

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT: SANDRA GALASSI

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the long-distinguished career of Sandra Galassi, a dedicated public servant. In April 2022, Sandra Galassi retired from the Social Security Administration after 48 years of service to our Nation and our residents.

For almost five decades, Ms. Galassi was the epitome of dedication, commitment, and service excellence within the Social Security Administration. She was based in the Chicago North field office, the Chicago Region's most culturally and ethnically diverse field office. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Galassi exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and compassion. She would often work tirelessly to ensure members of the public were assisted. From her early days as a fresh recruit, to her eventual role as a Title II Claims Specialist, she navigated each challenge with grace, wisdom, and an unwavering commitment to serving the public with integrity and empathy. Each day, Ms. Galassi approached her work with a sense of purpose and a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of others. With 48 years of service, Ms. Galassi touched tens of thousands of lives, each one better for having encountered her.

Ms. Galassi's tenure is not merely a testament to longevity but also to her enduring passion for public service. The numerous awards of recognition she has received serve to solidify the indelible impression Ms. Galassi has left on the Social Security Administration. This was not her only time spent on behalf of the public. Prior to joining the Social Security Administration, she spent time working for both the United States Treasury Department and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Ms. Galassi was born and raised in Chicago, and then raised a family of her own with her husband Robert in Niles, Illinois. I am proud to have her as a constituent of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, and I know that she is an irreplaceable member of the local community. On behalf of the constituents of the 9th Congressional District, we thank Ms. Galassi for her 48 years of service and dedication.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL HARLAN CHAPMAN

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Lieutenant Colo-

nel Harlan Chapman, USMC, who recently passed away at the age of 89. Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was a committed husband, father, veteran, and the Marine Corps' longest held POW of the Vietnam War.

Chapman was born in 1934 in Elyria, Ohio. In June 1956, he commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps through Miami University's Navy ROTC program. Chapman served for over a decade before deploying to North Vietnam where he flew a Vought F8 Crusader off the aircraft carrier USS *Oriskany*.

During a fateful mission in Vietnam on November 5, 1965, Chapman's strike group was tasked with hitting a railroad and highway bridge deep behind enemy territory. Piloting the last plane of the strike group, Chapman skillfully and successfully delivered his payload to the target. Hit by anti-aircraft fire, he was forced to eject and was soon captured. Chapman spent 2,657 days—over seven years—as a prisoner of war in the notorious so-called 'Hanoi Hilton' and other North Vietnamese camps where Chapman and other American prisoners endured ongoing torture, interrogation, and isolation.

On February 12, 1973, during Operation Homecoming, Chapman was the first Marine Corps POW of the Vietnam War to be released. Upon his return to the United States, Chapman continued to serve our country and assumed command of Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 314 in El Toro, California, until his retirement in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was an American hero in the truest sense of the word. His story and service illustrate the indomitable American spirit in the face of great adversity. On behalf of Ohio's Fifth District, I want to thank Lieutenant Colonel Chapman for his service to our great Nation. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM 'BILL' PHILLIPS OF BELL BUCKLE, TENNESSEE

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the achievements, dedication, and hard work of William 'Bill' Phillips of Bell Buckle, Tennessee. Bill has lived a life dedicated to serving his Nation and keeping our military the strongest in the world.

Bill grew up on a farm in Tennessee and received a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University in Agriculture. This, however, was just the first of many educational degrees Bill would achieve. He also earned a Master's in Personnel Management, a Master's in Procurement and Material Management, and a Master's from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

In addition to his educational achievements, Bill also served our Nation in the United

States Army. Bill retired as a Lieutenant General in May of 2014 while serving as the Army's Senior Acquisition Officer. He also served in the role of an Army Aviator with more than 30 years of experience. Bill became certified on the CH-47, UH-1, and OH-58 helicopters.

After retiring from the Army, Bill began a second career in the private sector. In May of 2015, Bill began working for Boeing as the Vice President for Army and Special Operations. At Boeing, Bill was in charge of five offices: Huntsville, AL, Fort Eustis, VA, Fort Novosel, AL, Tampa, FL, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and Austin, TX.

Among Bill's other achievements are Middle Tennessee ROTC Hall of Fame, 2018, Defense Acquisition University Hall of Fame, 2014, Army's Acquisition Commander of the Year, 2000.

Bill and his wife, Marylyn, reside in Bell Buckle, Tennessee, where Bill still farms.

On behalf of our Nation, I thank Bill Phillips and congratulate him for all he has achieved personally and for the efforts and sacrifices he has made for our country.

RECOGNIZING VETERAN & PUBLIC SERVANT JOHN JOSEPH AVILA

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Joseph Avila for his years of dedication as a community leader in the City of Pomona.

John Avila was a first generation Mexican-American, who understood the importance of representation, which fueled his pursuit of service, education, and public office. After graduation from high school, John served in the Marine Corps for 8 years. Upon his return home, John pursued a degree from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. In 1961, John and his wife, Dona, relocated to Pomona, California, where they began working for the Pomona Unified School District. As a middle school teacher, John's passion for expanding quality education for underserved communities was ignited. He organized with the Association of Mexican American Educators and successfully lobbied for funding to spread Pre-K through 12th grade bilingual education. John created curriculum to recruit, train and coordinate educators to meet the needs of their Spanish-speaking students and families.

Over the course of his life, John was a member of many organizations including the Catholic Newman Community, the Optimist Club, the United Farm Workers, La Raza Unida Party and the League of United Latin American Citizens. Using his experience as a middle school teacher and membership of these organizations, John ran for the Mayor of Pomona in 1995. He lost to the incumbent but

• 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.

continued to seek opportunities to provide leadership in public service. Upon his official retirement as a teacher, John was elected as the School Board President for the Pomona Unified School District and served for over a decade.

Sadly, our community is now in mourning. On Tuesday, May 7, 2024, John peacefully passed away, surrounded by love and care from his family. He is survived by his wife, 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

For his outstanding accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize John Joseph Avila. His years of service and commitment to the people of Pomona are worthy of the highest commendation.

RECOGNIZING FORMER IMPD
POLICE CHIEF, JAMES TOLER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of former Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) Chief James Toler who lived a life of selfless and profound service to the Indianapolis community. Chief Toler passed away on June 4, 2024, at the age of 82.

James Toler has been described as a trailblazer. He came from humble beginnings and worked long nights climbing up the ranks from sergeant to major before he was appointed Indianapolis' first Black police chief. Chief Toler understood the magnitude of his service, sharing he "felt a tremendous responsibility to do very well in the position so that if the opportunity comes for the selection of another minority, they would never be able to look at me and look at me as a failure."

During his tenure, Chief Toler implemented community policing within IMPD, improving connections between police and Indianapolis residents. This model was relatively unknown at the time but is now utilized nationwide. He also played a key role in helping IMPD's administration become more efficient. Chief Toler retired from IMPD in 2001 following 38 years of service.

Chief Toler will always be remembered by not only his biological family and loving friends, but also through his special relationship with the entire Indianapolis community. We treasure the legacy he leaves. James' blood, sweat, and tears paved the way for so many, and he will continue to serve as an inspiration to all who want to make a difference in the world.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me honoring a true Hoosier public servant. Our thoughts are with his family during this time.

