusiasm for literature, accessibility, and empowerment in the lives of children and adults alike to enhance the quality of life and opportunities to our communities is an example for all to follow. I speak with the voice of Missouri's entire Fifth Congressional District as we say a heartfelt "Welcome" to the Rabbit hOle as we celebrate and congratulate them on their opening and the many achievements to come.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF JEFFREY LEE HARPER

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 70th birthday of Mr. Jeffrey Lee Harper, who made his entrance into the world on April 26, 1954 in Richmond, Virginia. He graduated from Manchester High School in June of 1972 and stayed in the Richmond area as he continued his post-secondary education.

Jeff went on to marry the love of his life, Carole Chalkley, on September 11, 1976. Three years later their daughter, Jamie, was born.

From a young age, Jeff's athletic abilities gained him accolades on the tennis court and the golf course. He played on the high school golf team and showed off his short game by winning a Putt-Putt tournament. As a member of Meadowbrook Country Club for 25 years, he won back-to-back championships at the Walt Disney World Pro-Am Golf Classic in 2008 and 2009 in Orlando, Florida. The 2009 championship was the sweetest since it was also the year that his first and only granddaughter, Rachel Elizabeth was born. She

shares his enthusiasm for the game, and he claims full credit for her talent.

Jeff's ambition, business acumen and mathematical prowess led to a long and successful career in insulation contracting and made him revered in the industry. After many years of dedication to his firm, he retired from Old Dominion Insulation in 2014. As native Virginians, he and Carole traded in long, cold winters for sunshine and warmth and moved to the free state of Florida where they currently reside in The Villages.

Jeff is a devoted husband, father and grandfather and a loyal friend to many. He enjoys traveling to new places, listening to his favorite jazz musicians, and sipping a fine glass of wine.

Mr. Speaker, like a fine wine, Jeff has only gotten better with age. Please join me in toasting to his 70 years and wishing him many more.

RECOGNIZING KEATON AHRENDT

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Keaton Ahrendt for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Keaton has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Keaton, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Keaton's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Keaton Ahrendt on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING JACQUELINE VANDYKE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Jacqueline Vandyke, a volunteer with the Gulf Coast Manatees Homeschool Group. Jacqueline has given so much of herself to make sure children in the program succeed. As founder of the first non-profit homeschool group in Citrus County, she finds fun and interactive ways for the children to learn. The children get to go on trips, learn hands-on life skills, all while making friends. She also is committed to helping install the value of community service in children, spearheading: food drives, feeding programs for the homeless, beautification of church grounds, creating cards for soldiers, and wrapping gifts for cancer patients. Jacqueline makes sure all kids get a moving up and graduation ceremony.

Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go

above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Ms. Vandyke has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
CLAIRMONT JEROME "POPS"
BARNES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving husband, outstanding father, proud grandfather, distinguished non-commissioned officer, dedicated public official, faithful servant of God, and friend of long-standing, The Honorable Clairmont Jerome "Pops" Barnes. Sadly, Pops transitioned from labor to reward on April 14, 2024. A public viewing was held on Wednesday April 23, 2024, at Taylor Funeral Home in Phenix City, Alabama, and a memorial service to celebrate his remarkable life was held on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at the Revelation Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

The second oldest of five children, Clairmont Jerome Barnes was born on June 10, 1943, to the union of the late Pauline White and the late Eugene Barnes in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was reared by his grandmother, Ms. Mary J. White, a woman of great importance in his life, who significantly shaped his worldview and instilled within him the values of justice, compassion, and determination.

Pops began his life of service when he joined the Army National Guard and enlisted in the United States Army in 1977. Demonstrating his adept leadership skills, he quickly rose through the ranks, ultimately retiring as a Master Sergeant in 1996. Following his retirement from the Army, Pops decided to secure a second bachelor's degree and begin the next chapter of his professional career of service. Desiring to use his time and skills to help those in need, Pops earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Columbus State University at the ripe young age of 57 and served countless patients as a registered nurse.

