

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SHAYLENE CORREA-VEGA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shaylene Correa-Vega for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Shaylene 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 Shaylene, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Shaylene's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Shaylene Correa-Vega on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING MARIA CISNEROS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Eduvigis Lopez-Cisneros, whom I have named the 2024 Woman of the Year for Napa County because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who contributed significantly to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Mrs. Cisneros was born in Jalisco, Mexico. She is one of 10 siblings and has been married to Gonzalo Cisneros for 25 years. They have a daughter named Maya "Yuni" Cisneros. Mrs. Cisneros received a bachelor's degree in Spanish literature and Culture from Sonoma State University and a master's degree in counseling from Sonoma State University. She also earned an Educational Leadership Credential from Sonoma State University.

Mrs. Cisneros is a prominent leader in quality education for students. She is an outstanding member of our community, having served on countless commissions and organizations throughout Napa County, including the Association of California Schools Administration, Fair Housing Napa Valley Board Member, Mentis Board Member, Napa Valley Community Foundation, Napa County Hispanic Network, and as a member of various other community organizations. Ms. Cisneros' dedication as a public servant is apparent.

Notably, Mrs. Cisneros has been an advocate of programs that support first-generation

college-bound students. Over her 29 years in the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD), she has been critical in implementing the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program, increasing the number of students attending Summer Search, and working with the organization 10,000 Degrees. Mrs. Cisneros is a first-generation college graduate who was given many opportunities by her local high school community and college and has continued to pay-it-forward.

As a current principal of Valley Oak High School and Napa Valley Independent Studies, Mrs. Cisneros is a principal who understands the many challenges and needs of her students while also being able to balance that with pushing students academically to their highest potential. As a former counselor, Mrs. Cisneros can step into any problematic or delicate situation with students, families, or even staff and truly listen with ears and a heart to understand others. It is a combination of her wisdom, compassion, and strength that makes her such a great leader.

Mrs. Cisneros' incredible impact on our community has been recognized by many. In 2023, she was named the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Alternative Education/Educational Options Principal of the Year. She received the 2021 Napa Valley Center for Spiritual Living Celebrating Compassion in Action Award. In 2018, she received the Napa County Hispanic Chamber "Blend of Cultures" Harvesting the Future Award. These are just some awards that exemplify Mrs. Cisneros' constant and unwavering dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mrs. Cisneros for her excellent service and passion for our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Napa County's 2024 Woman of the Year.

HONORING NASYA SHAFFER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Nasya Shaffer. Nasya Shaffer has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Shaffer, a Yazoo County High School senior and resident of Yazoo County, serves as the vice president of both the Student Government Association and Beta Club. Along with her academics, she is also a member of the school's tennis team and cheer squad, where she serves as captain.

Shaffer currently has a 3.95 GPA and scored a 22 on her ACT. Nasya's favorite subjects are math and science, particularly physical science, and human anatomy. She re-

cently accepted a \$25,000 scholarship to Houston Christian University in Houston, Texas.

Shaffer has been around the family funeral home business for her entire life, soaking in the work ethic of her grandfather, father, and uncles.

For the future, Shaffer would like to open her own branch of the family's funeral home business. She is the daughter of Aerial and Dr. Shundria Shaffer. She is a member of the Word of Life Church in Ridgeland, MS. In her free time, she enjoys drawing and painting.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nasya Shaffer for her passion and dedication to serve others and carry on the family business.

RECOGNIZING DEVIN RAMIREZ ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Devin Ramirez of Amherst, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Devin's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Devin brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Marion Steele High School, he participated in orchestra, L.E.O. Club, student government, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Devin was involved in track, soccer, and cross country, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Devin Ramirez on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Devin will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

● 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 CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT TEDDY PEINADO

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Frank "Teddy" Peinado of Aubrey, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Teddy is a true American patriot who has dedicated himself to serving and uplifting our community.

Since he was young, Teddy held a strong passion for military history. He attended Texas A&M University as a member of its prestigious Corps of Cadets. Teddy graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in construction science and later earned his master's degree in construction management. For over 30 years, he worked in the building industry and supervised the construction of over 11 million square feet of office space. In 2010, Teddy founded Peinado Construction, the largest industrial contractor in the Dallas-Fort Worth area with offices in Houston, College Station, and San Antonio. Peinado Construction specializes in industrial, data center, and office construction projects to deliver stellar results for clients.

For his outstanding work and entrepreneurship, Teddy received Texas A&M's Aggie 100 award in 2017 and 2018. He was recognized as the 2017 Hispanic Businessman of the Year by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and serves on the board of the United States Hispanic Business Council. Additionally, Teddy is a passionate advocate for education. He established the Teddy Peinado Endowed Scholarship in Commercial Construction and the Peinado Industrial Tilt-Wall Construction Endowed Scholarship for Texas A&M students. As a strong supporter of our nation's veterans and first responders, Teddy actively works with Carry the Load, Helicopters for Heroes, 22 Kill, and Sons of the Flag. I am proud of the work he has accomplished for our community, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Teddy with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE GRADUATION OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT 160TH RECRUIT CLASS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and the graduates of the 160th Class. As they prepare to join the ranks of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, I encourage the 13 graduates to reflect on the history of the department and the contributions and dedication of the brave men and women who have served before them to protect our community.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Recruit School consists of an ex-

tensive and demanding 24-week program. In addition to two weeks of orientation, recruits completed nine weeks of EMT training and eleven weeks of fire suppression training. Upon graduation, these recruits will be certified at the level of Firefighter I/II by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

These recruits have the distinct honor of joining one of the best Fire and Rescue Departments in the United States. The efforts of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department have been recognized across this country. Members from the Department serve on the elite VA Task Force 1, which is among the first units called to disaster zones to provide search and rescue support. Members of that Task Force were recognized by the International Association of Fire Chiefs with the Benjamin Franklin Award for Valor as a result of their efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes that struck Nepal in 2015.

Fairfax County is fortunate to have such excellent ambassadors for our community and I commend them for all that they have done to protect lives and property not only here in Fairfax County, but around the world. As the newest members of the Fire and Rescue Department, the 160th Recruit Class graduates join the department as integral parts of our community's emergency response and public safety team. I am confident that this graduating class will serve the residents of Fairfax County with honor and distinction. It is my great honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 160th Recruit Class:

Breckan D. Coleman
Jose A. Cruz Morales
Ryan P. Devine
Jeffrey M. Early
Robert V. Eickenhorst
Kristin M. Irons
Joshua R. May
Xavier Pia Delgado De Molina
Jake M. Rininger
John-Scott Ruhren
Joseph J. Tulko
Ryan A. Wagner
Jacob M. Wildesen

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. I thank them for their service to their community and to all members of the Fire and Rescue Department, past and present, I say: "Stay safe."

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE CHAVEZ RICO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Michelle 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 Michelle, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Michelle's hard work, determination, and perseverance at

Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Michelle Chavez Rico on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING JANET THOMPSON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Janet Thompson, whom I have named a 2024 Woman of the Year because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who contributed significantly to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Jan was born and grew up in Illinois. We have been married for nearly 50 years, and we have two wonderful sons and three beautiful granddaughters. Jan attended Indiana University and California State University, Chico, where she received her bachelor's degree in nursing. She also attended Sonoma State University, where she received her master's degree to become a family nurse practitioner.

During her 32 years as a registered nurse at St. Helena Hospital, Jan has worked to give the utmost patient care in our community. Throughout her career, Jan also served as a nurse at Mercy General in Sacramento. In Washington, D.C., Jan worked as a family nurse practitioner at Sibley Memorial Hospital and taught nursing at Georgetown University.

Jan has also generously volunteered her healthcare services to people across our congressional district. She has provided care to patients at Ole Health, administered physicals for student athletes in Napa and St. Helena, and served on the board for hospice care in Lake County. Her devotion to providing excellent care shows her compassion for and commitment to the people she serves. I have heard from many people in our hometown of St. Helena that they have woken up in the hospital and felt instantly comforted and relieved that she was there as their nurse. These stories are illustrative of her lifelong commitment to helping others.

Not only has Jan been an incredible community servant, but she has also been a dedicated and passionate partner to me and is always there for our district. When Jan and I first got together, she was the driving force in encouraging me to go back to college and complete my degree. She has instilled in our family the value of education as well. Without Jan's constant support, I would not be who I am today.

Simply put, I could not do public service without her. She is an important part of our team, and someone who is indispensable in our district.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Jan for her excellent service to our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as a 2024 Woman of the Year.

HONORING VERA HALL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Vera Hall. Vera has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Vera is a native of Jefferson County, Mississippi. She is the mother to Christian Halle. Vera is a graduate of Jefferson County High School, Alcorn State University and Emory University. She has done further study towards a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree at Louisiana State University.

Vera is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and was a pastor of two churches in Clinton and Jackson, MS. Vera also served as a campus minister for Wesley Foundation Director for over 12 years at Alcorn State University and Jackson State University. Vera is currently a member of Mount Pleasant UMC in Fayette, MS.

In 2011, Vera formed Innovative Performance Construction Company, LLC (IPC), a licensed General Contractor Firm with Federal Certifications, located in Jackson, MS. IPC is a woman owned construction company and has successfully completed several hundred projects and has received numerous awards and recognition.

Vera's Awards includes: WJTV Remarkable Woman of the Year 2024 Nominee; Mississippi 2020 and 2021 Small Business Person of the Year; Featured on the cover of the Mississippi SBA Resource Guide and the only female contractor with the honor; 2019 PTAC Small Business Growth of the Year Award; 2018 SBA Emerging Leaders Award; ABC National Safety Award; and ABC Local Chapter Merit Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Vera Hall for her outstanding work and dedication in and throughout the 2nd Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 154; YEA on Roll Call No. 155; YEA on Roll Call No. 156; YEA on Roll Call No. 157; and YEA on Roll Call No. 158.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family illness, I was unable to be present for votes on Monday, April 29, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 153 and YEA on Roll Call No. 154.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILEY NICKEL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I was ill and unable to vote on Roll Call Numbers 164–171 on April 30th. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 164; NAY on Roll Call No. 165; YEA on Roll Call No. 166; NAY on Roll Call No. 167; YEA on Roll Call No. 168; NAY on Roll Call No. 169; YEA on Roll Call No. 170; and NAY on Roll Call No. 171.

RECOGNIZING MERRIMACK SENIOR CENTER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Merrimack Senior Center on its 50th Anniversary. Since 1974, this establishment has gathered seniors across the town of Merrimack and beyond to enjoy local speakers, educational workshops, and trips to concerts or plays throughout New England.

Serving nearly 200 seniors, the senior citizens club offers a centralized space to build community, play games, socialize, and create true friendship.

The Merrimack Senior Club offers meaningful services for seniors as well, including safety presentations from local police and fire departments and a discounted restaurant meal program in partnership with Meals on Wheels.

Furthermore, the club offers philanthropic opportunities to its members. Working with community organizations and leaders, the club provides a \$1,000 annual scholarship to a local high school student and gathers donations for local food banks.

I commend the Merrimack Senior Center for its many years of community-oriented service and look forward to its continued work to bring seniors together throughout the Merrimack area over the next 50 years.

RECOGNIZING DANE JANIS ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Dane Janis of Lorain, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Dane's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most chal-

lenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Dane brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Marion Steele High School, he participated in orchestra, L.E.O Club, National Honor Society, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Dane was involved in tennis, earning his varsity letter. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dane Janis on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Dane will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE MARK E. JOHNSON

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the decades of dedicated service that the Honorable Mark E. Johnson has given not only to his country, but to his community.

Johnson spent 28 years of his life in the United States Army, rising through the ranks due to his impeccable service and endless perseverance. In this period, Johnson received an astonishing 30 awards and decorations, including the Combat Action Badge and Bronze Star.