RECOGNIZING THE MONMOUTH
COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Broege, Hope Jones, and Ross Millhiser as they are honored by the Monmouth County Historical Association at its 49th Annual Garden Party. Mr. Broege, Ms. Jones, and Mr. Millhiser are the members of the Association's recently formed Advisory Council and it is a fitting tribute for the Association to recognize their dedication on its 125th anniversary.

Robert Broege is a long-time supporter of the Monmouth County Historical Association. He has served on the Association's Board of Trustees since 1992 and has lent his time and expertise to various committees, including the ethics committee. He and his wife Marilyn are also repeat hosts of the Garden Party. In addition to his work with the Monmouth County Historical Association, Mr. Broege is a trustee of Elberon Memorial Church, Chairman of the Oceanport Environmental Commission, and previously served on several hospital foundation boards. Mr. Broege remains an active and charitable member of the community and his involvement reflects his passion to help others and improve our communities.

The granddaughter of Mrs. J. Amory Haskell who restored and later donated Marlipit Hall to the Monmouth County Historical Association, Hope Jones is dedicated to preserving the history of Monmouth County. Continuing her family's charitable legacy, Hope Jones joined the Monmouth County Historical Association's Board of Trustees in 1976. She was an exemplary leader of the board for many years, serving as secretary and president. Despite no longer residing in New Jersey full-time, Ms. Jones maintains her Monmouth County roots and has continued to support the mission of the Association. Ms. Jones was recognized for her long-time commitment to the Monmouth County Historical Association as the honoree of the 2008 Garden Party.

Returning to his childhood community of Rumson in 2002, Ross Millhiser and his wife Diane reside in the same home that has been in his family for 65 years. In 2008, he joined the Monmouth County Historical Association Board of Trustees in 2008, combining his love of history with service to the community. Over the years, he served as trustee, first vice president, and vice president emeritus, and as a member of several committees. His active involvement and knowledge has been valuable to the Monmouth County Historical Association and the greater community.

For 125 years, the Monmouth County Historical Association has provided Monmouth County residents and visitors with a vast collection of our local history and heritage. Through its programs, exhibits, and resources, the Association continues to educate and enlighten our communities with both a historical and humanities perspective. Its efforts to preserve and promote the region's rich history help to ensure that this important knowledge is available for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, on the 125th anniversary of the Monmouth County Historical Association, please join me in thanking Robert Broege, Hope Jones, and Ross Millhiser for their leadership and contributions to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NA-
TIONAL PARK SERVICE RANGER
TOM LORIG

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of National Park Service Ranger Tom Lorig, who tragically passed away at the age of 78 on Friday, June 7, 2024, while on the Job in Bryce Canyon, Utah.

Ranger Lorig worked and volunteered as a National Park Service Ranger for fifty-six years. He became involved with the park service in 1968, working at the Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico for five years. During his career, he served at fourteen national park sites, including Badlands, Bryce Canyon, Yosemite, Zion, and the Dinosaur National Monument, for which he had a particular affection. He also served for over ten years as a permanent, seasonal, and volunteer park ranger across many of these park sites.

Beyond his service to our national parks, Ranger Lorig was also a registered nurse for forty years in the Seattle, Washington area, demonstrating his commitment to helping people and supporting those who needed it.

I want to extend my deepest sympathies to Ranger Lorig's family, friends, and the Bryce Canyon National Park community. His loss will be felt by those who knew him and the many he assisted during his impactful career as both a nurse and a Park Ranger.

It is public servants like Ranger Lorig who truly make our country great.

HONORING LOIS MADOLYN CROSS
BROOKS

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I seek to honor Lois Madolyn Cross Brooks, who was born on June 13, 1924, in Durham, North Carolina. At the age of one, her family relocated to Alexandria, Virginia. She attended Parker-Gray School in Alexandria, which in 1932 became the first high school for African Americans in Alexandria, who previously had to travel to Washington, D.C. if they wished to continue their education beyond 8th grade. Mrs. Brooks graduated from Parker-Gray School in 1942 along with 26 other students.

She worked for the Federal government at the Marine Corps headquarters. She was one of nine children and has one child and two grandchildren. Mrs. Brooks still lives in Alexandria and stays active by reading, following politics, and interacting with young people. I wish her a joyous and healthy centennial birthday.

HONORING JOHN FISHER FOR HIS
INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with my heartfelt congratulations and gratitude that I rise today to extend my thanks and best wishes to John Fisher, the former Executive Director of New Haven's Shubert Theater. For more than two decades, John led this theatrical landmark with a unique dedication and commitment. Tonight, friends, colleagues and community leaders have gathered to thank him for that leadership and celebrate his contributions to the New Haven arts community.

John's professional career has been dedicated to the arts. Prior to coming to New Haven, he spent six years as the general manager of the Big Apple Circus before spending two years in Atlanta as Director of Satellite Olympic Villages for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. He arrived in New Haven in 1997 where he began his career with the Shubert as its general manager. When the Shubert's ownership was transferred from the City of New Haven to the Connecticut Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA), a decade-long process through which John guided and nurtured the historic theater, he became the Executive Director. He would hold this position until his retirement at the end of 2020.

Prior to John's arrival, New Haven's Shubert Theater had been experiencing extreme financial pressures and was in need of serious capital improvements. While it was beloved by the community, the City, which owned it at the time, was not in the position to support the kind of financial investment that was needed. It was John who saw the benefits of transitioning ownership to CAPA and it was his leadership that saw it through.

Over the course of his twenty-four years with the Shubert, John built a strong foundation for the theater, not only by bringing season after season of engaging and exciting performances, but also by building strong partnerships that not only strengthened the Shubert but New Haven's vibrant arts community as a whole. He expanded the theater's community footprint through collaborations with the Board of Education, Cooperative Arts & Humanities High School, the New Haven Free Public Library, as well as arts institutions like the International Festival of Arts & Ideas, the New Haven Ballet, the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and Yale Opera.

John's contributions to New Haven's arts community extend far beyond his professional career at the Shubert. He is a former commissioner and Chairman of the Coliseum Authority for New Haven and has been a board member of the New Haven Ballet, the Workforce Alliance, the Connecticut Arts Alliance, and the Arts Council of New Haven. Through all of these efforts, his good work has gone a long way in broadening community access to the arts, ensuring that its magic, artistry, and creativity is shared with new generations.

For his innumerable and invaluable contributions, I am proud to stand today and extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation to John Fisher. I wish John and his wife, Liz, as well as their family all the best as they enjoy their retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during votes on Tuesday, June 4th or Wednesday, June 5th.

Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 242, and NAY on Roll Call No. 247.

**COURAGEOUS BENJAMIN
NETANYAHU**

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to courageous Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the successful rescue of four hostages from Iranian puppets.

Despite biased, fake news, Netanyahu knows the Hamas Covenant of August 18, 1988, Article 7 which states, "The Day of Judgement will not come about until Moslems fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him."

A Netanyahu victory is essential, as we are in a war we did not choose of Dictators With Rule of Gun invading Democracies With Rule of Law, exemplified by war criminal Putin invading Ukraine on February 24, 2022 with mass murder.

I was grateful to be invited by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON to attend the D-Day 80th Anniversary in Normandy, France, to be reminded of President Reagan's historic speech of 1984, "... isolationism never was and never will be an acceptable response to tyrannical governments with an expansionist intent."

