

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE 100-YEAR
ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED
STATES BORDER PATROL

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the United States Border Patrol and to honor Border Patrol agents both past and present. Established in 1924, U.S. Border Patrol has worked diligently over the last century to protect our Nation from harms such as terrorism, illegal weapons, and drug trafficking, while facilitating lawful international travel and trade.

I specifically want to acknowledge the hard work and sacrifice of the dedicated Border Patrol agents serving at the United States Customs and Border Protection Buffalo Sector. Border security is paramount to national security, and while the Southern Border garners national headlines every day, at the Northern border, illegal crossings are also up, over one hundred and fourteen percent compared to last year. Every day, these servicemembers keep us and our Canadian neighbors safe, while fighting against the illegal trafficking of people and drugs, including fentanyl.

On Tuesday, May 28, 2024, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Buffalo Sector hosted a celebration of this historic anniversary, in memory of all those who have protected our Nation, and in appreciation of those who do so now. Western New York and the Southern Tier are home to many active and retired Border Patrol officers. I am incredibly proud of this culture of service that has been longstanding in our community. I am deeply grateful to the Buffalo Sector for their invaluable commitment to securing our Northern Border against threats from abroad.

The contributions of the United States Border Patrol to our Nation's security are highly commendable, and it is my honor to recognize their bravery. On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I ask this legislative body to join me in commending these Border Patrol agents—past and present—for their service.

CONGRATULATING TIM WEBB ON
BEING NAMED NEW BALTI-
MORE'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions and unwavering dedication of Mr. Tim Webb, who has been selected as Citizen of the Year in the City of New Baltimore, a community I am

proud to represent. It is an honor to highlight the remarkable commitment and service of this true community leader.

For over twenty-five years, Tim Webb has called New Baltimore his home. In those years, he has grown to embody community service to so many. His active involvement in various local organizations, including the New Baltimore Civic Club, Goodfellows, and Bay-Rama, all serve to reflect his steadfast commitment to the betterment of his community. Additionally, his dedicated service to the city's Parks & Recreation Commission, his volunteer work for the Salvation Army, and his invaluable contributions to the annual Anchor Bay Country Fest exemplify his selflessness and dedication to fostering a vibrant community.

As 2nd Vice President of the New Baltimore Lions Club, Tim Webb has demonstrated exceptional leadership to the organization's mission. His tireless efforts were recognized with the prestigious Lions Club Melvin Jones Award in 2022, a testament to his steady commitment to serving others and improving the quality of life in New Baltimore.

Tim Webb has earned the admiration and respect of his fellow citizens through his genuine compassion, hard work, and determined dedication to New Baltimore. In the words of his daughter, Melissa Webb, "My dad's constant volunteerism has undoubtedly made a positive impact on the city. His dedication continues to contribute to the quality of New Baltimore and the well-being of its residents."

Tim Webb's commitment to enhancing the community's vitality and advocating for its small businesses, restaurants, and organizations have—without a doubt—made him a beloved and respected figure in New Baltimore.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tim Webb on being named New Baltimore's Citizen of the Year. His exceptional record of service, leadership, and devotion to his community should serve as an inspiration to all of us. I am proud to join his family, friends, and the New Baltimore community in congratulating him on this tremendous honor.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CHIEF
MARCUS JONES

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise before you to honor the remarkable tenure of Montgomery County Department of Police Chief, Marcus Jones and celebrate his well-earned retirement. For nearly four decades, Chief Jones has dedicated his career to enhancing public safety and fostering positive relationships within our community.

Appointed as Chief in November of 2019, Chief Jones has demonstrated unwavering commitment and leadership. He began his career with the Department in September of

1985, working his way up the ranks, including serving as the Assistant Chief of the Investigative Services Bureau, Commander of the 3rd District, Director of Major Crimes, and Drug Enforcement Commander.

Chief Jones has been instrumental in implementing innovative policing strategies and ensuring the safety and security of Montgomery County residents. His efforts have been recognized by his induction into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame in 2020. As a member of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, the Maryland Chiefs Association, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), and the International Association Chiefs of Police (IACP), Chief Jones' decades-long effort to improve the lives of his officers and the Marylanders they have sworn to protect is appreciated by countless members of his community.