After retiring at the rank of Colonel, Johnson embarked upon a new challenge, bringing his love of public service to the legal profession. Johnson worked in the private sector and as a Deputy Public Defender for the Riverside County Public Defender's Office to ensure everyone had access to a vigorous defense.

He went on to serve as a judge for the Riverside County Superior Court, ruling thoughtfully in over 200 jury trials and presiding over many of the most significant cases in our community.

Above all, Johnson worked at every point in his storied career to serve other veterans. Johnson labored endlessly to ensure no one who sacrificed for our nation would fall through the cracks. He developed the Riverside County Veterans Treatment Court to help address the service-related health issues too many of our veterans face.

The Honorable Mark E. Johnson has done more for our veterans, our communities, and our Nation than can ever be repaid. I stand today to ensure his work is never forgotten.

RECOGNIZING MIYA S. ATENCIO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miya S. Atencio for earning the

Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Miya 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 Miya, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Miya's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Miya S. Atencio on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING KAREN COLLINS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karen Collins, whom I have named the 2024 Woman of the Year for Sonoma County because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Ms. Collins grew up in Spokane, Washington, with her dad and two brothers. She received a bachelor's degree in political science and American history from Whitworth University, and a master's degree in American Government from George Washington University. She also earned a junior college teaching credential from San Francisco State University, and is a graduate of the Public Affairs Institute of Washington, D.C.

Ms. Collins is a prominent leader on environmental and agricultural issues. She is an outstanding member of our community, having served on countless commissions and organizations throughout Sonoma County including the City of Sonoma's Environmental Advisory Commission, the Sonoma County Regional Parks Advisory Commission, and the City of Sonoma Parks and Recreation Task Force. She also served as President of the Bay Area Public Affairs Council, as chair of the California State Trails Commission, and as chair and member of various other community organizations. Ms. Collins, dedication as a public servant is clear.

Notably, Ms. Collins has volunteered for many campaigns including Cows not Casinos and ballot measures for the Sonoma County Agricultural and Open Space District and Sonoma County Regional Parks Department. She also worked on the urban growth boundary campaign and the Sonoma Valley Hospital property tax campaign.

Her impact is not limited to Sonoma County. Ms. Collins served as the Deputy Director of the Container Corporation of America, as the Director of Governmental Relations for the Del Monte Corporation and as Deputy Director of California State Parks. She even started her own company, Going Places! Walking Tours for Women.

Ms. Collins' incredible impact on our community has been recognized by many. In 2019, she was named the City of Sonoma's

Alcaldessa. She received the 2017 California State Senate Woman of the Year award from California State Senator Bill Dodd, the City of Sonoma's Conservationist of the Year Award in 2014 and received the Sonoma Valley Hospital Pulse Award in 2008. These awards exemplify Ms. Collins' constant and unwavering dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ms. Karen Collins for her excellent service and passion for our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Sonoma County's 2024 Woman of the Year.

HONORING MATTIE L. WARREN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable trailblazer, Ms. Mattie L. Warren. Ms. Warren has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Ms. Warren is a woman of great courage and determination. During National Library Week, the local library took the opportunity to honor several people who are special to the branch of the Sunflower County Library System. Among them was a special recognition for Ms. Warren, who has worked for the Library System for 50 years.

As good fortune would have it, Ms. Warren issued B.B. King his first library card. Currently, she works at the library as a cataloger, making sure everyone finds what they are looking for within the library.

People often ask her, "When are you going to retire, and I say, don't worry about that—as long as I still have my mind and I can still do, I am going to thank the Lord and go ahead on." Staff members, family and friends all declared that when Ms. Warren speaks, they listen to everything she says.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mattie L. Warren for her passion and dedication to her community.

HONORING RENALDINE LAFLECHE

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the outstanding service of Renaldine Lafleche, my fellow who has served with distinction in my office and dedicated her time to serving the people of Florida's 24th Congressional District.

Renaldine, a proud alumna of Florida International University, brought her background and passion for creating meaningful change to my office. Her commitment to improving transportation and infrastructure across South Florida was evident in her diligent support of my work on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Renaldine's exceptional expertise and strategic insight have been instrumental in advancing my legislative agenda and ensuring critical amendments were included in crucial pieces of legislation.

One of Renaldine's greatest strengths is building bridges and fostering collaboration.

Her dedication to empowering others and uplifting underrepresented voices has left a lasting impression on our team and the communities we serve.

As Renaldine concludes her fellowship today, she leaves a legacy of excellence and service. Her next chapter will undoubtedly be marked by her continued success and impactful work in public service.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Renaldine Lafleche for her drive and dedication to public service.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT GAIL UTTER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Gail Utter of Sherman, Texas, and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Gail has over 30 years of experience in the investment industry and has dedicated herself to serving and uplifting our community.

Gail spent most of her childhood in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and earned her Bachelor of Business Administration from Southern Methodist University. She later received a Master of Business Administration from the University of North Texas and became certified as a Private Wealth Advisor and Chartered Retirement Plan Counselor. In 2001, Gail established the very successful Utter Wealth Management of Wells Fargo Advisors.

Over the years, she has provided stellar investment results for clients and earned numerous awards and recognitions for her work. Gail was named a Platinum Council Advisor Diamond level advisor, Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisor, and Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-in-State. Additionally, she has been listed in Barron's Top 1200 State by State Advisor for eleven consecutive years, beginning in 2012.

On top of delivering for her clients, Gail serves in several leadership roles with the Austin College Board of Trustees, the Sherman Economic Development Corporation, SMU Perkins School of Theology, and many more. She is a frequent keynote speaker and supporter of beneficial community initiatives throughout North Texas. In her free time, Gail enjoys spending time with her family, taking care of her dogs, and strengthening her faith. I am proud of the outstanding work she has accomplished for our community. I wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Gail with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th Year Anniversary of Northern Virginia Family Service.

Originally established in 1924 by volunteers in Alexandria, Virginia, Northern Virginia Family Service has been a staple in Northern Virginia communities to help people in need. Those first volunteers in 1924 in Alexandria noticed that poor children in their community had no coats, and their families had no coal to heat their homes. Northern Virginia Family Service addressed those basic and critical needs.

The needs of vulnerable individuals and families in our nation will likely continue to be part of the same challenges we face in our Northern Virginia region. Northern Virginia Family Service has built a steadfast legacy of support and service that they've provided through their mission—"to empower individuals and families to improve their quality of life, and to promote community cooperation and support in responding to family needs." With the continued commitment of partners and supporters, many enjoy the benefits that come with that promise.

This work continues today with major initiatives to address the issues of secure affordable housing in a challenging economy, provide access to necessary health care and medications for children and adults, offer job training that improves quality of life and provides adequate support for families, provide a safe, stimulating place for growing preschool children to learn and play.

More than 100 years later, Northern Virginia Family Service continues to address our local communities' needs with a wide range of programs designed to deal with the current problems of today. Northern Virginia Family Service partners with Northern Virginia Community College through the "Training Futures" program, to provide the only community-based workforce development program in the region that affords students the opportunity to earn college credits.

Mr. Speaker, Northern Virginia Family Service has grown to help more than 35,000 families and individuals every year. As needs emerge and change over time, Northern Virginia Family Service programs also adapt to respond to what is needed when it is required. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending their President and CEO, Stephanie Berkowitz, their Board of Directors, leadership team, members, and volunteers in the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Northern Virginia Family Service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELLE FISCHBACH

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to cast a vote on April 30, 2024, for a bill that I have been a cosponsor of and a strong advocate for, which would delist the Gray Wolf from the ESA.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

YEA on Roll Call No. 169, passage of H.R. 764—Trust the Science Act.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN DEBATE TEAM FOR THEIR NATIONAL TITLE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Michigan's Debate Team, on the occasion of winning their first national title. The tenacity and dedication this team has shown throughout their season is worthy of commendation.

The University of Michigan Debate Team in Ann Arbor was founded in 1903 and is one of the oldest debate programs in the United States. Prior to their national championship victory this year, the team finished as runner-up 3 times in the past 3 years. The perseverance the team has shown is evident in this, and their victory is so deserving. The skills and values that this team and all other teams have gained throughout this season are impressive, and no doubt carry them into successful futures. This accomplishment is also an indicator as to why organizations such as debate in universities and colleges are so worthwhile.

The 78th annual tournament was held at Emory University, with 47 universities and colleges represented by 78 different teams. This esteemed tournament is highly competitive, and the University of Michigan rose to the occasion. The topic of debate was concerning U.S. nuclear weapons policy. This weighty topic is no easy thing to discuss, let alone debate, and the University of Michigan Debate Team should be proud of their accomplishment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Debate Team at the University of Michigan. Their victory signifies the second national championship title for the University of Michigan this academic year, following the Michigan Football Team's College Football Playoff win. I want to congratulate the Debate Team for their accomplishments, and I have no doubt that they will continue to make their university proud.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS FROM OREGON'S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AS THEY VISIT MEMORIALS ON THE NATIONAL MALL

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Veterans from Oregon's Second Congressional District who, through the efforts of Honor Flight of Oregon, are visiting their memorials on the National Mall. When I meet these heroes, I am reminded of the enduring words of Douglas MacArthur, who said, "Duty, honor, country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be." These words, Mr. Speaker, still ring true today. Those who value liberty are indebted to these heroes, for each one of them defended our freedom through acts of service, sacrifice, and bravery

all on behalf of our country. It is my privilege to include in the RECORD their names.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are: William Await, Navy; Berry Roland, Army; Henry Butler, Navy; Roland Cook, Air Force; Julian Cortez, Marine Corps; David Cunningham, Navy; Duane Desautel, Army; Wallace Hunnicutt, Air Force; Daniel Long, Navy; James Martson, Navy; Fredrick Miles, Air Force; Lorin Myers, Marine Corps Reserve; Gerald Nolan, Marine Corps; Douglas Olson, Army; Richard Patten, Navy Reserve; Henry Perry, Navy; James Potter, Marine Corps; Dale Rosenboom, Army; Helen Rosenboom, Army; Hector Sanchez, Army; Sherrell Spears, Army; Craig Spotts, Navy; Gary Svaren, Army; David Wright, Army; Thomas Wright, Army; Ken Wilson, Navy. These heroes join over 240,000 Veterans, who since 2005, have been honored through the nationwide Honor Flight Network of volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, in his 1988 Veterans Day address President Ronald Reagan said, "We remember those who were called upon to give all a person can give, and we remember those who were prepared to make that sacrifice if it were demanded of them in the line of duty, though it never was. Most of all, we remember the devotion and gallantry with which all of them ennobled their nation as they became champions of a noble cause." As a Nation, we must never take for granted the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our veterans. Each Member in this chamber and citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of the brave veterans who voluntarily underwent the dangers necessary to preserve our country. Colleagues, please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

RECOGNIZING TERRA BENALLY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Terra 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 Terra, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Terra's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

HONORING ANA SANTANA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ana Santana, whom I

have named the 2024 Woman of the Year for Lake County because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who contributed significantly to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Ms. Santana was born in Los Angeles, California, to Manuela Garcia de Santana and Galdino Gomez Santana. Ms. Santana received an associate degree in early childhood education from Yuba College and a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Pacific Union College. She is married to Jose Luis Alfaro. Together, they are parents to Daniella, Luis-Alberto, and Thomas.

Ms. Santana's leadership and commitment to our educational community are commendable. For nearly two decades, she has worked at the Lake County Office of Education as a champion for family advocacy and services. Her active participation in various commissions and organizations, such as the Healthy Start Youth and Family Services Program Director, the Juvenile Justice Committee, Upper Lake Unified School District Board Member, and the Latinos United of Lake County Secretary, is a testament to her unwavering dedication as a public servant.