Every day we are reminded of corrupt, unethical Judge Merchan and his unintended achievement of re-electing Donald Trump with the judge earning my invitation for the Trump Inauguration. The unfairness of a Democrat prosecutor, Soros financed; a Democrat judge Biden contributor; and a Democrat jury in an old Democrat jurisdiction which should require a change of venue.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the Global War on Terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws; we need to enforce existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators, as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as repeatedly warned by the FBI.

**NEWSLETTER FROM
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS**

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an

update to my constituents to bring awareness to issues surrounding the federal spending process, standing with Israel, and supporting our men and women in blue.

DEAR FRIEND: Washington is broken. If we're going to change what Washington does, we must fix how it works. That's my goal as your representative.

As a member of the House Appropriations and Budget committees, I am now in the thick of the federal spending process, which provides opportunities to reinforce our support for veterans and those currently serving to defend our freedoms.

In setting the spending allocations for each of the 12 subcommittees for the coming fiscal year, the House Appropriations Committee adhered to the caps established under the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023. These caps are projected by the Congressional Budget Office to reduce discretionary spending by \$246 billion for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

This is proof that we can exercise fiscal restraint while still advancing critical priorities, as funding for our national security will increase by nearly \$9 billion, and veterans' medical care and benefits will be fully funded.

Non-defense programs will be reduced by six percent, with cuts distributed in a measured and thoughtful way. Years of overspending have led us to this point, but I am helping to flip the script on how the federal government spends hard-earned tax dollars.

Under the previous House majority, you would most often see the annual appropriations process end with an omnibus spending package, rushed through usually right before Christmas and with little time for Members to know what they were voting on.

Here again, House conservatives are flipping the script. We avoided an omnibus last year, and I am optimistic that the Appropriations Committee, which is returning the House to "regular order" by marking up each subcommittee's bill and passing them individually on the House floor, will be able to do the same for FY25.

**PRIORITIZING AMERICA'S STRENGTH AND
SAFETY**

The House took up the first in a series of appropriations bills, the FY25 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

The bill reflects and is a product of the committee's commitment to our service members both during active duty and as they become veterans, and addresses critical national security challenges in the Pacific.

This legislation would honor our commitment to veterans, bolster our national security, focus the executive branch on its core responsibilities, and support American values and principles. Some of the specifics of the bill, including conservative wins, are:

Fully funding veterans' health care programs, veterans' benefits, and VA programs.

Blocking the administration from using funds to promote or advance critical race theory.

Prohibiting the implementation, administration or enforcement of the administration's executive orders on diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, initiatives.

Banning taxpayer dollars from being used for abortion.

To no one's surprise, the president already issued a Statement of Administration Policy on the funding bill, threatening to veto this legislation that would fully fund the health care and benefits of our veterans that they have earned.

This sends a terrible message by prioritizing radical and woke policies over the safety and well-being of the men and

women in uniform—past and present—who have served our country.

The president's priorities are changing the focus of our military, weakening our readiness and failing to keep promises made to our veterans, and we must reverse course before it is too late.

The House Appropriations Committee's military construction and veterans affairs bill would deliver on our commitment to America by prioritizing our nation's strength and safety, and keeping the promises made to our veterans. I urge the White House to reconsider its hasty and misguided decision.

STOPPING THE ICC'S ILLEGITIMATE CASES AGAINST OUR ALLY ISRAEL

The International Criminal Court's (ICC) decision to file applications for arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, while ignoring the atrocities committed by Iran and the Hamas terrorists, is unacceptable.

The United States does not recognize the jurisdiction of the ICC, and from the very beginning refused to join a body that could, and has, conducted politically motivated prosecutions against U.S. citizens and allies.

The House passed H.R. 8282 with my support to impose sanctions on the ICC to protect our nation and allies by deterring the ICC from pursuing these illegitimate cases where they have no jurisdiction.

Make no mistake: If the ICC pursues the arrest of Israeli officials, it would set a dangerous precedent that is a risk to the U.S., given the ICC's ongoing investigation regarding Afghanistan.

BRING DOWN INFLATION TO LOWER THE COST OF LIVING

Since the president took office, inflation has risen newly 20%.

With high rates of inflation, American families—especially those on federal food assistance—are struggling to maintain their standard of living.

Hard-working Americans should not have to bear the brunt of Washington's reckless spending and regulation, and from my seats on the House Appropriations and Budget committees, I'm continuing to push to fix how Washington works by reining in out-of-control spending and driving down costs for all Americans.

INVESTIGATING THE WEAPONIZATION OF GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Last week, history was made.

Should anyone be surprised that Donald Trump would not get a fair and unbiased trial in New York, where prosecutors and their families were contributing to leftist candidates?

The Manhattan court's verdict showed the world just how politicized our judicial system has become, with the left weaponizing our Justice system.

I do not believe the verdict will hold up to a fair and truly impartial appeal.

Meanwhile, U.S. House committees continue to investigate examples of weaponization of government against our people.

SUPPORTING OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN BLUE

Backing the blue is essential at all levels of government to keep our citizens safe, and I applaud the City of Asheville for putting forth a proclamation in support of the Asheville Police Department.

The proclamation provided opportunities for folks across the city to commemorate National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day by showing our gratitude for the men and women in blue who risk their own lives to protect our communities.

On the federal level, I'm doing my part to support the Asheville Police Department by

requesting funding needed to implement a Real-Time Intelligence Center in the City of Asheville. This capability would provide data in a centralized location, which would help Asheville police officers more efficiently gather, analyze, and investigate intelligence to enhance emergency response tactics and services.

REMINDER "CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS: UNPLUGGED" TOWN HALL SERIES

If you haven't already, please mark your calendars for Thursday, June 20, to join my next in-person town hall in Graham County. The town hall will take place from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Graham County Courthouse, 12 N. Main St., Robbinsville, NC.

I'm looking forward to sharing an update about legislative priorities in Congress and answering questions about the issues that matter to you.

With my warmest regards,

CHUCK EDWARDS,
Member of Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIE MIMS

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative JOHN GARAMENDI, to recognize the life and service of Willie Mims.

Throughout his life, Willie demonstrated his passion for his community, working tirelessly to empower and serve East County residents. He grew up in what is now Bay Point, California and graduated from Pacific High School in 1963. Willie first became interested in politics in 1964, advocating for the Rumsford Fair Housing Act which aimed to combat racial discrimination in housing. Willie was committed to educating and uplifting our county's youth and advancing equity throughout Contra Costa. He earned his Associate Arts Degree from Diablo Valley College and his Bachelor of Arts and M.A. in English & Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. Willie obtained his teaching credentials in 1978 and went on to have a long career in teaching with the Vallejo City Unified School District. Willie worked as a teacher at John Finney High School, formerly known as Peoples High School, for over 25 years. After retiring in 2009, Willie continued to attend school board meetings to advocate on behalf of Contra Costa parents and students.

Additionally, Willie was a former mentor of Safe in My Brother's Arms (S.I.M.B.A.), a youth program for boys 8-16; former board member of the East County Boy's and Girl's Club; an original member of Pittsburg's Black Political Association; and was part of the Executive Committee of the East County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), serving as its Education Chair. He was also instrumental in the creation of the Antioch School District's African American Male Initiative, which sought to address racial disparities between Black students and their peers. In addition, Willie also volunteered with Greater Faith Food Pantry, helping to feed underserved Pittsburg residents, and served as a volunteer historian for the Parents Connected Organization. Willie was recognized for his efforts to promote ra-

cial justice and equity, receiving the Dr. Martin Luther King Freedom Fighter Award in 2008, being named Contra Costa County's 2024 Humanitarian of the Year, and being given the key to the city of Antioch in February 2024. Willie was a devoted civil rights activist and community leader who always spoke truth to power.