It is a privilege to acknowledge Chief Marcus Jones' service and dedication as he embarks on his next chapter. His legacy will inspire future leaders and continue to benefit the Montgomery County community for years to come.

RECOGNIZING BOYZ II MEN

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of 90s R&B Vocal icons Boyz II Men, who will be performing at the Historic Madam Walker Legacy Theater in Indianapolis and inducted into the Madam Walker Legacy Center's Walk of Fame.

Boyz II Men was founded in 1988 as a quintet but rose to fame as a quartet and then an iconic trio. The group grew into the spotlight in the 90s with hits like "Motownphilly," "A Song for Mama," and the fan favorite, "I'll Make Love to You."

Boyz II Men has been captivating audiences worldwide for over three decades. With the voices of Nathan Morris, Wanya Morris, and Shawn Stockman, the group is one of the most successful groups in music history, with over 60 million albums sold. Their career and impact on our culture has been nothing short of extraordinary.

Indianapolis is thrilled to have Boyz II Men join us at the Legacy Fest, an event benefiting the Madam Walker Legacy Center. This signature fundraiser provides support for the organization's year-round STEAM, entrepreneurship, women's equity, social justice, and arts programming.

Today, we celebrate Boyz II Men for their long-lasting career and enduring talent. Thirty years later, their impact is just as strong, with fans across generations and continents. I am honored to help recognize Boyz II Men and cement their legacy into the Madam Walker Legacy Center Walk of Fame.

• 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.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MS. MARY HIGHFILL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Mary Highfill, a "Rosie" whose critical contributions to the World War II Home Front helped empower American women and advance gender equity in the workforce. Ms. Highfill, who passed away at the age of 100, leaves behind an indelible legacy of service to our country and Contra Costa County.

Born in San Francisco and raised in Point Richmond, California, Ms. Highfill's commitment to her community inspired her to enter the workforce at a young age. During World War II, she joined her fellow Rosies in answering the call to serve and help meet the unprecedented demand for war materials and support services. During the war, she worked at Standard Oil Company as a stillman, where she helped prepare crude oil to be shipped for use at home and abroad. When our country needed courageous women to fill the roles historically held by men, Ms. Highfill's selflessness and bravery led her to step up and sacrifice her personal comfort for the sake of our country.

Ms. Highfill's passion for service expanded beyond her essential contributions to the World War II Home Front. She also served as President of the Washington School Parent Teacher Association and as a member of the Richmond Galileo Club Women's Auxiliary. In addition, Ms. Highfill served as Secretary of the Historical Association and participated in countless Rosie the Riveter events to honor and celebrate the legacy of the millions of women who selflessly supported the wartime effort during World War II.

Rosies like Ms. Highfill are a testament to women's empowerment and an inspiration to future generations of women and girls. Ms. Highfill will be remembered not only for her service to our country in its time of need, but also for her vital part in building a stronger, more equitable America. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Ms. Highfill's loved ones. I know they and the people of Contra Costa County join me in celebrating her life and legacy.

HONORING MS. CURLENE
JENNINGS BENNETT

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD the following Proclamation honoring Ms. Curlene Jennings Bennett:

Whereas Staten Island Sea View Hospital opened in 1913 specifically to treat patients with Tuberculosis and, at its peak, Sea View Hospital saw nearly 2,000 patients and was one of only four municipal hospitals in New York City that did not discriminate against Black nurses;

Whereas Curlene Jennings Bennett arrived to work at Staten Island Sea View Hospital in

1957 as a registered nurse and worked in the adult pavilions of the hospital;

Whereas Curlene Jennings Bennett received her training at Bellevue School of Nursing;

Whereas the Black Angels were courageous, dedicated, and bold in answering the call to come to Sea View and risk their lives caring for the grievously sick and "indigent consumptives" of New York City, who had been banished to this woefully understaffed sanatorium;

Whereas The Black Angels' years of expertise played a significant role in the first ever human trials of isoniazid, the first drug to cure tuberculosis. Since its discovery in 1952, tens of millions of lives have been saved;