Notably, Ms. Santana has advocated for those in need and orchestrated countless community outreach events. As chair of the Lake County Children's Council and a past board member of St. Peter's Hispanic Congregation, she has dramatically inspired her colleagues and those in our community. Many have recognized her incredible impact on our community. Recently, the Press Democrat named her Lake County's Most Influential Woman.

As a past president and secretary of the Upper Lake High School Boosters, Ms. Santana continues to support her children by volunteering or promoting any event they are involved in. She has always been committed to her job and volunteer positions. Ms. Santana's philanthropic acts stem from her mindset that everything she does is worth it as long as it suits the children. She has helped direct events connecting our communities to different health initiatives, again showing her passion for outreach.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ms. Santana for her excellent service and passion for our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Lake County's 2024 Woman of the Year.

HONORING ATTORNEY PAHEADRA ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Attorney Paheadra Robinson.

Paheadra Robinson, B.S., J.D., class of 1994, was recognized as a Remarkable Woman of Mississippi by WJTV for her body work around Social Justice and Medicaid Expansion. If she's not supporting her three children in their extracurricular activities, you can find her taking on a leadership role in several critical issues.

Robinson graduated from Lanier High School before attending Tougaloo College. From there, she went on to earn her law degree from the University of Mississippi.

Robinson currently serves as principal of the Bratton Consulting Group. She's been addressing civil rights and consumer protection issues through advocacy and community education for more than 20 years.

Robinson brings a rich tapestry of experience to her role. As an attorney, advocate, and seasoned consultant, she has navigated the halls of legislation and the grassroots of community movements with equal adeptness. This unique blend of experiences empowers her with an unparalleled perspective on driving change. At the heart of Robinson's work is a profound passion for economic justice and community upliftment.

Her approach is deeply empathetic yet strategically sharp, ensuring that her clients not only envision change but also effectively enact it. Robinson's expertise lies in not just advising organizations but in truly empowering them. Her guidance helps turn visions into impactful actions, fostering growth in leaders and tangible progress in communities.

With Robinson and The Bratton Group, LLC, your nonprofit's mission finds a powerful voice and a clear path forward. She embodies the ideal blend of heart, intellect, and action—making her an exceptional asset in the journey towards a better world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Attorney Paheadra Robinson for her dedication and tenacity to serving his community and desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH ILIFF ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Elizabeth Iliff of Lorain, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Elizabeth's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Elizabeth brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Marion Steele High School, she participated in National Honor Society, L.E.O. Club, student government, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Elizabeth was involved in cheerleading and golf, earning her varsity letter in both. I am confident that she will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Elizabeth Iliff on her offer of

appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Elizabeth will excel during her career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

IN MEMORY OF DR. GLEN C. KNECHT, SR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week a beloved former pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, South Carolina, passed away but will always be cherished as evidenced by his obituary.

Dr. Glen C. Knecht, Sr., 94, was received into the glory of his Savior on April 23, 2024, at his home, Laurel Haven, in Laurel, MD. Born March 19, 1930, in Ogdensburg, NY, son of Robert and Wilma Knecht, Glen grew up in Syracuse, NY. Glen was brought to transformative, saving faith in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at summer camp as a teenager.

At 16, Glen began attending Maryville College where he met the love of his life, Betty Jane Greenwald. As the story goes, on their first date she told him she wanted to be a country schoolteacher and Glen replied, "That's great because I want to be a country preacher!" Glen went on to graduate from Maryville and later from both Fuller Theological Seminary and Princeton Seminary where he received a Master of Theology Degree. He also received a Doctor of Divinity Degree (Honorary) from Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA.

Their marriage ceremony was broadcast on the live CBS television program, *Bride and the Broom* and from there the couple embarked on a 72-year journey of service and devotion to the Lord and each other. Together, they answered the call to missionary work in Tabriz, Iran in 1958, and traversed the Atlantic Ocean with their young children, Todd and Beth, in tow. While in Iran, he provided a complete seminary education to an Iranian pastor. He preached in both Persian and Turkish in the church there and in English to the U.S. government personnel in Tabriz. After five years, their term was complete. They returned to the U.S. again by boat, having added Wendy and Janet to the family.

Glen's first pastorate was at the Union Presbyterian Church in Kirkwood, Pennsylvania where he served before departing for the mission field. Upon his return he served for eight years as pastor of the Oxford Presbyterian Church in Oxford, Pennsylvania, during which Glen, Jr. and daughter, Amy, were born. His next pastorate was at the Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church (then located) in Hyattsville, Maryland, a stone's throw from the U.S. Capitol. Glen served as senior pastor there from 1971-1983. From 1983-1997, he was Senior Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC. From 1997-2007 he served at Fourth Presbyterian Church, in Bethesda, MD, first as Assistant Pastor (Minister of Visitation) and then as Associate Pastor for Congregational Care. His last pastorate was at the Christ Reformed Evangelical Church, Annapolis, MD from 2007-2016. He was a member of the Potomac Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of America at the time of his death.

He was honored to pastor the historic First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, SC. The kindness and generosity of that congregation blessed the entire Knecht family. During these sweet years in Columbia, their daughter, Janet's condition with MS worsened. The First Presbyterian Church family lovingly cared for them, by putting in a pool for Janet's therapy in the backyard of the manse. While serving in Columbia, he was named to the Order of the Palmetto in 1997, by South Carolina Governor David Beasley, the state's highest civilian honor, given to citizens for lifetime achievements and contributions that have significantly benefited South Carolina.

Glen had a love for Iranian people throughout his life, as well as for all believers in the persecuted church around the world. He traveled to Pakistan, Ukraine, Cypress, and Ethiopia on short-term mission trips. Through the years Glen influenced countless men and women to follow Christ through his preaching and Christ-like character. He will be remembered for his generosity, hospitality, and his devotion to prayer. His firm convictions regarding honoring the Fourth Commandment, led him to write the book, *The Day God Made*, concerning the Sabbath, published in 2003 by Banner of Truth.

Glen or "Gra", as he became known by his grandchildren, is survived by his wife of 72 years, Betty Jane Greenwald Knecht, son, Todd R. Knecht, (Jane), daughter, Elizabeth Myers, (Thomas), daughter Wendy Higgins, (Craig), son Glen C. Knecht, Jr. (Beth), and daughter Amy Frierson, (Frick). He is also surviving by 17 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren (so far) and many dear nieces and nephews. Glen was preceded in death by his daughter, Jane Lynn Dick (Jonathan), his parents, his sister, Nancy Cimbale and brothers Robert and Gerald Knecht. We loved him all the way to Heaven!

"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those who heart is blameless toward him." II Chronicles 16:9.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 164; NAY on Roll Call No. 165; YEA on Roll Call No. 166; NAY on Roll Call No. 167; and YEA on Roll Call No. 168.

RECOGNIZING DR. BENJAMIN TALUS AND HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Dr. Benjamin Talus for nearly three years of outstanding service to the constituents of New York's 12th Congressional District.

Ben's career in the Capitol began as a House Page in 2009, where he was one of the last Pages to serve the House. A native of the Philadelphia suburbs, Ben's career has taken

him far and wide, providing him with diverse experiences that helped cultivate his sound political judgment I have come to rely on daily.

Ben returned to DC in 2010 to pursue his bachelor's degree in foreign service at Georgetown University. In 2013, he interned for Hillary Clinton as she transitioned out of her role as Secretary of State and back into private life. This experience earned him a communications role with the Clinton Foundation following his graduation in 2014. In this role, he staffed former President Bill Clinton, riding alongside the Secret Service at events across the country.

Directly advising one of the most powerful women in the world wasn't the most rewarding part of his tenure at the Foundation, however. It was where Ben met his future wife, Allie Gottlieb. Together, they went on to move to Miami where they worked together to send former HHS Secretary Donna Shalala to Congress.

After Congresswoman Shalala's victory in 2019, they relocated back to Washington, where Ben served as Senior Policy Advisor until 2021, when he joined my team as my Foreign Policy Advisor.

Ben dutifully supported my role as the most senior Jewish Member of Congress, advising not only myself, but also other Members looking to his foreign policy expertise. In the wake of the Israel-Hamas war, Ben has been working around the clock, fielding calls from other Members, stakeholder groups, and myself as we work to respond to the crisis. Ben's deep, complex understanding of the Jewish community and my district have been indispensable, and I could not be more grateful to have had him by my side during this difficult time.

Ben's time in my office was marked several personal milestones—he married Allie, earned both a master's and a doctoral degree in international relations from Johns Hopkins, and adopted Teddy, his Lagotto Romagnolo puppy that is often the topic of office discussion.

While his departure will be a profound loss for the House and my team, I'm pleased he won't be going far as he is moving to New York for his next chapter in the private sector. I look forward to seeing all he will accomplish, and most importantly, seeing Teddy enjoy Central Park as Ben practices his agogo in the meadow.

HONORING NATIONAL BUSINESS AVIATION ASSOCIATION'S MAINTENANCE CONFERENCE

HON. LORI CHAVEZ-DeREMÉR

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mrs. CHAVEZ-DeREMÉR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize an important sector of business aviation that will be highlighted at the National Business Aviation Association's 37th Maintenance Conference, which will be held this week in Portland, Oregon.

General aviation has a significant impact on the Oregon economy, supporting over 213,000 jobs and sustaining a payroll of \$10 billion. The economic impact of airports in Oregon totals \$28.5 billion.

Furthermore, aviation maintenance ensures aircraft operations' safety, reliability, and com-

pliance. It contributes significantly to the economy by supporting jobs and businesses in the maintenance, repair, and overhaul sectors. Maintenance programs also build customer confidence, prolong aircraft lifespans, and reduce aviation's environmental footprint through optimized efficiency and emissions management.

The NBAA's Maintenance Conference serves as a vital gathering for professionals in the business aviation industry and provides industry leaders, technicians, engineers, and service providers a platform to come together, share knowledge, discuss emerging trends, and explore advancements in aviation technology and safety protocols.

As the aviation sector continues to evolve rapidly, conferences like the NBAA Maintenance Conference play a crucial role in fostering collaboration, innovation, and excellence within the industry.

Moreover, hosting such a critical aviation event in Portland, Oregon, further underscores the state's significance as a hub for aviation innovation and excellence. With its vibrant aviation community, world-class facilities, and commitment to sustainability, Portland serves as an ideal backdrop for fostering discussions on the future of aviation maintenance and sustainable practices.

Oregon boasts a robust aviation infrastructure, with 49 repair stations, 17 FAA-approved pilot schools, 3,604 student pilots, and 1,844 flight instructors, according to FAA data. The state is also home to 52 fixed-base operators and 149 helicopters.

I commend the National Business Aviation Association for its dedication to advancing the business aviation community's interests and organizing this important event. I extend my best wishes for a successful and productive conference to all participants, sponsors, and organizers.

May the NBAA Maintenance Conference in Portland, Oregon, serve as a catalyst for continued progress and collaboration in business aviation maintenance while highlighting the vital contributions of aviation maintenance jobs to Oregonians and individuals across the Nation.

I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize this important event.

RECOGNIZING BISHOP ROBERT DELANO TAYLOR

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Bishop Robert Delano Taylor, of Glad Tidings Church in Detroit, as he is promoted as the Presiding Bishop of Southwest Michigan Agape Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

Since 1987, Bishop Taylor has served as the pastor of Glad Tidings Church, where he has led his family in faith and spearheaded numerous programs in service to the community. He has launched initiatives to provide vital resources to children, youth, and families, as well as offering essential support to the homeless during winter months, as well as providing backpacks, free haircuts, and dental services during annual back-to-school rallies.