Sadly, Willie passed away on May 22, 2024. He is survived by his children, Dana and Marcus (Cassandra) Mims, his sisters Hilda Murdoch, Nancy Mims-Burt, Ruth Mims-Jemerson, and Melodye Montgomery, his brother-in-law Larry Harold, six grandchildren, and other family members. Willie will be remembered for his indelible impact on our community and his steadfast dedication to promoting justice and equality. Please join me and Representative GARAMENDI in recognizing Willie for his many years of devoted service.

HONORING THE 2023 FELLOWS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF IN- VENTORS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 162 inventors who will be inducted as the 2023 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). An induction ceremony will take place this June 18th in Raleigh, North Carolina to celebrate these inventors and their incredible accomplishments. The ceremony will be presided over by Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Derrick Brent, and President of the National Academy of Inventors, Dr. Paul R. Sanberg. To be named as a Fellow, these individuals were nominated by their peers and underwent a review process by the NAI Selection Committee, which ultimately deemed their innovations as making a significant impact on the quality of life, economic development and the welfare of their communities, the residents of Florida and the United States.

Collectively, this year's NAI Fellows hold over 4,500 patents. This remarkable group includes individuals from 118 research universities and non-profit research institutions from across the United States and the world. Today, the NAI maintains a strong membership of 1,898 Fellows; it is comprised of more than 170 senior leaders of research universities and nonprofit research institutes, over 700 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, 59 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, 69 recipients of the U.S. National Medal of Technology and Innovation and U.S. National Medal of Science, 53 Nobel Laureates, 533 AAAS Fellows, 395 IEEE Fellows and 232 Fellows of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, among other awards and distinctions.

Founded by Dr. Paul R. Sanberg at the University of South Florida in 2010, the NAI's mission is to recognize and encourage inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, enhance the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourage the disclosure of intellectual property,

educate, and mentor innovative students and translate the inventions of its members to benefit Florida and communities all throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor the 2023 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors for this outstanding achievement. We owe a debt of gratitude to these inventors for their invaluable contributions to society, which continually propel us forward. May their example inspire future generations to pursue their own paths of discovery and innovation, ensuring a bright and innovative future for us all.

The 2023 NAI Fellows Class includes:

Kenneth Adler, North Carolina State University, Rigoberto Advincula, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Arvind Agarwal, Florida International University, Ken Anderson, Southern Illinois University, Daniel Anderson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Bahman Anvari, University of California, Riverside, Mehmet Arik, Auburn University, David P. Arnold, University of Florida, Chieko Asakawa, Carnegie Mellon University, Farrokh Ayazi, Georgia Institute of Technology, Sanjoy Banerjee, City University of New York, Krystof Bankiewicz, The Ohio State University, Michel Barsoum, Drexel University, David Beebe, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Mark Benden, Texas A&M University, Danielle Benoit, University of Oregon;

Magnus Berggren, Linköping University, Bryony Bonning, University of Central Florida, Robert Brown, Iowa State University, Eric Burger, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Diane Burgess, University of Connecticut, Yiran Chen, Duke University, Guang-Hong Chen, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Jung-Chih (J.-C.) Chiao, Southern Methodist University, Eric (P.Y.) Chiou, University of California, Los Angeles, Steve S. Chung, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Daniel Ciobanu, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Robert Cohen, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Henry Colecraft, Columbia University, Lynn Conway, University of Michigan, David Coy, Tulane University, David T. Curiel, Washington University in St. Louis;

Sajal Das, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Shanta Dhar, University of Miami, Yizhou Dong, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Vincent Donnelly, University of Houston, Xiangfeng Duan, University of California, Los Angeles, Christine Ehlig-Economides, University of Houston, Jason M. Eichenholz, University of Central Florida, Munir Eldesouki, King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST), Maohong Fan, University of Wyoming and Georgia Institute of Technology, Carol Feghali-Bostwick, Medical University of South Carolina;

Gerhard Fettweis, Technical University of Dresden, Wolfgang Fink, The University of Arizona, Dan Fleetwood, Vanderbilt University, Joseph Fox, University of Delaware, Paul Friedman, Mayo Clinic, Yun Fu, Northeastern University, Eric Fullerton, University of California, San Diego, Ashok Gadgil, University of California, Berkeley, Jinming Gao, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Charles Garris Jr., The George Washington University;

Michael Good, The University of Utah, David Grainger, The University of Utah, Timothy Grotjohn, Michigan State University, Joel Habener, Massachusetts General Hospital, Sang Han, The University of New Mexico,

Jung Han, Yale University, John Hardy, Lancaster University, Balakrishna Haridas, Texas A&M University, Lambertus Hesselink, Stanford University, Douglas Hofmann, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Bernard Horowitz, New York Blood Center, Hsing-Pang Hsieh, National Institutes of Health, S. Jack Hu, University of Georgia, Tony Hu, Tulane University;

Ana Jaklenee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, James Janetka, Washington University in St. Louis, Mark Jaroszeski, University of South Florida, Shaoyi Jiang, Cornell University, Christopher W. Jones, Georgia Institute of Technology, David Kaplan, Tufts University;

Yoshihiro Kawaoka, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Shana Kelley, Northwestern University, Kevin Kelly, Louisiana State University, Ali Khademhosseini, Terasaki Institute for Biomedical Innovation;

Eun Sok Kim, University of Southern California, Jungsang Kim, Duke University, Nam Sung Kim, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Nobuhiko P. Kobayashi, University of California, Santa Cruz, Dan Kohane, Harvard University, Dimitri Krainc, Northwestern University, Fred Kramer, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Werner Kuhr, Texas Tech University, M.N.V. Ravi Kumar, The University of Alabama, Prashant Kumta, University of Pittsburgh, Sam TW Kwong, City University of Hong Kong;

Wilbur Lam, Emory University, Shulamit Levenberg, Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Guann-Pyng, Li, University of California, Irvine, Jun Liu, University of Washington, Yuk-Ming (Dennis) Lo, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Bruce R. Locke, Florida State University, David Love, Purdue University, Douglas Loy, The University of Arizona, Helen Lu, Columbia University, Nicky Lu, National Taiwan University;

Edward Maginn, University of Notre Dame, Joshua Makower, Stanford University, Prashant Mali, University of California, San Diego, Dinesh Manocha, University of Maryland, College Park, Arumugam Manthiram, The University of Texas at Austin, Hai-Quan Mao, Johns Hopkins University, Susan Margulies, National Science Foundation/Georgia Institute of Technology/Emory University, Ernesto E. Marinero, Purdue University, Marcela V Maus, Massachusetts General Hospital, Robin L. McCarley, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University;

Brian McClendon, University of Kansas, Morten Meldal, University of Copenhagen, R. John Milne, Clarkson University, Ian Mohr, New York University, Hooman Mohseni, Northwestern University, Joseph Moorman, University of Virginia, James Mulé, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, Seemantini Nadkarni, Massachusetts General Hospital, Jagjit Nanda, Stanford University, Thuc-Quyen Nguyen, University of California, Santa Barbara, Svante Paabo, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Xiaochuan Pan, The University of Chicago;