Whereas the Black Angels were activists and active members of the NAACP, neighborhood churches, and community groups, and became founding members of the Lincoln Hospital Alumni Association, the Urban League Guild, and the Women's Civic and Political Union. They were fierce advocates for the integration of Black nurses into the U.S. military and American Nurses Association, and in New York City they worked toward desegregating the hospital system;

Whereas following her tenure at Sea View Hospital, Curlene Jennings Bennett went to Africa where she lived for four years and helped to establish well-baby clinics and teach nutrition. Upon her return to the United States, she continued to serve her community as a public health and school nurse; and

Whereas the people of Staten Island are grateful for the years of service by Curlene Jennings Bennett and all the Black Angels who selflessly served on the front lines at Sea View Hospital to treat tuberculosis patients.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
LEGACY OF AUSTIN MURPHY

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of former U.S. Representative, Austin "AJ" Murphy, Jr., who passed away at the age of 96 on April 13, 2024.

Congressman Murphy was a native of Monongahela, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Charleroi High School in 1945. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Duquesne University in 1949 and received a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1952.

Throughout his life, the congressman demonstrated a strong commitment to the people of southwestern Pennsylvania. He served our nation as a corporal in the United States Marine Corps during World War II and later continued serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve from 1948 to 1951.

After returning from World War II, Congressman Murphy still felt called to give back to his community. He served as a member of the Speers Borough Council and an assistant district attorney for Washington County, Pennsylvania. In 1958, he won a seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where he served for 12 years. He was later elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate and assumed that office in 1971.

Following his tenure in Harrisburg, Congressman Murphy ascended to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1976 and tirelessly fought for our community until his retirement in 1995. He spent his time in the House working on social security, education, and labor issues. He chaired the Subcommittee on Labor Standards and sponsored the Fair Labor Standards Amendments of 1989, which was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on November 17, 1989.

In addition to his political career, the congressman also volunteered as a Boy Scout Troop Leader and participated in many civic organizations. He was a lifelong member of the American Legion with 78 years of continuous service and was commander of Post 51 in Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Congressman Murphy cherished his loved ones, and his memory will live on through his seven children, 16 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and his sister. His life will undoubtedly serve as an example of love, devotion to one's family, and selfless service.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman Murphy dedicated his life to the people of southwestern Pennsylvania. His legacy is the epitome of a life well-lived. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I wish his family healing during this difficult time.

HONORING REVOLUTIONARY WAR
VETERAN SARGEANT DAVID
DEPUE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Revolutionary War Veteran Sargeant David Depue on the occasion of the laying of a plaque in his honor at Highland Cemetery located in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Freedom is not free, and today we pause to remember a man who served his country with honor during the Revolutionary War. His service to our Nation at the time of its birth is worthy of commendation.

Born in Sussex, New Jersey in October of 1750, Sargeant Depue first enlisted in the Continental Army as a Private in 1776. He was soon promoted to the rank of Sargeant in 1777, the position in which he served for the remainder of the war, including the battles of Germantown and Beaver Creek. Following his military service, Sargeant Depue moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan not long after its founding in the early 1800s. He died in Ypsilanti, Michigan on July 4, 1843, at the age of 92.

Sargeant Depue is remembered for his honorable military service and dedication to our Nation. He is just one of the few native and adopted Michiganders who fought for our country during the revolution. It is important for us to honor the veterans of our community who fought for the freedom of our Nation, a value we continue to hold dear today. We are thankful for the path these soldiers laid out for past, present, and future Americans over two centuries ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the honorable Sargeant David Depue as he is memorialized in Ypsilanti, Michigan. We join with Americans everywhere in extending our thanks to the Huron

Valley Chapter of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Ypsilanti Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Sarah Caswell Angell Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution for their work dedication to honoring Sargeant Depue in the run up to our Nation's 250th anniversary. Today and every day, we honor the brave patriots we lost in the fight for our independence. We are grateful for their military service and their willingness to fight for the freedom and liberty that we enjoy today.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY
LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR.
THEODORE CHESTER DIXIE, SR.

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of a beloved educator, veteran, and community leader, Dr. Theodore Chester Dixie, Sr., who passed away on June 3, 2024, at the age of 82.