In his new role, Bishop Taylor undertakes the monumental task of overseeing a vast network of over fifty congregations. In addition to

his administrative duties, Bishop Taylor dedicates himself to nurturing and guiding the pastors within his jurisdiction, ensuring they are equipped with the requisite resources to foster their spiritual, emotional, and intellectual growth. His steadfast commitment to the betterment of others is evident in every aspect of his leadership.

The 12th Congressional District offers our congratulations and recognition of Bishop Robert Delano Taylor for his spiritual leadership and impact on our community.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER ARO
CALVILLO

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Alexander 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 Alexander, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alexander's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Alexander Aro Calvillo on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING NAPA SCHOOLS FOR
CLIMATE ACTION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Napa Schools for Climate Action, which I have named the 2024 Climate Crisis Champion for Napa County because of the important work it has done to promote youth climate leadership and advocate for climate policies in California's 4th Congressional District.

Napa Schools for Climate Action has been at the forefront of our Napa County community's fight against climate change. It has hosted informational community presentations on climate change at locations such as the Napa County Library and events including the Napa Valley Unified School District Professional Development Day. They have also organized annual Creative Piece Contests for high school students, which are meant to invite students to create art pieces that reflect their emotions toward the climate crisis. These contests are decided by a panel of judges, and cash prizes are awarded to top candidates. Their dedication to including the voices of young people, especially high school students, in the conversations about the climate crisis is important.

Napa Schools for Climate Action has also successfully worked for meaningful policies

which combat climate change. They have advocated for Climate Emergency Resolutions and secured firm commitments to achieve net-zero climate pollutants by or before 2030 from the Napa Valley Unified School District, the county of Napa, the Napa Regional Conservation District, and all the cities and towns in the country. Further, through their Fossil Free Futures Project, Napa Schools for Climate Action has convinced each municipality in Napa County to adopt or pledge a ban on new and expanded gas stations. Their climate change advocacy is unparalleled in our community.

Their work to uplift the voices of young people who are concerned about climate change in our community is further evidence why they are deserving of this honor. They have actively advocated for the prioritization of climate restoration at the local, state, and federal levels. Napa Schools for Climate Action was the only student group to support California's SR-34, which recognized that climate change disproportionately impacts young people. They have also drafted a Climate Restoration Resolution for adoption by the Napa Valley Unified School District that declares that climate restoration, along with net zero and net negative emissions, is their common climate goal. They collected signatures, conducted surveys, and presented to various groups to build community support for a Congressional Climate Restoration Resolution. I have previously met with the organization's Co-Presidents, Allison Bencsik and Liliana Karesh, as they lobbied for emergency-scale climate action. Napa Schools for Climate Action have since received support from me and my Napa District Office Staff in their latest efforts.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that the Napa Schools for Climate Action is an organization dedicated to promoting youth climate leadership and advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor them here today as Napa County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING MS. ELIZABETH KEYES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazer and fashion designer, Ms. Elizabeth Keyes. Elizabeth has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Elizabeth's hard work has led to the launch of her first collection under House of E. Keyes, a women's clothing brand she describes as bold, creative and inspirational. The collection is a collaboration with Shein X, a three-year-old program wherein Shein reaches out to emerging fashion designers, looks at their portfolios, interviews them and sponsors their five-piece collections.

Elizabeth's upbringing in Bolton, MS, is described in three terms: hardworking, hospitality, and faith. She grew up on family land with parents who were both ministers at her home church in Bolton. Elizabeth was homeschooled until high school but that didn't stop her from participating in various extracurricular activities, including dance.

At 12 years old, Elizabeth crouched over her sewing machine, hard at work on putting

together her first-ever piece of custom clothing: an A-line, zebra-print shirt. Elizabeth's mother was blessed enough to hire Sharon Knott, a seamstress who worked at Hancock, to give her private lessons.

At 16 years old, she premiered in her first fashion show that raised money for a local charity for sickle-cell awareness. The collection contained six pieces for kids and teenagers, and her friends modeled her designs.

After graduating from Raymond High School in 2017, she attended Savannah College of Art and Design, majoring in fashion design with a double minor in graphic design and fashion marketing and management. She graduates June 2, 2024.

To celebrate the release of her first collection, Elizabeth held a launch party in her hometown on March 19, 2024, the day after the line's official debut. She has plans to host a fall fashion show of her collection in Mississippi and to establish her mentorship program, Girls in Grace, here as well. The program is her motivator for helping invest in the next generation of young women to help them follow their dreams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Elizabeth Keyes for her passion and dedication in the field of fashion design.

HONORING THE 2024 TRUMAN
SCHOLARS

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2024 Truman Scholars.

This year, the Foundation received 709 applications from 285 institutions. After a review of the students records of leadership, public service, and academic achievement the independent selection panel selected 60 students from 54 U.S. colleges and universities to receive this honor.

This year's nominees are: Kaylyn Ahn, Daniel Arakawa, Daniel Block, Jackson Boaz, Christian Boudreaux, Allison Boyd, Paul Boyd, Elizabeth Caldwell, Anna Dellit, Grant Dillivan, Juan Dills, Alex Drahos, Jane Drinkwater, Adelaide Easter, Desaree Edwards, Ray Epstein, Gavin Fry, Bitaniya Giday, Eli Glickman, Axel Hawkins, Lezlie Hilario, Aadaure Iwuh, Rincon Jagarlamudi, Elijah Kahlenberg, Alyssa Kemp, Lisa Kopelnik, Aravind Krishnan, Pranav Krishnan, Kayle Lauck, Julie Ann Laxamana, Reese Lyan, Kelsey Monaghan-Bergson, Alexandra Mork, Jackson Morris, Laila Nasher, Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Tej Patel, Yadira Paz-Martinez, CJ Peterson, Jay Philbrick, Marley Ramon, Thomas Riggs, Camila Rios-Picorelli, Edwin Santos, Diego Sarmiento, Isaac Seiler, Albiona Selimi, Jahneé Smith, Jaiden Stansberry, Sophia Stewart, Anitvir Taunke, Alex Taylor, Wena Teng, Mikayla Tillery, Grace Truslow, Lee Waldman, Ella Weber, Trenton White, Mielad Ziaee, Zane Zupan.

Established in 1975, the Truman Foundation is the Nation's living memorial to the thirty-third president. According to the foundation's website their mission is to recognize aspiring leaders at an important inflection point in their

development. Students are recognized in their junior year and rewarded for their aspirations to enter public service. After being selected, students receive a scholarship for graduate or professional school, participate in leadership development activities, and have special opportunities for internships and employment with the federal government.

Congratulations to all of this year's nominees, and I look forward to seeing where each of them go in their future.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT THOMAS LEISER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Thomas Leiser of Dallas, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Thomas has dedicated himself to serving and uplifting our community.

In 1974, Thomas graduated from Indiana University and earned his Juris Doctor from Indiana University School of Law four years later. He began his career as a clerk and bailiff for Marion County Criminal Courts before being selected to serve as a Deputy Prosecutor. In 1982, Thomas stepped into the real estate industry and worked as an investment advisor for Leiser Real Estate Advisory in New York City. After a brief moment serving as an associate business law professor, he began working for the Trammell Crow Company in Dallas and rose up its ranks to become its Senior Managing Director. With plenty of experience in the commercial real estate market, Thomas co-founded Bandera Ventures in 2003. Since then, his agency has completed over a hundred real estate projects throughout the United States worth nearly \$3 billion dollars. Currently, Thomas is working on a billion-dollar project to construct a data center.

Separately, Thomas has supported numerous humanitarian initiatives around the world. He worked closely with the Agape Manna nonprofit to develop a bakery to provide orphaned children in North Korea with food. Thomas also supported efforts to help North Koreans seek freedom from the Communist regime and begin a new chapter in life in South Korea. He is the co-founder of Crosswater Ministries, which supports Mission activities for the Highland Park Presbyterian Church to deliver food and medical supplies to Cuban families. I am proud of the outstanding work Thomas has accomplished for our community and those in need. I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Thomas with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE 2024 BURKE VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Department on the occasion of its 76th Annual Installation of Officers Banquet, and to thank its volunteers for filling an essential role in keeping our community safe.

The Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department was founded in January 1948, and for more than seven decades it has provided lifesaving fire suppression, fire prevention, and emergency medical and rescue services to the residents of Burke and the surrounding communities. It also provides, houses, and maintains firefighting and emergency medical equipment, provides opportunities for professional growth and development for the membership, and maintains and fosters a strong viable organization.

As one of the county's most active volunteer fire and rescue departments, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department works in cooperation with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department to serve the community. I am honored to recognize the dedicated men and women of the Burke Volunteer Fire Department who have volunteered for extra duty as Officers or as members of the Board of Directors and to include in the RECORD their names:

Board of Directors:

President—Ian Dickinson

Vice President—John Powers

Secretary—Maria Suarez Ortiz

Treasurer—Larry Bocknek

Board Member—Kathleen Beer

Board Member—James Stahlman

Board Member—Kenneth Senn

Officers:

Chief—Keith O'Connor

Deputy Chief—Tina Godfrey

Deputy Chief—John Hudak

Captain II—Melissa Ashby

Captain II—Kevin Grottle

Lieutenant—Caitlin Edwards

Sergeant—Gavin Kuzemchak

Quartermaster—Chuck Fry

In addition to the men and women who have generously assumed the responsibilities of serving as an Officer or a member of the Board of Directors, the Burke Volunteer Fire Department is also presenting awards to the following individuals in recognition of their exemplary service during the last year:

Rookie of the Year—Damion Jedlicka

Officer of the Year—Kevin Grottle

EMS Officer of the Year—Garrett Canterbury

Career Member of the Year—Tony Albertson

Administrative Member of the Year—Nancy Stone

President's Award—Gary Shiple

Team Award—75th Banquet Committee; Larry Bocknek, Tina Godfrey, Maria Suarez-Ortiz, and Shaun Kurry

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the department for 76 years of service and in thanking all of the brave volunteers who do not hesitate to drop everything when the community calls in need of help. To all of these men and women who put themselves in harm's way to protect our residents I say: "Stay safe."

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS GERACI ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Nicholas Geraci of North Ridgeville, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Nicholas's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies offers the opportunity to serve our country and receive a world-class education. At the same time, these young men and women undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Nicholas brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending North Ridgeville High School, he participated in Key Club, coached middle school track and field, coached powder-puff football, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Nicholas was involved in track and field, earning his varsity letter. After high school, he attended the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio, majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Nicholas Geraci on his offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Nicholas will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DOUGLAS D. DELAIR

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. ALLRED. Mr. Speaker, on April 18, 2024, Douglas "Doug" D. DeLair, died in Lincoln, Nebraska at the age of 81. He was born on December 12, 1942, in Oakland, California, to the late Raymond DeLair and Evelyn (Crumbliiss) DeLair.

A distinguished captain in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, Doug served admirably as a helicopter pilot.

His disciplined spirit later guided his fulfilling career in bankruptcy law in Lincoln, Nebraska alongside his beloved wife, Sandra DeLair.

Beyond his professional achievements, Doug was a devoted bowler and golfer, his sportsmanship and enthusiasm endearing him to many.

Doug will be remembered not just for his achievements but for his generous heart, sharp wit, and the unwavering support he provided to his friends and family. He was a pillar

in his community, often volunteering his time and legal expertise to those in need.

He is survived by his wife Sandra and their children Dianne, Deborah (partner Antonio), John, Robert (wife Christine) and Danielle (husband Joshua). Doug was blessed with eleven grandchildren including Lucy, Everett, Elaina, Ivy, Breanna, Claudia, Lydia, Sharon, Anthony, Lizzy, and Gabe. Doug was also a brother to Steven DeLair (wife Sally), Stanley DeLair (wife Bertha), and John DeLair (wife Gail).