Ravindra Pandey, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Niketa A. Patel, University of South Florida, David Peyton, Portland State University, Neville Pinto, University of Cincinnati, Milos Popovic, Boston University, Zoya (Zorana) Popovic, University of Colorado Boulder, Cassandra Quave, Emory University, Milica Radisic, University of Toronto, P. Hemachandra Reddy, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, David Reinkensmeyer, University of California, Irvine;

Debra Rolison, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory, Roger Ruan, University of Minnesota, Boris Rubinsky, University of California, Berkeley, Omowunmi "Wunmi" Sadik, New Jersey Institute of Technology, José-Alain Sahel, University of Pittsburgh, Aliasger Salem, University of Iowa, Robert Savinell, Case Western Reserve University, Joseph Schlenoff, Florida State University;

Holly Sellers, University of Georgia, Haval Shirwan, University of Missouri-Columbia, Jeffrey Siewersden, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Patrick J. Sinko, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Anil Sood, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Srinivas Sridhar, Northeastern University, Jonathan Stamler, Case Western Reserve University, Karthikeyan Sundaresan, Georgia Institute of Technology, Hsing-Wen Sung, National Tsing Hua University;

Michael Tweedle, The Ohio State University, Victor Velculescu, Johns Hopkins University, Guido Verbeck, Augusta University, Maria Vicent, Principe Felipe Research Center, Lai-Xi Wang, University of Maryland, College Park, Kevin Ward, University of Michigan, Jon Weidanz, The University of Texas at Arlington, Paul S. Weiss, University of California, Los Angeles, Christian Wolf, Georgetown University;

Robert Woods, The University of Texas at Arlington, Tohru Yamada, University of Illinois Chicago, Masanobu Yamamoto, Purdue University, G. Craig Yencho, North Carolina State University, Qiming Zhang, The Pennsylvania State University, Wei Zhao, Stony Brook University, Chongwu Zhou, University of Southern California.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Historic Main Street Oxford (HMSO), an exemplary economic and community development organization established by the Oxford City Council on July 24, 2014. For nearly a decade, HMSO has been a beacon of progress and revitalization in Northeast Alabama, embodying the principles and practices that make our communities thrive.

Historic Main Street Oxford operates under the esteemed Four Point Approach strategy of Organization, Promotion, Design and Economic Vitality as outlined by Main Street America. This approach ensures HMSO remains an effective tool for community-based, volunteer-driven, grassroots revitalization efforts.

Since its inception, HMSO has been accredited by Main Street America and Main Street Alabama, a testament to its dedication to preserving the charm and vitality of downtown Oxford. Over the past decade, HMSO has welcomed 31 businesses, with 18 still successfully thriving in the downtown area. This is a clear indicator of the robust economic environment HMSO has fostered.

In 2018, HMSO launched an innovative city-funded facade grant program. This initiative

has significantly enhanced the aesthetic appeal of our downtown, with 28 projects funded, resulting in a public investment of \$37,664 and a remarkable private investment of \$163,296. This program not only beautifies the downtown, but also stimulates further private investment and economic growth and has had over \$10 million of investment since 2014.

HMSO has played a crucial role in coordinating community events and business development workshops. These activities support local businesses and foster a strong sense of community.

HMSO stands as a model of success-based economic and community development. Its efforts have transformed downtown Oxford into a vibrant hub of activity and culture, reflecting the hard work and dedication of its leaders and volunteers. I commend HMSO for its outstanding contributions to our community and look forward to witnessing its continued success and growth.

HMSO exemplifies the power of community-driven efforts in creating sustainable and vibrant local economies. Their accomplishments over the past decade highlight the importance of preserving our historic downtowns while adapting to modern needs and opportunities. Let us celebrate and support such initiatives that enrich our communities and our lives.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 10th anniversary of Historic Main Street Oxford.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL CARBAJAL

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Michael Carbajal, “Little Hands of Stone (Manilas de Piedra)”, and all his accomplishments. Since becoming a boxer, he has accumulated six world championships, an Olympic silver medal, and a 49–4 career record, all of which landed him in the Boxing Hall of Fame. He was also selected Fighter of the Year in 1993 for Ring Magazine and was Comeback Fighter of the Year in 1999. Since his retirement in 1999 after winning the WBO light flyweight title belt, he has shared his expertise, mentoring the next generation of boxers in the Phoenix area. Inducted into the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame, Carbajal has left an indelible mark on Arizona’s boxing scene.

Carbajal’s outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication have been a tremendous source of inspiration for young boxers throughout Arizona. His ongoing support and commitment to Arizona will make a lasting impact for generations to come.

Since he was six years old, Carbajal has been a unified champion, serving as the face of boxing in Arizona for decades. Carbajal’s story lives on as he tirelessly contributes to the next generation of boxers at his 9th Street Gym, blocks from where he grew up. I am proud to recognize Carbajal and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE GORDONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TIGERETTES ON CLAIMING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes for winning the 2024 ISSAA 1A State Championship in softball for the second year in a row.

Gordonsville, Tennessee, is known as a “Title Town” for having won 10 state championships in their history. This year, “Title Town” has another jewel in its crown thanks to the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes. This is the second consecutive state championship win for the team, who beat Eagleville by a score of 5 to 2 last year and by dominating Jo Byrns 11 to 1 this year.

Kailey Plumlee started the game with a home run and also struck out 12 batters in 6 innings as the starting pitcher. From there, the team continued to show up and show off, out-hitting their opponent 13-to-1. The Tigerettes wrapped up their run-rule victory with yet another home run from Callie Dillard.

Throughout the tournament, the girls outscored their opponents 47 to 2 and finished the year with 32 wins against only 5 losses. This great season is a result of hard work, dedication, bountiful talent, and a supportive community spirit. Legions of enthusiastic fans turned out for every game to cheer on their Gordonsville heroes, and on the way home the streets were lined with “Title Town” citizens celebrating the victory.

This is the second consecutive state championship win for the team, which beat Eagleville School by a score of 5-to-2 last year and Jo Byrns High School by a dominating 11-to-1 score this year. The Lady Tigers came to the field in the championship game with a can-do spirit and the goal of getting started early, and they sure did.

This is the third time the Tigerettes have made it to the state championship in recent years, with the first trip resulting in an agonizing 2 run loss. Afterward, Coach Jonathon Bush made it his mission to raise the expectations for the program and challenge the girls to reach new heights. The results speak for themselves—three state titles.

I would now like to recognize everyone who carried the team to victory. Players included: Callie Dillard, McKenzie Herron, Camri Johnson, Kelsey Haley, Bailey Stewart, Kailyn Roberts, Emma Crawford, Madison Askew, Lakin Roberts, Christina Ray, Abbi Brinkley, Kailey Plumlee, Addison Pope, Bailey Trusty, Kelcie Watts, Laura Thompson, and Adalyn Stafford. I’d also like to recognize Head Coach Jonathon Bush and Assistant Coaches Alton Fitts and Scott Pope for the win.