Dr. Dixie was born on August 31, 1941, to the late Mary B. and Howard Edward Dixie, Sr. in Uniontown, Alabama. He attended Robert C. Hatch High School, where he made a name for himself as a member of the state championship-winning basketball team. Upon graduation, he attended Tuskegee University and was commissioned into the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant.

During this period, Dr. Dixie met and married his life partner, the former Bettye Jeams Williams. As a student at Tuskegee University, Dr. Dixie courted Bettye with meals from the cafeteria where he worked. Their union produced two sons, Theodore Chester Dixie, Jr. and Timothy Carl Dixie (deceased).

While serving in the military, Dr. Dixie earned his master's degree from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University. Following his discharge from the Army, he continued his educational journey at Pennsylvania State University, earning his Doctor of Philosophy.

Dr. Dixie began his career in higher education at his alma mater, Alabama A&M University, as a professor and the Assistant Director of the Teacher Corps where he spearheaded the University's distant and remote learning initiatives.

A passionate educator and trailblazer, Dr. Dixie poured into the students of Alabama A&M. He empowered his students to take hold of their futures through education and personal development. As an educator and retired Department Chairman, Dr. Dixie was known for his consideration of his students and his proud mentorship of countless individuals. Even after his departure from Alabama A&M and his subsequent transition to the Tennessee Valley Authority and U.S. Army Civilian Personnel Office, Dr. Dixie maintained a lifelong commitment to mentorship and improving his community.

Having accepted Christ into his life at a young age, Dr. Dixie was a faithful member of Rock Chapel African Methodist-Episcopal Church in Uniontown. A dedicated servant of God, he always led by example and encouraged the members of his community and congregation to live up to their full potential in

Christ. In this pursuit, he served as a Trustee at Rock Chapel A.M.E. Church for its rebuilding in 1968, chaired the construction committee for the Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Alabama, where he was a devoted lifelong member serving as a Sunday School teacher, and was a member of the Usher Board and the Presbyterian Men. Under Dr. Dixie's leadership, the Fellowship Presbyterian Church received an "Earthcare Ministry" certification, making it the only congregation to hold the title in the North Alabama Presbytery.

Dr. Dixie is preceded in death by his parents, Mary B. and Howard Edward Dixie, Sr.; and his son, Timothy Carl Dixie. He is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Bettye Williams Dixie; his son, Theodore Chester, Jr. (Sabrina); his daughter, Natalie Theodora; his grandchildren, Kayla Nord and Keegan Dixie; his great-grandchild, Jonkel; his siblings, Luvern McDonald (Melvyn) and Jean (Nathaniel); and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

On a personal note, Dr. Dixie was a pillar of the Huntsville community, a beloved educator and veteran who loved his family and was committed to his faith. His life was a testament to the power of education, service to community and love of country. I will forever be grateful for his love and support and for the kindness that he always showed me and my family. May we find comfort in knowing that he lived a full and blessed life, and that his legacy will live on in the lives he touched.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the exceptional life and legacy of Dr. Theodore Chester Dixie, Sr., and his lasting contributions to the City of Huntsville, the State of Alabama, and our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 269, I mistakenly voted YES when I intended to vote NO.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. DUNN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 275, I mistakenly voted NO when I intended to vote AYE.

PROMOTING A RESOLUTION TO
THE TIBET-CHINA DISPUTE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in favor of the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act.

Sixty-five years ago, in the Tibetan Uprising of 1959, thousands of courageous Tibetans risked their lives for their freedoms as they took a stand against Chinese occupation. When the People's Liberation Army security forces tightened their hold on Lhasa in response to the uprising, a young Dalai Lama was forced to flee his country—and he has lived in exile ever since.

The leadership of His Holiness the Dalai Lama serves as a symbol of the bravery and resilience of the Tibetan people—and his story challenges the conscience of all freedom-loving people. It was my privilege to lead Congressional delegations to visit the His Holiness in Dharamsala in 2008, and 2017. On those trips, we saw firsthand the aspirations of the Tibetan people—especially in the eyes of the children who had only known relentless intimidation by the Chinese Communist Party.