In 2004, Pops answered the call to run for public elective office. He entered the race for the District 1 seat on the Columbus, Georgia Consolidated Government Council. During the campaign, Pops took the time and effort to knock on every door in District 1, so that he could meet someone in every household he was running to represent and serve. His efforts were rewarded and he was overwhelmingly elected Councilor for District 1. Among his accomplishments for District 1 include re-opening the Boxwood Park, Belvedere Park and Primus King Recreation center; leading the effort to hire 100 additional police officers, and opening a police precinct in the heart of District 1 to dramatically cut the city's crime rate.

Pops also demonstrated a steadfast passion in advocating for Veterans, seniors, and individuals with mental illness. He restarted the Tri-City Veterans Day Parade in 2010; started

a senior advocacy group to help seniors maintain their benefits, and periodically hosted the "Focus on Health" series from the studios of CCG-TV to provide health and wellness education to all citizens in the Chattahoochee Valley area. He also launched a youth vocational training program entitled "Opportunity to Get Ahead" using his own funds; reformed the city's employment policy to allow the hiring of non-violent ex-offenders; and consistently addressed right-of-way upkeep, drainage, street resurfacing, and pothole issues throughout District 1 on behalf of those he served.

In addition to his work as a City Councilor, Pops has been recognized for his community involvement and service with numerous social and civic organizations to include: American Legion; Disabled American Veterans Board; American Military Society Board; Red Cross Minority Recruitment Board; Concerned Citizens of South Columbus Board; and the Columbus Hospice Board. Because of his dedicated commitment to these and other organizations he was the recipient of several awards to include the Family Caregiver Award (2016); the Living Legends Award (2018); the United States Postal Service Purple Heart Award (2019); the Distinguished Older Georgian Award (2020); New Horizons Behavioral Health Impact Award (2021); the Columbus State University (CSU) Legacy Award (2023); the Columbus State University Alumni Award (2023); and the River Valley Regional Commission Council Chairman Appreciation Award (2023).

It has been said that "The true person of success is not the person that climbs the ladder of this life with both hands but who climbs with one hand and reaches back with the other." Pops always reached back to help others throughout his life and never shied away from an opportunity to improve the quality of life for those in his community. On a personal note, Pops Barnes was always available and forthcoming regarding issues being considered by Congress. He always gave me sound, wise and honest advice. For that I will be forever grateful.

Pops Barnes accomplished much in his life but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God, the love and support of his wife, Jannie Mae Barnes; his devoted children, Cheryl, Clairmont, Simi, Mary, Robbi, Carla, Phydellis, and Bruce; thirteen grandchildren, and nineteen great-grandchildren. But through their love, inspiration and support, Pops leaves a legacy that has made Columbus, our nation and the world better because he passed this way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in celebrating the extraordinary life of The Honorable Clairmont Jerome "Pops" Barnes and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who mourn his loss. May we all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

21ST CENTURY PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Chair, I would like to clarify the scope of the prohibitions in Division D of H.R. 8038.

As I understand it, Division D of H.R. 8038 would prevent TikTok from obtaining distribution through app stores and online marketplaces in the U.S. and deprive them of obtaining Internet-hosting infrastructure and services provided by U.S. entities, unless and until it is divested from ByteDance within 270 days of enactment.

When acting in their capacity of providing access to the Internet, Internet service providers (ISPs) do not engage in the activities that would be restricted by operation of Section 2(a)(1).

In providing their customers access to the Internet and connectivity to web sites and online service, ISPs are not engaging in distribution activities prohibited under subparagraph (A). And in providing access or connectivity to web sites or online services at the request and direction of their customers, ISPs are not engaged in providing any Internet hosting services restricted under subparagraph (B).