I am proud to represent Gordonsville, Tennessee, and take much pride in the success of the community, the families that live there, and its home team champion. Again, congratulations to the Gordonsville Tigerettes, the 2024 TSSAA State Softball Champions.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Kresge Foundation on the occasion of the centennial of its founding. The growth of the Kresge Foundation over the last 100 years and the contributions it has made to Southeastern Michigan and the Nation is worthy of commendation.

When Sebastian S. Kresge’s first company turned 25 in 1924, he established the Kresge Foundation in the City of Detroit. The foundation was created to promote the ideas of philanthropy and charity while advancing human progress. The Kresge Foundation’s first donation was to the Salvation Army of Detroit and was soon followed by grants to important institutions such as the Detroit YMCA and the Methodist Children’s Home.

The Kresge Foundation continues to uphold its stated values of creativity, partnership, equity, respect, opportunity, and stewardship, all of which have guided the foundation to continue its impactful work throughout the last 100 years. The foundation has produced 16,500 grants and disbursed more than \$5.1 billion dollars, \$1 billion of which have supported the Metro Detroit region. The Kresge Foundation has leveraged these grants to invest in our arts, education, environment, health, and community development. Additionally, The FUEL and ProInspire programs offered by the foundation to grantees show that The Kresge Foundation is committed to fully equipping communities with the tools needed to make lasting change in their cities. By employing a socially and historically conscious strategy to their work, The Kresge Foundation has centered racial equality, diversity, and prosperity for all members of the community in its work over the past century. While the foundation has expanded nationally to Memphis, New Orleans, and Fresno, its continued dedication to its work in Detroit remains clear and impactful.

When Detroit became the largest U.S. city to file for bankruptcy protection in 2013, the Kresge Foundation contributed \$100 million to ensure the city met its pension, which then played a considerable role in allowing Detroit to exit bankruptcy quickly and successfully. In recent years, the foundation contributed \$17 million in grants and \$2 million in social investments to assist in relief from the COVID–19 pandemic. Other projects such as The School at Marymount and fellowships for local artists show a continual investment and commitment to Detroit and the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the Kresge Foundation for the contributions it has made to our communities over the last 100 years. We thank the foundation for its century of service, as well as the opportunities that it has made possible for the City of Detroit and beyond.

RECOGNIZING MR. EMILIO LENA

HON. JOHN JAMES

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, while we often recognize noteworthy and acclaimed personalities, we have many other great unsung heroes and amazing souls who do a ton of heavy lifting with little to no recognition. Yet, if truth be told, they serve as the glue, sturdiness, strength, and all that is good about America. They go about their jobs quietly, without having the expectation of recognition. In fact, they do what they do because it's God's work. It's the right thing to do.

I am privileged to be in a position where I can acknowledge one such unsung hero, and his service to our country during the Korean War, Mr. Emilio Lena. Mr. Lena was born in Cassino, Italy on September 10, 1925. He immigrated to the United States on February 1, 1947, not knowing any English but wanting a better life for himself in pursuit of the "American Dream."

He enlisted in the U.S. Army on October 23, 1952, to serve his new, beloved country and was trained as an artilleryman. He learned to read and write English in the Army and obtained his U.S. citizenship. He was honorably discharged as a Private First Class on October 4, 1954. While in service, he earned the National Defense Service Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal. He cherished his time in the military and was a proud veteran his entire life.

He settled back in the greater Detroit area upon his return from service where he married the love of his life, Elena, and raised five children. He never returned to Italy due to his allegiance to his U.S. citizenship.

We thank him for his service and contribution to his country.

CONGRATULATING ROCHESTER
FIRE CHIEF TOM BUTLER ON HIS
UPCOMING RETIREMENT**HON. RUDY YAKYM III**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate Fire Chief Tom Butler, who is retiring as Fire Chief of the Rochester Fire Department in Rochester, Indiana, at the end of this month.

Serving as Rochester Fire Chief since 2008, Tom's career in public safety spans back three decades when he started as a volunteer firefighter for the Department in 1994. Chief Butler's 16 and a half years in his current role means that when he retires on June 28, he will hold the title for the longest serving Fire Chief in Rochester history.

Chief Butler's career with the Rochester Fire Department is but one reflection of his lifelong passion for helping others. Since he was a young man, Chief Butler felt a calling to serve our Nation in uniform. That calling led Tom to enter military service, where he was a military medic for 24 years with stints in both the Army and the Indiana Army National Guard. Part of that service was spent on two tours in the

Middle East, including a deployment during Operation Desert Storm. Tom distinguished himself in service, and his military awards include a Bronze Star, expert field medical badge, and combat medical badge.

Because of his service as Fire Chief, the Rochester community and Fulton County are unquestionably better off and safer thanks to this good man who exemplifies what it means to be a true public servant who sacrifices for others.

Chief Butler's example and leadership are also reminders that first responders are on the frontlines of some of the most difficult situations our communities face. When there is a problem, first responders like Tom answer the call and willingly put themselves in danger's path to keep us safe. For that, all of us are extremely grateful.

I am proud to join so many Hoosiers throughout Indiana's Second District in expressing our appreciation to Chief Butler for his impressive career spent in service to others. I wish Tom and his family—including his wife Samantha and their two children Alison and Daniel—all the best going forward as Tom begins the next chapter of his life and a very well-deserved retirement. May God bless.

HONORING MARGARET COWLING

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Margaret Cowling of Lexington, Kentucky. She is an extraordinary educator and is retiring after a stellar career of 49 years. It is my honor to lift her up on this special occasion.

Miss Cowling grew up in Lexington, Kentucky and enrolled as a student at The Lexington School in 1957. Her love for the school and the lessons she learned there had a lasting impact. She attended Indiana University, where she earned degrees in both history and English. Miss Cowling earned a master's degree in history from State University of New York then went to New York City where she enrolled in the Stella Adler Studio of Acting. She returned to Lexington to accept a position teaching history at The Lexington School in 1975. Her intent was to teach for a year then return to New York City, but she fell in love with teaching, which kept her at The Lexington School for 49 years.

Miss Cowling's love for history was evident in the community as well as the classroom. She volunteered as a tour guide at Henry Clay's Ashland Estate, the Mary Todd Lincoln House, and Waveland. She wrote a book, *The Lexington School: Our First 50 Years*, to commemorate the school's 50-year history.

I am a great admirer of Miss Cowling as I was fortunate to be one of her many students. She instilled in me a strong passion for history. She taught me about Vikings, Egyptians, Ancient Greeks, Alexander the Great, medieval times, and so much more. Miss Cowling had high expectations for all her students. An excellent storyteller, she made history come alive. Miss Cowling exemplified a love of learning that has stayed with me over the years.

I have been impacted by many excellent teachers in my life, but Miss Cowling stands

out as my favorite. It is my honor to acknowledge my friend and my teacher for her educational excellence, her enthusiasm for learning, and the impact that she has had on me and thousands of other students over her 49-year career.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PER-
MIT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED
STATES TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-
STAFF IN THE EVENT OF THE
DEATH OF A MAYOR OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would make a small but respectful change to federal law by adding the Mayor of the District of Columbia to the list of named principals for whom the President shall order the U.S. flag be flown at half-staff. Current law states that the President shall make this order "upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory." Surely the D.C. Mayor should qualify as such a principal. My bill would add the D.C. Mayor, who has the same responsibilities as state and territory governors, to the current list of officials. This bill is part of a series of bills to ensure equal treatment for the nearly 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia. In the 116th Congress, the House Committee on the Judiciary passed this bill.