In the decades since the uprising, Beijing has only accelerated its aggression against Tibetans. The world has witnessed unconscionable and intolerable actions of the Chinese Communist Party against the Tibetan people: mandatory political education, restrictions on religious freedom, a mass surveillance regime, and further closing off Tibet from the world. Yet despite their oppression, the children of Tibet still yearn for a future where they can speak their language, practice their faith and celebrate their culture without fear.

The United States of America has a clarion moral duty to stand up for Tibet and speak out against Beijing's abuses. In the Congress, there has long been strong, bipartisan, bicameral support for the Tibetan people. We were proud to enact the Tibet Policy Act in 2019: promoting Tibetans' religious, linguistic and cultural identity, and including the right to select their own religious leaders in accordance with their own belief system.

It has been my privilege to help shape this bill—including through our annual Tibet Strategy Meetings when I was Speaker and in further sessions convened in my office in recent months. Alongside Ranking Member MCGOVERN and fearless Tibetan advocates, we workshopped the bill language to strengthen American efforts for a diplomatic solution to Tibet's status, from establishing a statutory definition of Tibet, to further empowering the U.S. Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues to combat disinformation.

It was with great pride that I voted for this bill's passage in the House in February—and I am proud to support this bill's passage again today. I urge a strong 'aye' vote today to reaffirm Congress's bipartisan and unbreakable support for human rights in Tibet and thank Chairman MCCAUL and Ranking Member MEEKS for their leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF A
GREAT NATIVE SON AND THE
OUTSTANDING LIFE OF THE
LATE D'JUAN MIGUEL HER-
NANDEZ, ESQ.

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of D'Juan Miguel Hernandez, born in Franklin, Louisiana

to parents Dr. Don J. Hernandez and Mrs. Elnora Polidore Hernandez, on October 24, 1966. He peacefully departed this world on May 29, 2024, at the tender age of 57 in New Orleans, Louisiana. A proud graduate Saint Augustine High School and Xavier University of Louisiana where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and English, two key Catholic Institutions located in my Congressional District. D'Juan ultimately pursued a career in law attending Thurgood Marshall School of Law and continuing at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, where he received his Juris Doctorate. He became a member of the State Bar of Louisiana and went on to establish the Hernandez Law Group and Business Advisors.

D'Juan Miguel Hernandez was a remarkable man, an influential leader, father, son, and my dear friend. He will forever be remembered from his career practicing law and mentoring small business owners, to the joy he spread throughout Algiers, Louisiana, the community I grew up in. In 1990, D'Juan was my very first campaign manager during my election as the first African American to the Louisiana House of Representatives from the 102nd District of Algiers. Growing up as a kid in Franklin Louisiana, his spiritual journey began at St. Jules Catholic Church, and his faith remained steadfast throughout his life, a guiding light that illuminated his path even in times of darkness. D'Juan remained a man of unwavering faith, boundless entrepreneurial spirit, and deep devotion to his family, D'Juan's testament to the values instilled in him from his Catholic upbringing.

D'Juan's educational journey was marked by his passion for music and academia. From his early years at Dwight Eisenhower Elementary where, as a kindergartner, he was introduced to the violin and the cello, his musical appetite broadened. While at Franklin Junior High School under Ronald Bernard, he developed an interest in the trombone. It became his major instrument at St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, where he became a proud Purple Knight and member of the St. Augustine Marching 100 under the late Mr. Edward Harrell Hampton, founding band director, serving over five decades. His musical escapade led to a foray into the jazz idiom, and he became a member of the St. Augustine Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Carl Blouin, Sr., founder of the jazz orchestra in the 1960s. In his senior year at St. Augustine, he earned a seat in the Louisiana All State Jazz Band and recorded with the group.

It was D'Juan's entrepreneurial spirit that surfaced as his true passion. Well into his career, he enrolled and became an MBA graduate of Tulane University, A.B. Freeman School of Business, where he embarked on numerous ventures, including LA Waters, a bottled delivery company; and the non-profit "Raphael Village" of New Orleans. He was an ardent supporter of the Algiers Community Development Association and the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute (NORLI).

D'Juan believed in the power of ideas, and the need for creating opportunities, especially as Faculty Lead and Business Advisor for Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses. He was also engaged in several business startups in Southwest Louisiana, all a testament to his entrepreneurial spirit and commitment. Through all his work, D'Juan leaves an enduring legacy of innovation and community empowerment.