RECOGNIZING NATHALIE SANCHEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nathalie Sanchez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Nathalie has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Nathalie, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Nathalie's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Nathalie Sanchez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING KEITH VICK

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions that have been made in our community by one of my constituents, Keith Vick, an active volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County since 2022. In his first full year as a core construction volunteer, Mr. Vick has already made an immense impact. He believes in providing a hand-up, not a hand out to partner families.

As a U.S. Air Force Veteran and a retired first responder, Mr. Vick has contributed 434 hours of volunteer time. He leads by example!

Mr. Vick has become a favorite of the family partners because of his compassion and willingness to share the skills he has acquired throughout life. As each home is completed, Mr. Vick takes it upon himself to go through the final checklist, or "punch list", to make sure homes are finished to the high standards set by Habitat. Each day Keith is out there, he's always in a great mood and ready to work and help others. He's around enough to know what needs to be done each day. Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Mr. Vick has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

HONORING THE POMEROY, OHIO FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the brave first responders of the Pomeroy Fire Department in Meigs County, Ohio, as they are being honored as the Ohio Fire Department of the Year by the State Fire Marshall and the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

The 30 members of the all-volunteer Pomeroy firefighting force have consistently demonstrated a level of training, preparedness, and dedication second to none. They've proven their commitment to excellence by pursuing advanced training, completing both in-service and multicompartment training exercises, enhancing the force's efficiency, loss reduction, and ability to safeguard our community.

I cannot say enough about how much Pomeroy's Fire Department has given back to Meigs County, serving well beyond their roles as first responders—leading food drives, educating the community on fire safety and prevention, and distributing smoke detectors, among many other contributions.

I am pleased to honor the fine men and women of the Pomeroy firefighting force for their justly deserved recognition as the Ohio Fire Department of the Year. Their service makes our community, Pomeroy, Meigs County, and Ohio, a better place—and I could not be more proud.

Congratulations to them on this well-deserved award.

HONORING THE HOWELL ROTARY CLUB FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate a remarkable milestone—the 100th anniversary of the Howell Rotary Club—a century

of selfless dedication to serving others. Since its founding in 1924, the Howell Rotary Club has been a pillar of the community in Howell, the surrounding communities in Livingston County and across the state of Michigan.

Throughout its history, the Howell Rotary Club has truly embodied the Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self," with its members playing a pivotal role in shaping the moral fabric of its community, fostering goodwill, peace, and understanding.

This vision is clear in the many Rotary Clubs that Howell Rotary has helped start throughout Livingston County, from Brighton Rotary in 1936 to M-36 Rotary in 2020.

Howell Rotary's legacy of community involvement is extensive. In 1946, the Club provided the funding for the Howell High School football field, making it the first lighted football field in the state of Michigan.

The Club's commitment to supporting youth through education and forming international friendships is exemplified by the Club's foreign exchange student program. In 1951, Howell Rotary hosted the first foreign exchange student in Livingston County. Since then, Howell Rotary has sponsored these once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for both inbound and outbound students to learn about different cultures and build international understanding.

Since 1978, Howell Rotary Club has awarded scholarships to Howell High School graduates who demonstrate their passion for learning and community service to continue their educational journeys. In 2001, Rotarians established the Howell High School Interact Club, which helps students develop leadership skills and connect with their peers and community through acts of service.

Howell Rotary Club has demonstrated its dedication to improving the lives of others through charitable endeavors like the OLHSA Walk for Warmth, completing Habitat for Humanity home building projects, and raising over \$350,000 over a 13-year period for Livingston County United Way.

For 100 years, the Howell Rotary Club has lifted up its community through its enduring commitment to service, integrity, and leadership. From its original 17 founding members to its hundreds since, it is my honor to celebrate Howell Rotary Club's 100th anniversary and recognize its members' contributions.