Congress has already acknowledged that D.C. is entitled to a place among the states for certain honors. For example, legislation we got enacted gave D.C. a coin after D.C. was omitted from legislation creating coins for the states and required the armed services to display the D.C. flag whenever the flags of the states are displayed. We got D.C.'s Frederick Douglass and Pierre L'Enfant statues placed in the Capitol, alongside the two statues from each state. We also successfully worked with the U.S. Postal Service to create a D.C. stamp, like the stamps for the states, and successfully worked with the National Park Service to add the D.C. flag alongside the state flags near Union Station.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO MADDOX OLATUNDE**HON. BETH VAN DUYN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Maddox Olatunde. As quarterback for L.D. Bell High School in Hurst, Maddox Olatunde helped lead the Blue Raiders to victory over their longtime rival, Euless Trinity, for the first time in 25 years. After completing 18 of 21 passes for 150 yards plus 135 rushing yards and a touchdown, Maddox was selected as the Dallas Morning News "Inside High School Sports" Player of the Week.

Beyond the football field, Maddox is the team captain of the Varsity Men's Soccer Team and the principal cellist of the L.D. Bell Philharmonic Orchestra. He recently received the 2024 HEB ISD Education Foundation Award of Excellence, which is given to 33 outstanding high school seniors who have worked hard, overcome adversity, found their passion, blossomed, and excelled above their cohorts.

I want to congratulate Maddox on his outstanding achievements, both on the field and off.

RECOGNIZING PETERSON HEALTH'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peterson Health in their seventy-fifth year of serving the Texas Hill Country. The community is forever grateful to Hal and Charlie Peterson, two brothers who envisioned a full-service hospital in Kerrville, Texas. The Petersons' efforts began in 1944 by establishing the Hal and Charlie Peterson Foundation with an initial donation of one hundred dollars. Three years later, the Foundation board green-lit construction of a hospital for "the benefit of the people of the Hill Country in general." The brothers started building on their land at Sidney Baker and Water Streets in Kerrville. Named for their father, the Sid Peterson Memorial Hospital opened its doors on July 3, 1949. I include in the RECORD an excerpt from the Petersons' opening ceremony speech that day:

"And so here it is; it's yours to use. If it will ease a little the sufferings of the sick and injured; if it will help a little to mend their broken bodies; if it will provide a place where the next generation—and the next—can enter this world with the best of care and attention, and if it can do these things at a minimum of expense to those who must be patients, then our purpose in building it and giving it to the Hill Country community has been well-served."

It was a world-class facility, the first in America to have a central air conditioning system. Another groundbreaking feature was the intercom system that connected each patient's bed to the nurse's station. In 1969, the hospital underwent extensive upgrades and increased bed capacity to eighty-six. A six-million-dollar expansion plan was completed in 1985, including a new Surgical Annex. The hospital became independent from the Hal and Charlie Peterson Foundation five years later. At the turn of the millennium, medical air transport services were added to San Antonio and Austin.

In 2008, the hospital changed locations to the new Peterson Health campus, complete with a brand-new hospital building. It was the only hospital in Texas to be named a Top 20 Rural Community Hospital by the National Rural Health Association. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in 2022 for the Amanda and J. David Williams Surgery Center which will expand surgical capacity by 25% and procedure rooms by 50%. Congratulations to CEO Cory Edmondson and the entire staff on seventy-five years of service to the Hill Country. I applaud Peterson's stated mission of "maintaining their status as an independent, private, nonprofit health system."

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. XIAO GUANG (DON) SUN

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Xiaoguang (Don) Sun, who passed away on March 13, 2024, in San Jose, California, with his family by his side. Don was a distinguished citizen who dedicated his life to advocacy, including advocating on behalf of Asian Americans, and served a prominent role in American politics.

Mr. Sun was born on July 10, 1959, in Beijing, China. He obtained a bachelor's degree from Renmin University of China in Beijing in 1982. After graduation, Mr. Sun worked on the Economic Reform and Opening-up policies for six years, focusing on agrarian reform, privatization of land, and grassroots elections in rural China. This work ignited his passion to tirelessly serve the people and galvanized his commitment to the betterment of society. He also earned a master's degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1990 and worked as a research fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford from 1990 to 1993, specializing in the research of political and land reform in Taiwan.

Mr. Sun served as President to the Bay Area chapter of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association since 2009 and as a Cupertino Planning Commissioner from 2011–2019. He was also actively involved in the Cupertino Rotary Club for nearly two decades. Mr. Sun was vocal about the treatment of Asian Americans, leading advocacy efforts towards securing a formal apology from the U.S. House of Representatives for the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Mr. Sun will be forever remembered for his contributions to the Asian American community.

Mr. Sun is survived by his two sons. May his proud legacy continue to live on through all who had the honor of knowing him.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Monmouth County Historical Association. This milestone will be celebrated by its leadership, members, and the greater community at its 49th Annual Garden Party on June 7, 2024. I would also like to join the Monmouth County Historical Association in honoring the members of its newly formed Advisory Council: Robert Broege, Hope Jones, and Ross Millhiser.

Organized by a group of Monmouth County residents with the intention of preserving and celebrating the county's rich history, the Monmouth County Historical Association has grown immensely since 1898. In less than 25 years, the group had expanded to several hundred members and procured an extensive collection. Today, the Association boasts a

collection of over 30,000 artifacts, a headquarters, library, archives, and five historic houses.

The Association is a renowned historical organization that continues to fulfill its mission to discover, preserve, and promote the history, genealogy, and biography of Monmouth County. Through its work, the Association provides an anthology of our heritage for future generations. Its exhibitions explore various topics from the American Revolution to the County's resort towns. It has received Giles R. Wright Award twice for its recent work to share the stories and experiences of the enslaved in Monmouth County. In its 125th year, the Monmouth County Historical Association is led by Executive Director Shannon Eadon and a knowledgeable staff as well as its Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, and its new Advisory Council.

The Monmouth County Historical Association continues to play a vital role in the preservation and promotion of the County's rich history. As it marks its 125th anniversary, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the contributions and efforts of the Monmouth County Historical Association.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER SHAYNE KOTARA

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Shayne Kotara's 22 years of service with the North Richland Hills Police Department. Officer Kotara began his career in the Patrol Division, where he soon became an invaluable asset to the Department because of his committed work ethic and love for serving his community.

Officer Kotara has served the police department in several capacities over the years. In 2006, Officer Kotara transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division where he was assigned to the DEA's Fort Worth Multi-Agency Task Force and later to the DEA's Drug Diversion Task Force. In 2017, Officer Kotara was transferred back to the Uniformed Services Division, and from there he was transferred to the Community Resources Division in 2019. For the last five years, he has served as a school resource officer in the North Richland Hills district. Officer Kotara has shown exceptional dedication and has made a positive impact on his community.

Throughout his distinguished career, Officer Kotara has received numerous awards and commendations, reflecting his exemplary service and dedication. He currently holds a Master Peace Officer License and was awarded one Lifesaving Award. In addition, he's received two Meritorious Service Awards and seven Certificates of Recognition due to his outstanding service in the City of North Richland Hills.