Doug was preceded in death by his parents Raymond and Evelyn (Crumbliss) DeLair.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 162; YEA on Roll Call No. 155; YEA on Roll Call No. 156; YEA on Roll Call No. 157; YEA on Roll Call No. 158; YEA on Roll Call No. 159; YEA on Roll Call No. 160; YEA on Roll Call No. 161; NAY on Roll Call No. 170; YEA on Roll Call No. 171; NAY on Roll Call No. 168; YEA on Roll Call No. 169; NAY on Roll Call No. 166; YEA on Roll Call No. 167; NAY on Roll Call No. 164; and YEA on Roll Call No. 165.

RECOGNIZING LARISSA BATRES LINARES

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Larissa 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 Larissa, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Larissa's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Larissa Batres Linares on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING MARIA CONTRERAS TEBBUTT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Contreras Tebbutt, whom I have named the 2024 Climate Crisis Champion for Yolo County because of the important work she has done to promote cycling as an alternative form of transportation to ad-

dress the impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Maria Contreras Tebbutt was born in King City, California. She and her husband Mark have a daughter, Nicole. She is a graduate of Davis High School and has lived in Davis ever since graduation.

Through her role as the Outreach Director of the Bike Campaign, Ms. Contreras Tebbutt has educated our community about the value of cycling. This campaign, along with its counterpart, the Bike Garage, was founded in 2011 to help teach people about the benefits of cycling and encourage people to ride their bikes more. These two locations offer training, internships, and jobs for youths, as well as enrichment opportunities for seniors who volunteer. The Bike Campaign works closely with city governments, county health departments, school districts, and community service groups.

Her advocacy for cycling has also given Ms. Contreras Tebbutt the opportunity to advocate on behalf of seniors and people with disabilities. She recently partnered with Cycling Without Age—Trishaw Electric's assist rides program, which provides opportunities for seniors and those with disabilities to enjoy cycling in Davis. This program allows those with mobility limitations to enjoy parks and green spaces more easily. Her work on this program has given her the opportunity to partner with the Davis Senior Center, the Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance, Yolo Hospice, various faith-based organizations, Rancho Yolo, and various senior residential facilities in the county. Ms. Contreras Tebbutt's advocacy on behalf of cycling has meaningfully benefited some of the most vulnerable in our community, which is laudable.

Ms. Contreras Tebbutt's cycling work has also given her the opportunity to connect with our local leaders. She has built partnerships with the City of Davis's Public Works Program, the City of Woodland's Department of Transportation, the Woodland Chamber, the Woodland City Council, and the Davis City Council. She has also been an influential voice in the planning of various community cycling events, such as the Zombie Ride, Ice Cream Ride, and the Polar Bear Ride.

Ms. Contreras Tebbutt's life-long advocacy for cycling and its mental and physical, as well as environmental, benefits, make her an important community leader in combatting the climate crisis.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Maria Contreras Tebbutt is a leader dedicated to promoting cycling as an alternative method of transportation. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Yolo County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING THE MISSISSIPPI CENTER FOR CULTURAL PRODUCTION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mississippi Center for Cultural Production. This organization has gone beyond the call of duty to ensure that rural communities in Mississippi are taken care of, and their stories are told.

The Mississippi Center for Cultural Production, also known as "Sipp Culture," is an approach and resource for cultivating thriving communities. Based in the rural South, Sipp Culture is honoring the history and building the future of Rural Hinds County, especially in the Town of Utica, MS.

Sipp Culture supports community development from the ground up through cultural production focused on self-determination and agency designed by them and for them. The organization believes that history, culture, and food affirm our individual and collective humanity. Their goal is to strengthen the local food system, advance health equity, and support rural artistic voices—while activating the power of story—all to promote the legacy and vision of Utica, MS.

At the core of it all is the unwavering belief that gathering and sharing local stories is the best way to support safe and thriving communities for the future. Honoring growth, story, and imagination is an approach that can cultivate healthy and equitable places everywhere. For Sipp Culture, it all starts in Utica. I firmly believe the work Sipp Culture has done for the communities in Hinds County can be a model for what should be done for rural communities all across the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Mississippi Center for Cultural Production for their service to the citizens of Mississippi.

HONORING BERNARDSVILLE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my warmest congratulations to Bernardsville on its 100th anniversary. I am truly grateful to be celebrating this monumental milestone with them all.

Over the past 100 years, Bernardsville has blossomed into a vibrant town with exquisite natural scenery, rich culture, and a bustling town center. Bernardsville is also home to my congressional district office, so I can personally attest to its unique charm and history. I am proud to have such a remarkable town within the 7th district, and I look forward to watching it continue to flourish in the coming decades.

I wish Bernardsville a wonderful centennial anniversary. May their next century be filled with as much success as this one.

HONORING THE 2024 OHIO MILITARY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the Ohio Military Hall of Fame will hold a ceremony at the Statehouse in Columbus on Friday, May 3, to mark the induction of its 2024 class. Selection for the Hall of Fame is a high honor that has

been accorded to fewer than 500 Ohioans since 2000. To be considered for induction, individuals must have been decorated for heroic action in a combat situation.

I am honored to commend to the House this year's 17 inductees:

Private First Class David F. Winder (posthumously), Army, recipient of the Medal of Honor.

Private First Class Marcus G. Collins, Army, recipient of the Silver Star.

Captain Stephen B. Cook (posthumously), Army, recipient of the Silver Star.

Private First Class Henry R. "Rick" Hausman, Jr. (posthumously), Army, recipient of the Silver Star.

Sergeant Gary Lee McKiddy (posthumously), Army, recipient of the Silver Star.

Master Sergeant James Brian O'Keeffe, Army, recipient of the Silver Star.

First Lieutenant Joseph D. O'Meara (posthumously), Army Air Corps, recipient of the Silver Star.

Corporal Gregory A. White, Marine Corps, recipient of the Silver Star.

Chief Warrant Officer Fourth Class Gregory R. Fleming, Army, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Major Arthur A. Wallace, Air Force, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Lieutenant Colonel Arnold W. Bokesch (posthumously), Army, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device.

Lieutenant Colonel Matthew J. France, Army, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael R. Kelvington, Army, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device.

Sergeant Kent S. Knight (posthumously), Army, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device.

Sergeant William G. Lee, Army, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device.

Sergeant William L. Webster, Jr., Army, recipient of the Bronze Star.

Master Sergeant Brad L. Bonnell, Army, recipient of the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device.

CELEBRATING THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOCA RATON 38TH ANNUAL BOCA RATON TEACHER OF THE YEAR HONOREES

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and acknowledge all the hard-working teachers being honored at the Rotary Club of Boca Raton's 38th Annual Teacher of the Year Awards Celebration for the Palm Beach County School District on April 18, 2024. As a father of two growing boys eager to learn, I know educators' lifelong impact on their students and families. Education is the foundation of our country's future, and as a community, we depend on our teachers daily to prepare the next generation of Americans.

We are thankful to be gifted with extraordinary teachers in Florida's 23rd Congressional District. As Teachers of the Year, they serve as an inspiration not only to their colleagues but also to educators across the re-

gion. These teachers serve as a shining example of the positive difference that teachers make in the lives of their students. Their passion, enthusiasm, and commitment to shaping the future leaders of tomorrow are truly commendable, and there is no doubt that they will continue to inspire and empower countless students in years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating all the teachers being recognized at the Rotary Club of Boca Raton's 38th Annual Teacher of the Year Awards Celebration: Kristin Potter-Oliveri, Debra Tower, Laureen Potts, Danielle Hazard, Kelly Schroeder, Cynthia Petillo, Sonja Shear, Jennifer Weber, Kelly Urbano, Josh Bender, Samantha Seider, Sandra Vanegas, Denise Zegers, Clarence Crane, Laura Kirland, Brett Swan, Amanda Kennedy, Stephanie Cutrona, Michele Juceam, Tisha Thomas, Meredith Gaynor, Susan Hutchings, and Sheyla Guerrero.

HONORING LEONARD CHARLES PERRY

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Leonard "Len" Charles Perry, who passed away on April 14, 2024 in San Diego.

Len always worked to leave our world better than he found it and he left an indelible mark.

Len was born on June 11, 1924, in Oberlin, Ohio, to his father, Attorney Clyde C. Perry, and mother, Ruth Mae Perry. Len's family moved to Cleveland when he was five. He attended Glenville High School where he was an outstanding student athlete, becoming the City of Cleveland's champion high hurdler in 1943.

Len served our nation with dedication and honor as a radio operator with the Combat Engineers during World War II.

After World War II, Len attended law school and passed the Ohio Bar in 1951. He continued his service and began his legal career as a Contract Specialist with the Department of the U.S. Army in the Ordnance Corps, where he quickly became the chief of the Research and Development Branch.

Len also played an integral role in one of our Nation's great achievements and leaps in scientific discovery. Len was the NASA Lewis Research Center's Contracting Officer during the 1960s, managing over forty administrators. Under his direction, they worked to develop Centaur, the upper-stage booster for the Surveyor, which was the first spacecraft to make a true soft landing on the moon. Len's work was critical to this mission and one of the most important successes of NASA's early lunar and interplanetary program.

In 1970, after NASA's successful completion of Moon exploration and twenty years of government service, Len was hired by SD General Dynamics. His family relocated to San Diego and Len became the Manager of Material Contracts.

Len later bought Aerospace Design and Fabrication, an engineering company that primarily performed design and services for NASA and served as the Chief Executive Officer.

Len also gave back to his community and was a member of many organizations in both

California and Ohio. He was a member of the San Diego Community College Board of Trustees, the Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association, the Scholarship Award Board for the San Diego Air and Space Museum, and the Grand Slammers Bridge Group.

Len lived a full life and accomplished so much. But at the heart of everything was his family and his faith. A beloved husband, father, uncle, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Len was above all else devoted to his loved ones and his late wife, Elinor.

My prayers are with all who knew Len during this time of loss.

His legacy will always be remembered.

CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWARK ACADEMY

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 250th anniversary of Newark Academy, an exemplary school in New Jersey's Eleventh Congressional District.

Founded in 1774 by a group of civic leaders, Newark Academy has been at the forefront of education in our community for centuries. The school's initial leadership included Alexander MacWhorter, an advisor to George Washington. Newark Academy's support for the American Revolution eventually made it a target for the British Army who burned the original building to the ground. Determined to continue serving our community, Newark Academy rebuilt and continued to grow.

Newark Academy moved from Newark to its current location in Livingston, New Jersey in 1964. While much has changed in the 250 years since its founding, Newark Academy remains steadfast in its mission to "contribute to the world engaged individuals instilled with a passion for learning, a standard of excellence, and a generosity of spirit." Graduates from Newark Academy receive a rigorous education in academics, athletics, and the arts and are encouraged to stay on the path of lifelong learning.

I am honored to join our community in celebrating this incredible milestone and the school's rich history and commitment to New Jersey students.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL KINZEL ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Michael Kinzel of Bowling Green, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Michael's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy

this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies offers the opportunity to serve our country, and receive a world-class education. At the same time, these young men and women undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Michael brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Bowling Green High School, he participated in National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Michael was involved in wrestling, earning his varsity letter. After high school, he attended the Northwestern Preparatory School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Michael Kinzel on his offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Michael will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING LYLA AYERS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Lyla 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 Lyla, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Lyla's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

HONORING CLAY SHANNON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Clay Shannon of Shannon Family Wines, whom I have named the 2024 Climate Crisis Champion for Lake County because of the important work he has done to promote responsible farming, reduce the need for agricultural chemicals, and address the impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Clay Shannon was born in Healdsburg, California. He is married to Angie Shannon, with whom he has two daughters, Brooke and Audrey. Both his wife and daughter Brooke have active roles in their company, Shannon Family of Wines.