APPRECIATING MRS. BEVERLY JEAN LAHAYE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am grateful to honor the remarkable life of Mrs. Beverly Jean LaHaye, founder, and former chairman of Concerned Women for America (CWA), the Nation's largest public policy women's organization. On Sunday, April 14, 2024, she passed from this life, leaving behind a legacy that will endure through the ages, shaping the lives of countless individuals. I am grateful for the profound impact Mrs. LaHaye left upon us all and her unwavering commitment to God and public ministry and offer my sympathy to her family. Included in the Congressional Record is the following obituary for Mrs. Beverly Jean LaHaye:

Beverly Jean Davenport was born on April 30, 1929, in Detroit, Michigan, the second daughter of Lowell and Nellie Davenport. Her father died when she was merely two years old, and her mother got remarried to a kindly neighbor man with whom she had two more children. Raised in an evangelical household, Beverly's faith was a very important part of her life.

Beverly attended Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina, where she met ministerial student Tim LaHaye, who was an Army Air Force veteran of WWII. The two fell in love, and he was ready to propose marriage by Christmas break of their first year. They married the following summer before returning to school. Not long after, they welcomed their first child, Linda, into their family. After graduating, the young family moved to Minnetonka, Minnesota, where Tim pastored a small church, and together, they served the people of that community. Their two sons, Larry and Lee, were born there.

In 1956, they relocated to San Diego, California, to begin their ministry at Scott Memorial Baptist Church. Their youngest daughter, Lori, was born soon thereafter. Throughout their ministry together, Beverly served as an integral part of whatever God had called them to do. When the church needed a secretary, Beverly stepped up to fill the role. When the junior Sunday school department needed a director, the young pastor's wife met the need.

During that time of life, Beverly had the opportunity to hear from a well-known Christian speaker who taught on the importance of being fitted with the Holy Spirit. She was introduced to the concept that walking in the Spirit meant full dependence on Christ, no matter what she was called to do. She was challenged to commit an aspect of her life . . . her marriage, her parenting, her fears, and her insecurities, into the hands of her Savior. This teaching changed her world.

God began to direct her steps to do more public ministry, including speaking at women's ministry events and working alongside her husband in his ministry to married couples through Family Life Seminars. Additionally, she was challenged to write, and over the course of her life Beverly had written or co-written many books, including *The Spirit-Controlled Woman*, *How to Develop Your Child's Temperament*, and *The Desires of a Woman's Heart*. Her books were one more way she could communicate God's truth to women on subjects that were increasingly coming under attack in the culture around her, namely womanhood, motherhood, and devotion to family.

In 1978, Beverly saw Barbara Walters' interview with Betty Friedan, the founder of the National Organization for Women. While watching, Beverly was convicted that she must speak on behalf of millions of women who were not being represented by the feminist philosophy. Friedan's purpose, according to LaHaye, was to promote homosexuality, abortion on demand, and thoroughly "undermine the core of American culture: the family."

God led Beverly to begin an organization that would provide a platform to advance conservative values in politics and policy. Concerned Women for America was launched at a rally hosted by LaHaye in a local San Diego theatre. CWA began as a local interest, but within two years, it had grown to become a national organization aimed at protecting and promoting Biblical and constitutional principles through prayer, education, and advocacy.

Believing that prayer was vital to the success of every endeavor, Beverly founded CWA on the principles of prayer and action. CWA

became a fast-growing grassroots organization of conservative women and men who were challenged and educated to pray for their country and its leaders, as well as to take action in their communities, states, and even at the national level.

In 1985, Beverly moved CWA headquarters from San Diego to Washington, D.C. Both she and Tim believed this move was vital in order for CWA to have its greatest impact on the culture as the organization continued to expand. Beverly's growing influence in the conservative movement, as well as Republicans holding a majority place in office, led to LaHaye's prominence during the presidencies of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. She regularly testified in congressional hearings, including Supreme Court nomination hearings for Antonin Scalia, Robert Bork, and Clarence Thomas.