I'd like to thank Officer Kotara for his outstanding service to our community during his career with the North Richland Hills Police Department.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA MORSANI COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a significant milestone in the field of education, health care and community enrichment—the 50th anniversary of the University of South Florida (USF) Health Morsani College of Medicine. For half a century, this respected institution has been a beacon of innovation, excellence and service, shaping the future of medicine and health care in our community and beyond.

Founded in 1971, the USF Morsani College of Medicine has consistently demonstrated a steadfast commitment to educate the next generation of physicians, advance medical knowledge through cutting-edge research, and provide compassionate, patient-centered care to individuals and communities in need. As we mark the 50th anniversary of the graduating charter class in 2024, we reflect on the school's remarkable journey. Over the past five decades, it has not only met but exceeded its ambitious objectives, leaving an enduring impact on medical education and practice. From pioneering research to improving patient care, the Morsani College of Medicine has made its mark in the Tampa Bay community, shaping the landscape of health care for generations to come.

The contributions made by the Morsani College of Medicine to the field of medicine and health care are far reaching. Through its comprehensive academic programs, cutting-edge research facilities and collaborations with valued health care institutions like Tampa General Hospital, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, and local VA hospitals, the College has produced generations of highly skilled and compassionate medical professionals who made invaluable contributions to their respective fields. Whether in primary care, specialty medicine, or research, graduates of the College of Medicine have consistently exemplified the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and excellence.

The Morsani College of Medicine plays a pivotal role in addressing the current doctor shortage crisis we are facing in Florida. After a population boom during the pandemic, the Tampa Bay area has a dire need for doctors. USF is meeting the moment by training high-caliber physicians, many of whom want to stay and practice in the state. Over the five decades since its inaugural graduating class, the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine has bestowed the prestigious medical degree upon nearly 5,100 graduates.

The impact of the Morsani College of Medicine extends far beyond the boundaries of its campus. Through its commitment to community engagement and service, the College has played a pivotal role in addressing the health care needs of my neighbors in Tampa Bay.

From providing essential health care services to vulnerable communities to spearheading groundbreaking research initiatives aimed at combating health disparities, the College of Medicine has remained committed in its dedication to improving the health and well-

being of all members of our community, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status.

As a proud co-founder and co-chair of the Academic Medicine Caucus, I am firmly dedicated to promoting and recognizing the important role that medical schools, teaching hospitals and faculty physicians play to improve the health of people everywhere. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Morsani College of Medicine, let us not only reflect on its great past but also look ahead to a future filled with infinite potential and possibility. I will continue to support and nurture the Morsani College of Medicine as it embarks on its next chapter of excellence, innovation and service to our Tampa Bay neighbors, and the residents of Florida and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending heartfelt congratulations to the University of South Florida Health Morsani School of Medicine on this momentous occasion. May the next 50 years be marked by even greater achievements, medical advancements, and the improvement of the lives of the residents of Florida and the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TOMMIE FRYE AND HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HIS COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Tommie Frye, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan and veteran of the Vietnam War, and to mourn his passing. His dedication to his country and local community over a long and exceptional life is worthy of commendation.

Tommie served honorably as a medic in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He met his wife, Sally Frye, at church while stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. After finishing his service, he worked at Ford until his retirement.

Throughout his life, Tommie gave much of his time, energy, and resources to Parkridge Community Center in Ypsilanti. He worked tirelessly with the young people in his community as a beloved mentor, helping to keep them away from trouble and steering them towards successful futures. His unwavering support as a donor and fundraiser was also vital to Parkridge Community Center's ability to continue operating as a pillar of support for the young people of Ypsilanti.

Tommie's faith was a crucial part of him. He was a member of Mt. Olive Church of God in Christ in Ypsilanti, Michigan for his entire life. He was a pillar of the Mt. Olive community, serving as a deacon, usher, and trustee. He lived out his faith in every aspect of his life through his service, generosity, love, and compassion for everyone around him. His faith in God gave him strength in his final days as he went to claim his eternal reward.

Tommie is survived and remembered by his loving wife Sally, to whom he was married for 52 years, his four children, and his thirteen grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the life of Tommie Frye.

Tommie was an incredible representation of answering our nation's highest calling. He served his country with honor in Vietnam and afterward throughout his local community, bringing joy, enthusiasm, and love to everyone he met along the way. We mourn with his loved ones and thank them for sharing Tommie with us.

HONORING THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER-LEXINGTON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Federal Medical Center, located in Lexington, Kentucky. David Paul serves as Warden and Keith Blanke is Associate Warden. They lead a large staff of dedicated individuals.

In 1935, the United States Narcotic Farm facility opened in the countryside outside of Lexington. Known as Narco, this facility's mission was to treat people struggling with addiction, using new and often experimental treatments. It was a combination prison and hospital with a research facility. Inmates worked on the farm that was located on the grounds. They also interacted with each other through playing music, taking painting classes, and participating in social activities. When it first opened, only men who were arrested for drug-related offenses were housed there; women were admitted in 1941.

In 1967, the farm portion of the operation closed, and the name of the facility was changed to the National Institute of Mental Health, Clinical Research Center. In 1974, the facility became a Federal prison and was named The Federal Medical Center, Lexington. Today, The Federal Medical Center, Lexington celebrates 50 years of service. The Center, operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, serves around 1500 inmates, who each require medical health care.

The Federal Medical Center serves an important role in our Nation's Department of Justice. I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation to each person employed by the Federal Medical Center.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO MICHELLE LOUIS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Michelle Louis. Michelle Louis has spent the past 18 years smoothing the cancer journey for everyone who's walked through the doors of Cancer Support Community North Texas. As a clinical social worker, she joined the organization in 2006 providing comprehensive support to cancer patients free of charge. During her time working at the organization, she briefly served as Executive Director of Susan G. Komen for the Cure North Texas.

With 3 clubhouses located in Dallas, Tarrant, and Collin counties, Cancer Support

Community North Texas offers patients a sense of hope through support groups, counseling services, resources, and activities free of charge. In 2016, Mirchelle took on the role of CEO for the organization providing thoughtful, structured psychological and emotional support for patients. Five years later, she became a grateful client of the organization she's spearheaded for almost two decades after receiving a breast cancer diagnosis. Even while undergoing four rounds of one type of chemotherapy, 15 weekly treatments of another, and daily radiation for over six weeks, Mirchelle chose to focus on the positives and used what she was dealing with on a personal level to better connect with clients.

I'd like to thank Mirchelle for the incredible work she's done to support and inspire North Texas cancer patients—even through her own cancer journey.

HONORING PASO—WEST SUBURBAN ACTION PROJECT'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of P.A.S.O.—West Suburban Action Project (Proyecto de Acción de los Suburbios del Oeste), a community-based social justice organization in Chicago whose mission is to build stronger communities where residents can live dignified lives regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic or immigration status.

Since its founding in 2009, P.A.S.O. has become one of the leading immigrant rights or-

ganizations through grassroots organizing and coalition building working in collaboration with partners to create systemic, social change that leads to more equitable and just communities for people of all backgrounds.

Over the past fifteen years, P.A.S.O. has been a pillar of our community and a beacon of hope for so many. From supporting immigrants and refugees training them to defend their rights, to providing health education to seniors and parents, to championing workers rights, and providing free educational opportunities in Spanish, P.A.S.O. supports communities in the quest for change.

I am honored to commemorate P.A.S.O. on their 15th Anniversary. Congratulations (¡Felicidades!).