Through his role as the owner of Shannon Family of Wines, Mr. Shannon has advocated

for the need for responsible farming that reduces the carbon footprint of farms. In this role, he farms over 4,000 acres of vineyards in Northern California, 2,500 of which he owns. In 2018, Mr. Shannon began farming his 2,500 acres of land organically. He also has integrated his sheep farming operation with his vineyard. By doing so, Mr. Shannon has dramatically reduced the need for mowing, fungicides, and conventional fertilizers in his vineyard.

Mr. Shannon has been farming for nearly 40 years. This long experience with and love for the land has given him unparalleled insights into the importance of farming organically and naturally. He is an outspoken proponent of eliminating the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides in farming. Crucially, Mr. Shannon is also an educator on the importance of building healthy soils for farming.

He has also been a leader in the wine community. He has served as a Board Member of the Lake County Grape Commission, and as a member of the Wine Institute. He is also an active contributor and host of the Lake County Wine Auction, Lake county's largest charity event.

Mr. Shannon's excellent work to advance environmental stewardship has been recognized in the past. In 2021, the Shannon Family received the Wine Institute's Green Medal Award. His land and wineries have also been certified by the California Certified Organic Farmers, an organization that works to advance organic agriculture for a healthy world. Mr. Shannon has also applied for his lands and winery to be certified as regenerative.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Clay Shannon is a leader dedicated to responsible organic farming. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor him here today as Lake County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING SHELBY BROADSTREET SCHOOL ALUMNI

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated efforts of the Shelby Broadstreet School Alumni, an enthusiastic and self-motivated group of former graduates from Shelby Broadstreet High School.

This remarkable team has initiated the Shelby Broadstreet Class Clean-up project, which brings together individuals from diverse backgrounds including businessmen, medical professionals, veterans of education, students, and other community citizens. The Shelby Broadstreet School Alumni are tirelessly organizing and serving their community, demonstrating a strong commitment to giving back and revitalizing their hometown.

Chilion Stapleton and Alexis Davis, both graduates of the old Shelby Broadstreet High School in 2001, initiated a meaningful project to give back to their hometown. Together with fellow classmates, they embarked on a plan to make this a recurring tradition. Joining forces with other graduating classes, Stapleton and Davis orchestrated a reunion on Saturday, March 30, dedicated to cleaning up their old stomping grounds.

The initiative was sparked by social media discussions among Broad Street alumni, who learned about littering and clean-up challenges in Shelby. Motivated to make a positive impact, they organized a collective effort to address the issue. Together, they rallied approximately 30 participants, including 13 from the class of 2001. Notably, former students traveled from out of state, including Texas, to contribute to the cause. Despite only three attendees still residing in Shelby, the group was determined to effect change in their hometown. Stapleton highlighted their proactive approach: "We gathered the troops upon discovering issues with littering and waste composite in our hometown and decided to take action for the better." The call to action was broadcasted through their alumni homecoming Facebook page, resulting in an enthusiastic response.

The dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly, with each represented class tackling specific areas of the town for clean-up. The evening concluded with further planning, camaraderie, and shared laughter. This meaningful endeavor not only strengthened community ties but also provided an opportunity for former students to reconnect with their families and roots in Shelby. The Shelby Broadstreet classes are committed to continuing these reunions and cleaning efforts to further enhance their beloved hometown.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Shelby Broadstreet School Alumni for their dedication and initiative in undertaking this important community endeavor. Their collective contributions are truly inspiring and reflect the best of our shared values as citizens and neighbors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 169, YEA on Roll Call No. 170, and NAY on Roll Call No. 171.

HONORING IOWA'S 2024 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ann Mincks of West Des Moines, Iowa, who was recently selected as Iowa's 2024 Teacher of the Year.

Ann has taught with Des Moines Public Schools for nearly 16 years and currently teaches English Language Learners at Hoover High School. She has helped to increase literacy proficiency at her school through the use of evidence-based, effective literacy instruction grounded in the Science of Reading. With many of her students new, not only to Des Moines but to the United States, Ann strives to connect them to their curriculum and to the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to present Ann with the Iowa Medal of Merit for her dedication

to her students. I thank Ann for her work to support new members of our community and her dedication to students.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking her for her service to Iowa and her achievement as Iowa's 2024 Teacher of the Year.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER OF GREATER WASHINGTON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington.

The Korean Community Service Center (KCSC) of Greater Washington was founded in 1974 by a pastor and his congregation who made a commitment to provide basic transportation and interpretation and translation assistance to newly arrived visitors and immigrants from Korea. This group of individuals also assisted the newcomers with rent for their apartments, set up phone and utility services, and enrolled their kids in school.

Over the decades, KCSC grew and evolved into the largest bilingual and bicultural Korean social service agency in the D.C. metropolitan area. KCSC also began providing services to other Asian immigrant communities living in the metro D.C. area. The organization has served more than 150,000 Asian American immigrant families since it was founded and currently provides services to about 1,000 Asian Americans a month.

Their mission is to assist and empower Asian Americans and new immigrants to become well-adjusted and fully contributing members of the United States through social services, education, advocacy, and development of resources. Offerings such as case management, immigration legal services, housing counseling, comprehensive victims' services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and dating violence, and more help KCSC fulfill their mission every day.

This organization actively serves our community members and strives to improve the overall quality of life for individuals and families. Over the past five decades, KCSC has adapted and changed to meet the changing needs of the Asian American community. With culturally and linguistically sensitive services and programs, clients can feel safe and comfortable at KCSC.

Throughout the lifetime of this organization, volunteers and staff from KCSC have strived to deliver effective, efficient, and accountable services. Their successes over the years are truly successes for the region as a whole. Our diversity is our greatest strength, and KCSC has allowed countless individuals to feel safe and supported here in Northern Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Korean Community Center of Greater Washington on 50 years of service. KCSC, and other groups of service-minded individuals, are why Northern Virginia is an incredible place to live, work, and play. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the staff, volunteers, and supporters of this remarkable organization.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT ESTHER BRUMIT

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Esther Brumit of Denison, Texas, and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Esther has dedicated herself to serving and uplifting our community.

Esther was born in Los Alamos, New Mexico, in 1952. She attended Oral Roberts University and the University of Texas Medical Branch, where she specialized in healthcare. After graduation, Esther worked as a physician assistant at Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City and cared for at-risk and underprivileged children. She later taught orchestra in private and public schools, where she always ended her concerts with "God Bless America". She is passionate about Israel and Judeo-Christian values, which spurred her to organize trips for students to travel to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. so they could learn more about their heritage.

Esther was later asked to serve as an election clerk and judge, which she gladly accepted. She attended her first national convention in New York as a volunteer for President George H.W. Bush's second term. From that moment on, Esther attended all state and national conventions as part of the Republican delegation. Her favorite part of the conventions were the national anthem opening and prayer services. Esther also served as a Precinct Chair and participated in door knocking and phone banking to mobilize Texans to participate in elections. Esther is a true American patriot, and I wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Esther with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR JANILL CASTILLO

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Janill Castillo of the United States Army upon her departure from this body as a Legislative Liaison. In her role as a Legislative Liaison, Major Castillo was the face and voice of the Army for Congress, bridging the gap between military leadership and 28 Members of Congress across six states. She built strong relationships with Members and their staff, promoting the Army's message and priorities with exceptional responsiveness and professionalism. Her attention to detail and excellent communication skills while planning CODELS earned her high praise from multiple Members of Congress.

Major Janill Castillo's military career began in 2010 when she commissioned in the Army through officer candidate school, where she became an Explosive Ordnance Disposal specialist. Over the past decade, she has served in various capacities with the Army, including

deployments to Kosovo and Kuwait, and in units in Fort Irwin, California; Fort Cavazos, Texas; Fort Lee, Virginia; Fort Carson, Colorado. She had previously held a nominative position as a fellow on the Joint Staff before joining us in the Capitol. A lifelong learner, Major Castillo has earned three degrees—a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Virginia, a master's degree in biotechnology from the University of Maryland, and a master's degree in policy management from Georgetown University.

I extend my sincere wishes for a smooth transition to Fort Liberty, North Carolina, to Major Castillo and her daughter, Mia, and express my deep gratitude for Major Castillo's continued dedication and service to our great Nation.

CROWN ACT PRESS CONFERENCE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me start by thanking Rep. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN and the rest of my colleagues here for hosting this gathering today.

The introduction of the CROWN Act is an important step in the national conversation on race-based hair discrimination.

The CROWN Act (Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) helps protect an estimated 2.3 million Black children nationwide who are most vulnerable to race-based hair discrimination.

To date, the CROWN Act has been enacted in 24 states and numerous municipalities.

And while the CROWN Act was signed into law last year in Texas, hair discrimination in Texas is still hurting Black children and minorities across the state.

On February 22, 2024, a Texas judge ruled that the CROWN Act was not violated following the suspension of Darryl George for the length of his locs.

The judge's decision:

"The CROWN Act could've been written to provide the individuals with braids, locs and twists (to be) exempt from any hair length restrictions, but it has no such exemption," said Judge Chap B. Cain III, of the 253rd Judicial District Court in Chambers County. "The CROWN Act is clear and BHISD's dress and grooming code policy is clear regarding male students."

"Courts should always refrain from rewriting legislative text," Cain said, reading what appeared to be a prepared speech. "That's not my job. Where text is clear—it's determinative—judges should not legislate from the bench and I'm not about to start today."

"The immunity that you seek, you can have that from either of those bodies," Cain said. "The legislature can go back, and I suspect they will, and they can decide that hair length cannot be regulated by the school, and then the school board's going to follow it. Or you can go to the school board and ask for a change in their policy."

The CROWN Act is necessary legislation that explicitly prohibits discrimination on the basis of hair texture or hairstyles commonly associated with a particular race or national origin in areas of the law where discrimination

on the basis of race or national origin is already prohibited.

The history of hair braiding dates back 3500 BC or over five thousand years in African culture.

According to hair braiding experts, Braiding started in Africa with the Himba people of Namibia.

For a Himba woman, her hair is her power.

These semi-nomadic people live in one of the most extreme environments on earth, the deserts that border Namibia with Angola.

As water is scarce, they use a mixture of pastes on both their bodies and hair.

These pastes blend the aromatic resin of the omazumba shrub with animal fat and ground red pigmented stone. This 'otjize' paste gives the women's skin and hair a distinctive red glow which symbolizes both blood, the essence of life, and the earth's rich red color.

Hairstyles play a significant role within the Himba community and reflect marital status, age, wealth, and rank within the group.

Hair braiding is a communal activity with a range of styles differing from tribe to tribe.

This origin of hair braiding is a rich and textured art form that speaks deeply to persons of African descent over millennia and resonates to this day.

Hair styles remain very significant in African American culture and are one of the many ways this culture is expressed.

Attacks on hair style are not unique to African people, Sheks, Jews, Pentecostal to name a few have hairstyles that are dictated by culture and beliefs.

Because Africans were enslaved persons does not mean they have lost all claim to African heritage, culture, or beliefs.

In the United States and among persons of African heritage the braiding of men's and boy's hair is accepted and widely practiced.

It has long been my position that discrimination based on hair texture and hairstyle is a form of impermissible race discrimination.

In 2021 the Dove CROWN Research for Girls found that:

53 percent of Black mothers, whose daughters have experienced hair discrimination, say their daughters experienced discrimination as early as 5 years old.

86 percent of Black teens who experience discrimination state they have experienced discrimination based on their hair by the age of 12.

100 percent of Black elementary school girls in majority-white schools who report experiencing discrimination state they experienced the discrimination by the age of 10.

According to a 2019 report, known as the CROWN Study, which was conducted by the JOY Collective (CROWN Act Coalition, Dove/Unilever, National Urban League, Color of Change), Black people are "disproportionately burdened by policies and practices in public places, including the workplace, that target, profile, or single them out for their natural hair styles—referring to the texture of hair that is not permed, dyed, relaxed, or chemically altered."