Initially, Mrs. LaHaye jumped into the debate over the Equal Rights Amendment, helping lead the opposition to it as well as advocating for the life of the unborn. As time went on, other vital family-oriented issues arose that demanded attention. She led CWA to speak out on the protection of marriage, support for Israel, and more. Additionally, God led Beverly to add a legal defense department to CWA's growing list of involvement as opportunities arose to be a voice on behalf of women and men embattled in the court in the areas of life, marriage, education, and freedom of religion.

During the 1980s, Beverly's heart of compassion led her to reach out to Nicaraguan families who were displaced by the communist regime in their country. On numerous occasions, Mrs. LaHaye led teams of volunteers to the jungles of Costa Rica, where they provided much-needed aid to refugees fleeing from their own country. CWA established a refuge station in the jungle which provided clothes, food, education, medical assistance, and, most importantly, hope to these struggling people.

The influence of CWA has spread throughout the country, with chapters in almost every state. As chair and founder, Beverly hosted an award-winning radio talk show and appeared in numerous media interviews. Beverly would not hesitate to accept the opportunity to be the voice of Christian women on national television, often in direct debate against some of the leading feminist and pro-choice voices of the day. She always conducted herself with grace and dignity and spoke truth with strength and clarity.

Throughout her years in leadership, Beverly has received many awards, including Christian Woman of the Year, the Southern Baptist Convention's "Religious Freedom Award," as well as "Talk Show of the Year" in 1993 or the Beverly LaHaye Live radio program. In 1994, she was honored by the U.S. House of Representatives for service to her country, and in 2016, she was recognized by the Faith and Freedom Coalition with the "Winston Churchill Lifetime Achievement Award." Most recently, in 2023 Beverly was named one of the 50 greatest pro-life leaders in the past 50 years.

Mrs. LaHaye retired from her role as President of CWA in 2006. She and Tim returned to Southern California, where they were closer to family. She continued to serve as Chairman of the board for CWA until her retirement in 2020. In addition, she continued to accept speaking engagements and served on various boards for Christian colleges and organizations. Well into her eighties, Beverly still loved to be a voice in the cause and to educate future generations of Christian activists.

Throughout her life, Beverly's family was very important to her. She invested in them personally and prayerfully. While her life was very busy, whenever possible, she tried

to carve out time to visit her children and grandchildren wherever they were living. She organized family trips and opportunities for them all to be together.

In 2016, Beverly lost the love of her life, Tim, to a stroke at the age of 90. They had been married for 69 years. He was her greatest champion, her encourager, and true soulmate. Ten months later, her son, Lee, also passed away. It was a year of incredible loss for her. She took great solace in the company of her remaining children, nine grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

Beverly LaHaye was not born into privilege nor blessed with extraordinary skills and abilities. Her life is a beautiful demonstration of what God can do with a person who is fully devoted to Him. She was a faithful follower of Jesus Christ all the days of her life and God used her in extraordinary ways to make a difference in the world around her.

RECOGNIZING DANICA BARELA

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Danica Barela for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Danica has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Danica, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Danica's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Danica Barela on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING MIKE SUTTON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Mike Sutton. Mike has served as the CEO for Habitat's for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco since 2014. When he arrived, the affiliate had built 280 homes in our community. That number is well over 850 today, with plans for a 900th home celebration in early summer. Under his leadership, the agency has grown from 19 to 75 employees, allowing for sustainable and impressive growth. His organization has also been recognized as one of the top 3 producers of new home builds among all 1,100 Habitat affiliates in the United States for several years in a row. In addition to his work at Habitat Pinellas and West Pasco, Mike is an active community member of numerous organizations. Mike is an active volunteer for the Valspar Championship, the University of South Florida Alumni Association, the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity Education Foundation, and the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation. He has

served on the Board of Directors for the Non-profit Leadership Center of Tampa Bay, the Habitat for Humanity State Association of Florida, and the Pinellas Park Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the Pasco County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors for Amplify Cleanwater, formerly known as the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce, which he chaired in 2020.