The CROWN Study found that Black women's hair is "more policed in the workplace, thereby contributing to a climate of group control in the company culture and perceived professional barriers" compared to non-Black women.

The study also found that "Black women are more likely to have received formal grooming

policies in the workplace, and to believe that there is a dissonance from her hair and other race's hair" and that "Black women's hairstyles were consistently rated lower or 'less ready' for job performance."

Among the study's other findings are that 80 percent of Black women believed that they had to change their hair from its natural state to "fit in at the office," that they were 83 percent more likely to be judged harshly because of their looks.

The study indicated that Black women were 1.5 times more likely to be sent home from the workplace because of their hair, and that they were 3.4 times more likely to be perceived as unprofessional compared to non-African American women.

Eight years ago, the United States Army removed a grooming regulation prohibiting women servicemembers from wearing their hair in dreadlocks, a regulation that had a disproportionately adverse impact on Black women.

This decision was the result of a 2014 order by then-Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel to review the military's policies regarding hairstyles popular with African American women after complaints from members of Congress, myself included, that the policies unfairly targeted black women.

In 2015, the Marine Corps followed suit and issued regulations to permit lock and twist hairstyles.

The CROWN Study illustrates the prevalence of hair discrimination but numerous stories across the country put names and faces to the people behind those numbers.

In 2017, a Banana Republic employee was told by a manager that she was violating the company's dress code because her box braids were too "urban" and "unkempt."

A year later, in 2018, Andrew Johnson, a New Jersey high school student, was forced by a white referee to either have his dreadlocks cut or forfeit a wrestling match, leading him to have his hair cut in public by an athletic trainer immediately before the match.

That same year, an 11-year-old Black girl in Louisiana was asked to leave class at a private Roman Catholic school near New Orleans because her braided hair extensions violated the school's policies.

The next year, two African American men in Texas alleged being denied employment by Six Flags because of their hairstyles—one had long braids and the other had dreadlocks.

And earlier this year, there were news reports of a Texas student who would not be allowed to walk at graduation because his dreadlocks were too long.

The CROWN Act prohibits discrimination in federally funded programs and activities based on an individual's hair texture or hairstyle if it is commonly associated with a particular race or national origin, including "a hairstyle in which hair is tightly coiled or tightly curled, locs, cornrows, twists, braids, Bantu knots, and Afros."

I strongly support this legislation and I will be working to protect the Constitutional Rights of all Americans in their choice of hair style and I ask my colleagues to join me in this effort.

RECOGNIZING SHEILA ARIAS
IBUJES

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Sheila 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 Sheila, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Sheila's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Sheila Arias Ijujes on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING IAN ANDERSON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ian Anderson, whom I have named the 2024 Climate Crisis Champion for Solano County because of the important work he has done to combat the climate crisis by working to preserve agriculture and create policies which protect agricultural land for future generations in California's 4th Congressional District.

Mr. Anderson was born in Berkeley, California. He has a wife, Margaret, two children, and three grandchildren. He received his bachelor's degree in agricultural business from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Mr. Anderson is a champion for maintaining our local agricultural land and he has worked to commemorate the history of the Montezuma Hills farming community. He honors it by creating farm structures, sculptures, garden hardscape and home improvements using remnants of the past that others might discard. Further, he also organizes the annual fall festival, the "Pumpkin Patch" in this area, in conjunction with the Western Railway Museum. One of the many goals of this festival has been to get regional urban families out into the countryside to see first-hand the beauty of the farm and ranch lands. He and his wife graciously allow the festival to be held on their land. Mr. Anderson's dedication to ensuring that everyone understands the value and beauty of agricultural lands is incredible.

His leadership in this area also extends to his membership in many organizations that do meaningful work to preserve agricultural land and combat the climate crisis. He has a 25-year membership with the Solano Land Trust, which does important work to preserve wild and agricultural land in our community. He served as President for three years, and as the chair of its Agricultural Conservation committee for 10 years. He currently serves on the Trust's Ag Strategy Committee. His 10-year association with the Montezuma Fireman's Association included serving as the President of

Montezuma Fire Commission for two years. He also spent a decade as a member of the Solano County Agricultural Advisory committee and participated in Solano County's General Plan Update committee from 2006 to 2008. Lastly, he was a founding member of the Solano County Orderly Growth committee. Mr. Anderson's lifelong commitment to advocating on behalf of preserving land for future generations is why he is so deserving of this honor.

His life-long membership in various farm and agricultural organizations shows his understanding of the connection between agriculture and climate advocacy. He has been a member of the Solano County Farm Bureau for 45 years, a member of the California Wool Growers Association for 40 years, a member of the California Wheat Growers Association for 30 years, and of the California Grain Foundation for 12 years. His sustained dedication to conservation through his work with these organizations is admirable.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Ian Anderson is a leader dedicated to preserving agricultural land for future generations as well as combatting the climate crisis. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor him here today as Solano County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING JE'KARI CORDE'
DOUGLAS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Je'Kari Douglas.

On June 7, 2007, Je'Kari was born at the Natchez Community Hospital to a resilient single mother which he credits his good behavior and his understanding of the value of perseverance and compassion.

Je'Kari proudly serves as a Student Ambassador for Natchez High School, a member of the National Honor Society, a varsity football player, having been chosen as an All-District wide receiver in the 5A Region 3 and received offers from several universities.

With hard work and dedication, Natchez High salutes this honorable student for maintaining a stellar 3.8 GPA, ranking number 10 out of 137 students in his graduating class.

Je'Kari's passion for learning extends beyond academics. He enjoys exploring different cars and animals, spreading joy through humor, and cherishing moments with loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable student, Je'Kari Corde' Douglas, for his actions and achievements in the Natchez, MS, community.

APPRECIATING MICHAEL GEFFROY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize Michael Geffroy for his dedicated congressional staff service

as General Counsel to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

During the 118th Congress, Michael has been a valued member of the Commission, and I am grateful for his important work for the American people and protecting democracy. Michael's rich national security, legal, and military background contributed greatly to the work of our team. I value his counsel and it has been a pleasure working together to advance the Commission's noble mission of promoting human rights, bolstering military security, and furthering economic cooperation across the expansive landscape of 57 countries spanning Europe, Eurasia, and North America.

Prior to his service as General Counsel to the U.S. Helsinki Commission, Michael served in the Congress as the General Council to the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, as the Deputy Staff Director and Chief Council to the Committee on Homeland Security in the U.S. House of Representatives, and as the Deputy Special Council to the Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina. He also served as an Assistant Director in the Office of Foreign Assets Control at the Department of the Treasury, as a Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division at the Department of Justice, and as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Columbia.

Michael is a decorated veteran and Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (ret). His more than 25 years of commissioned service includes tours with the First Marine Expeditionary Force in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I am grateful to Michael for his service to the Helsinki Commission and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JAKE WOOD ON HIS
OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT-
TEND THE UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Jake Wood of Perrysburg, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Jake's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies offers the opportunity to serve our country and receive a world-class education. At the same time, these young men and women undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Jake brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2028. While attending Perrysburg High School, he participated in National Honor Society, Spirit Club, Boy Scouts, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Jake was involved in wrestling, earning his varsity letter. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jake Wood on his offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Jake will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY
AND PROLIFIC MINISTRY OF THE
REVEREND DOCTOR WAYNE
DEAN BAKER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations and appreciation to a loving husband, dedicated father, exceptional mentor, devoted leader, faithful servant of God, and friend of long-standing, The Reverend Doctor Wayne Dean Baker, as he concludes 40 years of dedicated service as the Senior Pastor of the Spirit Filled Ministries Church in Columbus, Georgia. A special celebration commemorating this special occasion will occur at the church on Sunday, May 5, 2024.

Reverend Dr. Wayne Dean Baker, a man of humble beginnings, was born and raised in rural Russell County, Alabama. His thirst for knowledge led him to graduate from Oliver High School in 1966 and later, in 1971, from Grambling State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. However, it was in the same year that his life took a significant turn when he met the love of his life and lifelong sweetheart, Rita Delynn Howard. They were united in Holy Matrimony in 1974.

Dr. Baker experienced another life-altering event in 1975 when he was converted to Christianity in a shopping center in Cleveland, Ohio. Subsequently, Dr. Baker was licensed to preach in 1976 and was ordained in 1979. His ministerial journey led him to Pastor several churches, including Pleasant Grove, Peace and Goodwill, and Wayman Chapel in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The scripture says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Frustrated by the tenets of liberal theology, Dr. Baker founded Spirit Filled Ministries in 1984. During his tenure as Pastor, he has preached over Ten Thousand Sermons, but more importantly, he has brought countless souls to Jesus Christ. Under his guidance, the church has flourished spiritually, numerically, and in its physical facilities. Doctor Baker has used his television ministry at Spirit Filled to reach the community in furtherance of Kingdom business here on earth.

Dr. Baker has never been one to rest on his laurels and has constantly expanded his educational horizons for the advancement of God and His people. He enrolled in Moody Graduate School to pursue a Master of Arts in Ministry. In 2018, he earned his Master of Divinity from Luther Rice Seminary in Lithonia, Georgia. He also earned his Doctor of Ministry from Luther Rice. Furthermore, he has pursued Ph.D. studies at Columbia Biblical Seminary.

Dr. Baker's work for God has not been limited to the community of Columbus, Georgia, as he has taught, lectured and conducted revivals on a global basis, including in South Korea and Germany. A voracious writer and biblical scholar, Dr. Baker has authored eight books: *Clay in the Master's Hand*; *Biblical Theology of Goals*; *Evangelism*; *Freedom Prayers*; *Ministry Handbook*; *New Members Handbook*; *The Case of Ham Revisited*; and *the White Jesus Myth Revisited*. It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Dr. Baker has paid his rent and he has paid it well.

On a personal note, Dr. Baker has been a special friend for over four decades. We have enjoyed early morning competition on the golf course with friends during which he shared sage advice and counsel for which I will always be grateful. He never told me what I wanted to hear; he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. Dr. Baker has inspired and mentored many with his sterling example of what a man of God should be.

He has 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 of 50 years, Rita; his children, Zephaniah, Christian, Jonathan; his grandchildren, and other family members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife Vivan and me, along with the 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in celebrating the extraordinary and prolific ministry of the Reverend Doctor Wayne Dean Baker as he enters a new chapter in his life after 40 years of service to God at Spirit Filled Ministries.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER PHILLIP G. BOONE, RET.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the admirable career of retired Navy Chief Warrant Officer Phillip Boone.

Phillip was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1958 to Samuel and Mary Boone. After graduating from West Charlotte High School in 1975, Phillip immediately enlisted in the United States Navy at age 17.

His first assignment was aboard the U.S.S. *Eisenhower*, where he performed operations on the flight deck, catapulting and arresting military aircraft—one of the most dangerous jobs on a carrier. During his time in the Navy, Phillip sailed the world aboard four additional aircraft carriers and one amphibious assault ship, the U.S.S. *Wasp*. In 1986, he was promoted to Chief Petty Officer, and in 1988, he earned his commission as a Warrant Officer. After 25 years of honorable service, Phillip retired as a Chief Warrant Officer 4, having led thousands of sailors, managed budgets upwards of five million dollars, and went on ten peacekeeping and five combat deployments, including to the Persian Gulf and Grenada. His exemplary service earned Phillip the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal three times, the Navy and Marine Corps Achieve-

ment Medal, and many other personal and unit citations.

Following his retirement, Phillip became a Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) instructor and used the position to motivate young men and women to join the armed services. For more than 23 years, he trained, taught, and mentored class after class of our Nation's youth, preparing them to take on life's challenges, whether they went on to join the military or not. His NJROTC cadets have logged tens of thousands of community service hours and won countless awards for military drill and marksmanship. In 2019, he was nominated for the Beaumont Foundation of America's prestigious "Wayne E. Reaud Excellence in Education Award," recognizing his outstanding service as an educator. That same year, he was also named Beaumont Independent School District's "Teacher of the Year."

It is a privilege to sincerely thank Chief Warrant Officer Boone for his exemplary service in the United States Navy and for his role in educating new generations of Americans. I offer my congratulations on his retirement, and I wish him and his family all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family illness, I was unable to be present for votes on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 155; YEA on Roll Call No. 156; YEA on Roll Call No. 157; YEA on Roll Call No. 158; YEA on Roll Call No. 159; YEA on Roll Call No. 160; YEA on Roll Call No. 161; YEA on Roll Call No. 162; YEA on Roll Call No. 163; NAY on Roll Call No. 164; YEA on Roll Call No. 165; NAY on Roll Call No. 166; YEA on Roll Call No. 167; NAY on Roll Call No. 168; YEA on Roll Call No. 169; NAY on Roll Call No. 170; and YEA on Roll Call No. 171.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 159; YEA on Roll Call No. 160; YEA on Roll Call No. 161; NAY on Roll Call No. 162; and NAY on Roll Call No. 163.

RECOGNIZING ABIGAIL DAUS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Abigail 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 Abigail, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Abigail's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

HONORING DR. LISA MICHELI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lisa Micheli Ph.D., whom I have named the 2024 Climate Crisis Champion for Sonoma County because of the important work she has done to address the impacts of the climate crisis and extreme climate events like wildfires on California's 4th Congressional District.

Dr. Micheli was born in Boston, Massachusetts and moved to the Bay Area in 1988, and to Sonoma, California in 2001. She would go on to earn a master's degree in environmental water resources engineering and a doctorate in energy and resources from the University of California, Berkeley. She is a Fulbright Scholar who works closely with climate organizations from across the Earth's four Mediterranean regions. In addition to these impressive academic achievements, Dr. Micheli has a strong commitment to mentoring the next generation of climate leaders—particularly young leaders from historically marginalized communities.

Dr. Micheli is a champion for North Bay climate and wildfire resilience. In 2009, she founded the Pepperwood Foundation and served for over a decade as its first executive director. It is now a leading institute for regional climate resilience in Northern California. She also founded the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative. In addition to founding those organizations, Dr. Micheli has also worked as a senior researcher for the Sonoma Ecology Center and as a director of the Rutherford Reach Restoration of the Napa River. Through her work, Dr. Micheli developed near real-time climate and wildfire risk data that have made our region a leader in preparedness and response to extreme climate events.

Her leadership extends to the boards of many agencies and organizations dedicated to combating the climate crisis. Dr. Micheli has served the City of Sonoma as a Community Services and Environment Commissioner and on the Board of Directors of both After the Fire USA and the Wildlands Network. Moreover, she has served on the steering committees of the California Biodiversity Network and the Golden Gate Biosphere Network.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Dr. Lisa Micheli is a leader dedicated to preventing and mitigating wildfires as well as to combatting the climate crisis. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Sonoma County's 2024 Climate Crisis Champion.

RECOGNIZING THE 2024 HERNDON-RESTON ROTARY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2024 Herndon-Reston Rotary Citizen of the Year, Renee Gorman.

Every year, the Herndon-Reston Rotary Club selects an extraordinary individual who has made significant contributions to our community. This year marks Rotary's 55th year of celebrating incredible citizens in the Northern Virginia area. After decades of recipients, the Herndon-Reston Rotary has no shortage of deserving candidates, and this year's honoree is proof of that.

Renee Gorman, this year's Citizen of the Year, is someone who has made an incredible impact and difference in our community for decades. As the mother of three daughters, helping children feel confident and have healthy self-esteem has been Renee's job for the last 25 years. Renee was a School Counselor for over 20 years where she was able to advocate for children and help them feel socially and emotionally strong.

In her work with children in school, Renee realized that more could be done for the children and their families in our community. She began working with a non-profit, Code 3 Association, to forge positive relationships between the police department and local at-risk communities. The success of this program was featured in the Washington Post and Associated Press and helped inspire Renee to go further to address the emotional needs of young children in the community she witnessed daily through her work as a school counselor.

Renee, and a group of teachers and social workers in Herndon, recognized an urgent and growing need to provide support to young girls in the community, many of whom were suffering as a result of poverty and trauma. What started as an after-school program became *She Believes in Me* (SBIM), a non-profit organization dedicated to transforming our community and the lives of the children in Northern Virginia.

SBIM knows that every child can have the skills and resources to thrive. This primarily volunteer-run organization serves vulnerable children and their families who face a wide variety of challenges on a daily basis. When parents are focused on providing the very basic necessities for their children, they often need a little extra help. SBIM provides nutritious food and a healthy support system for the entire family. They teach children to handle conflict, manage emotions, overcome setbacks, and build meaningful relationships. Renee has spent decades focusing on not just the physical health of children, but their emotional and mental well-being, and that is at the core of SBIM's mission.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Renee Gorman on this incredible award and thanking her for her committed and selfless service to our community. Renee has impacted countless lives in her time in the schools and now continues to expand that impact through *She Believes in Me*. Families in our community will have a

brighter future because of dedicated individuals like Renee Gorman.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT KYLE FRAZER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Kyle Frazer and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Kyle is currently a Major in the United States Army and served as my Defense Fellow from January 2023 to December 2023. With his help, we were able to include numerous provisions in the FY '24 National Defense Authorization Act to support our warfighters and ensure the United States remains the greatest fighting force the world has ever seen.

Kyle has an extensive military background as an infantry officer to include service with the 82nd Airborne Division. True to his Ranger Creed, he has continuously risen to the occasion during his service to include the new challenges he faced as a defense fellow. During his time with my office, Kyle was an essential element of our defense team and set the bar high for all future fellows.

Kyle's efforts will be felt throughout my district and the country, as he delivered critical safety upgrades for Army vehicles and helped me introduce legislation to ensure veterans receive the quality mental health care they deserve. I commend Kyle for his dedication to taking care of our servicemembers and veterans. I have no doubt that he will continue to excel as a member of the Army's House Legislative Liaison Division. I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Kyle with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING CARTER ALTSTAETTER ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Carter Altstaetter of Celina, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Carter's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2028. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Carter brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming

Class of 2028. While attending Celina High School, he participated in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Honor Society, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Carter was involved in football, basketball, and baseball, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Carter Altstaetter on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Carter will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING JUAN LUNA AVALOS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

Juan 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 Juan, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Juan's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Juan Luna Avalos on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING JILL ORR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jill Orr, whom I have named the 2024 Woman of the Year for Solano County because of her excellent work in our community. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Ms. Orr was born and raised in Dixon, California, and still lives there with her husband Greg and their three sons. She is a fourth generation Dixon resident, having graduated from Dixon High School in 1974. She has held a real estate license since 1986.

Ms. Orr is a prominent leader in the business community. She is the immediate past president of the Dixon Chamber of Commerce and current president of the Downtown Dixon Business Association. She also owns her own business in Dixon, which employs 22 people. Additionally, she is the immediate past president of Native Daughters of the Golden West.

Notably, Ms. Orr has given back to our Solano County community as an elected official. She served as a Dixon City Councilwoman as well as a Dixon Planning Commissioner. She was also recently rewarded the Citizen of the Year award for her distinguished service to the Dixon community.

Ms. Orr has been very involved in our Dixon community in other ways as well. For example, she founded the very successful Annual Grillin' and Chillin' Dixon as well as Dixon Railroad Days. She has also chaired the yearly Wine and Art Stroll, as well as the Beer Stroll in Dixon. Further, she has chaired the Dixon Christmas Tree Lighting Festival for over 25 years. She also previously ran the Dixon Mayfair Parade. Her dedicated involvement in our community is commendable.

Ms. Orr's passion for service is evident through her life and work. She has always aspired to ensure that her memories of growing up in Dixon are maintained and are passed on to those who are now a part of our community. She also has a passion for supporting and uplifting businesses and ensuring that they are successful.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ms. Jill Orr for her excellent service and passion for our community. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Solano County's 2024 Woman of the Year.

HONORING MARKYEL PITTMAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Markyel Pittman.

Markyel Pittman hails from the vibrant city of Grenada, MS, and boasts an impressive educational journey, having graduated from Grenada High School, Holmes Community College, and Jackson State University.

Throughout Mr. Pittman's undergraduate tenure, he epitomized the essence of a campus leader and community servant. His illustrious track record includes hold esteemed positions such as Mr. Junior, JSU and MS NAACP Youth & College State President, Fannie-Lou-Hammer Pre-Law Society President, Pre-Alumni Council President, Vice President of Men of Excellence, Intervarsity, and Collegiate 100.

Mr. Pittman is a proud Spring 2024 Initiate of the Rho Xi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Additionally, Mr. Pittman's academic prowess has garnered his accolades such as the JSU Presidential & Dean's Scholar, the Political Science Fannie-Lou-Hammer Award, Golden Key Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. Mr. Pittman's commitment to community empowerment is further underscored by prestigious recognitions including the Mississippi Votes Emerging Trailblazer Award.

Mr. Pittman's dedication to public service is exemplified by his internships in my Greenwood District Office and his current role as the Youth Civic Engagement Coordinator for Mississippi Votes, where he focuses on central Mississippi. He has championed causes such as student debt relief, serving as a vocal ad-

vocate and engaging directly with policymakers such as Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona.

Notably, Mr. Pittman has been a dynamic force in voter registration drives, successfully registering over 1,000 Mississippians. He has also delivered impactful speeches, including as the closing speaker at the NAACP's 114th National Convention for the youth and college division.

Mr. Pittman draws strength from his faith, firmly believing that his voice, connections, and knowledge are divine gifts bestowed upon him to champion the cause of the oppressed. His guiding scripture, Romans 8:31, encapsulates his unwavering resolve: "What then shall we say in response to these things, if God be for us, who can be against us?"

Markyel Pittman stands as a beacon of hope and a catalyst for change in his community and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Markyel Pittman, for his dedication and tenacity to serving his community and desire to be an example for all.

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORT LAUDERDALE DOG CLUB

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a truly significant milestone—the 75th Anniversary of the Fort Lauderdale Dog Club. This occasion will be celebrated at its upcoming dog show at the South Florida Fairgrounds from April 26–28, 2024.

The Fort Lauderdale Dog Club, founded in 1949, has had a remarkable journey. From its inception as an obedience training club, it has evolved into a distinguished all-breed American Kennel Club (AKC) member club, earning its place in the hearts of dog lovers nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, as a dog owner and lover of dogs, I am honored to recognize the Fort Lauderdale Dog Club on its 75th anniversary.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 8

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Food and Drug Administration.

SD-124

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine alleviating administrative burdens in health care, focusing on reducing paperwork and cutting costs.

SD-608

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the urgent need to protect immigrant youth.

SD-106

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Congressional Budget Office, the Government Accountability Office, and the Government Publishing Office.

SD-124

Committee on Indian Affairs

To receive a briefing on the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission's Report on Native Children.

SD-628

3 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel

To hold hearings to examine military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

4 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland

To hold hearings to examine Air Force modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

4:45 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense missile defense activities in review of the Defense Authorization

Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program.		ture Years Defense Program; to be im- mediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.		MAY 21	
SR-222				2:30 p.m.	
MAY 16		SH-216		Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	
9:30 a.m.				Subcommittee on Primary Health and Re- tirement Security	
Committee on Armed Services				To hold hearings to examine feeding a healthier America, focusing on current efforts and potential opportunities for Food is Medicine.	
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in re- view of the Defense Authorization Re- quest for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Fu-				SD-430	