It is clear that Mr. Sutton has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

RECOGNIZING JE DUNN CONSTRUCTION GROUP'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense pride to recognize and celebrate the centennial anniversary of JE Dunn Construction Group. This milestone is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and contributions that JE Dunn has made in the construction industry.

Founded in 1924 by John Ernest "Ernie" Dunn, this company that began in Kansas City, has now stretched across various generations of the Dunn family, and has only increased their reach beyond Missouri's Fifth Congressional District as the years have passed by. With over 26 offices nationwide and being placed as the 8th overall largest contractor in the United States, this company has served its community through the principle of enriching lives.

Today, JE Dunn employs more than 1,200 people in Kansas City and 4,000 across the country. In 1964 when Ernie Dunn passed, the company was worth \$1.4 million and now the company is nearing a revenue of \$6 billion. The contributions in the local Kansas City area are important to job creation and sustaining economic growth as the city continues to grow and receive national and international attention.

Through JE Dunn's commitment to the local region, Kansas City began to see an increase in innovation and development in the 1960s with the development of Worlds of Fun, the Hy-Vee Arena then known as the Kemper Arena, among others. As their mission to serve others in the pursuit of building perfection continues, JE Dunn has been vital in recent developments such as the Kansas City Zoo and building the world's first ever stadium

for a women's pro sports team. The impact of these investments will have a positive ripple effect on our city and community for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing this momentous celebration and thanking JE Dunn for their contributions to the Greater Kansas City area and beyond. It is a distinct privilege to represent the JE Dunn Construction Group in the United States House of Representatives. I speak with the voice of Missouri's entire Fifth Congressional District as we congratulate them and wish them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR MARC WEISS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Command Sgt. Maj. Marc Weiss of Red Lion, Pennsylvania, for his 35 years of service in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

Marc enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard in 1988. He began his career of military leadership at Foxtrot Battery, 109th Field Artillery Regiment, where he eventually became First Sergeant.

For the last two and a half years, Marc led the 213th Regional Support Group. Marc's colleagues speak highly of his dedication to understanding units within his command, which he did to better prepare and lead the formations.

Throughout his career, Marc was involved in overseas missions to Bosnia, Kosovo, England, and Iraq, as well as multiple state and drug interdiction missions.

Upon his retirement, Marc was presented with the Legion of Merit award for his devoted service and career.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Sgt. Maj. Weiss for his commitment to our Nation and his selfless service. We are indebted to the 35 years of sacrifice he has given. I wish him all the best in his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING DENISE AIELLO

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions

of one of my constituents, Denise Aiello, a volunteer Peer Specialist with LifeStream Behavioral Center. She works with the citizens of Citrus County who have substance misuse disorders. Denise focuses her efforts with pregnant mothers, meeting them at their prenatal appointments, ensuring follow-up with maternity care, and providing resources to address treatment needs, and other material resources. Denise also works closely with Citrus EMTs responding to overdose calls as part of the CORE program, meeting consumers at the emergency room to offer connections to substance misuse treatments including MAT, counseling, or admission to residential treatment. Denise will meet with the consumer at their home or outpatient appointment to provide support, guidance, and assistance with paperwork. She will respond at night and on weekends if a call comes in. She is dedicated to helping others rehabilitate and recover. She will make repeated attempts to engage with a consumer, understanding they might need time to recognize and accept that they need help. Denise is an empathic and dedicated peer who is an asset to the LifeStream family and to the residents of Citrus County.

It is clear that Ms. Aiello has made a profoundly positive impact on our community and on the lives of countless people she has worked with in the fight against the horrific crime of human trafficking. I am grateful for her service.

RECOGNIZING SYDNEY CAMPBELL

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sydney Campbell for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Sydney has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Sydney, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Sydney's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Sydney Campbell on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.