Amidst his professional endeavors, D'Juan's greatest joy was his family. He cherished moments spent traveling with loved ones and relished as "Poppi D" to his granddaughter, Madisyn Gianna Hernandez.

D'Juan was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Coleman and Alice Polidore and paternal grandparents James and Hazel Hernandez, his uncles, Jon R. Hernandez and Coleman Polidore, Jr., his aunts, Hazel Widow, Emily Alexander, Queenie Polidore, and Alice Marie Broussard.

He is lovingly remembered by his parents, his uncle Renaldo Hernandez, his children Katelyn Hernandez, Jessica Hernandez, and Christopher Hernandez, his sisters Jualea Hernandez and Jalcia Parker, former wife Tara Carter Hernandez, his nephews Bradford and Silas Parker, his special brother David McClean, his business partners, and a host of other friends and family.

As we bid farewell to D'Juan, let us take comfort in knowing that his legacy lives on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him. D'Juan made an impact on our community that will never be forgotten, he will be greatly missed. I am proud to have spent immeasurable time, developed strategies and grew up with him, treasuring his father as a mentor, and always fascinated by D'Juan's accomplishments. I am honored to document the incredible life of D'Juan Miguel Hernandez, a life too short, though incredibly well-lived. May he rest in eternal peace, surrounded by the love of God and the angels.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TONY GONZALES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during a series of votes on June 13, 2024, on amendments to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (H.R. 8070), I intended to vote "yes" on the Rosendale Amendment No. 52, (Roll Call No. 262), but inadvertently voted "no."

This amendment would prohibit TRICARE from covering, and the Department of Defense from furnishing, gender transition surgeries and gender hormone treatments for individuals that identify as transgender.

I strongly believe that our U.S. military should play no role in these activities.

RECOGNIZING JOHN MOORE'S RETIREMENT

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the distinguished career of John Moore, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), who will retire at the end of June after twelve years of dedicated service to the university.

Mr. Moore oversees the management and maintenance of every building, and open space, on the RIT campus and he works tire-

lessly to ensure they meet the highest standards of safety, efficiency, and sustainability.

Over his tenure, Mr. Moore managed many notable projects that aided in the steady growth and rapid expansion of RIT's campus. These projects included the construction of the 4,150 seat Gene Polissen Center, the RIT Media, Arts, Games, Interaction and Creativity (MAGIC) Center, MAGIC Spell Studios, and, most recently, the completion of the one-of-a-kind Student Hall for Exploration and Development. Mr. Moore has truly embodied the spirit of dedication to RIT's students, teachers, and community.

It is my pleasure to congratulate John Moore on his retirement and join the entire RIT community in wishing him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONTINENTAL LINEN SERVICE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Continental Linen Service (CLS) on its 125th Anniversary.

Founded in 1899, CLS originally operated as Kalamazoo Laundry Company before Ted Vander Meer purchased the company in 1966 and changed the name to what we know today. This fourth-generation family-owned business now employs over 200 team members covering six locations across Michigan.

Today, CLS serves over 7,000 customers spanning food service, hospitality, medical, and industrial accounts across the state. In 2023 alone, they processed over 24 million pounds of uniforms, linen, and other materials. Recently, they completed a \$7 million, 11,000 square foot expansion to their processing facility to improve their capacity for growth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the team at Continental Linen Service for their commitment to the community and years of dedicated service to Michigan. I wish them all the best as they continue to grow in Kalamazoo County and beyond.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND SACRIFICE OF OUR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS: CLARENCE MEMORIAL DAY DEDICATION

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life, service, and sacrifice of the brave men and women who served our great Nation. Memorial Day is a holiday of reverence: a date set for us to come together as a Nation and ensure that we remember our debt of gratitude to those brave soldiers who gave their lives defending our country and freedoms.

On May 27, 2024—this Memorial Day—thirteen names were added to the Clarence Veterans Memorial Honor Walls. I am honored to

include in the Record their names to be remembered and honored forever:

Robert C. Baker, Navy
Laverne R. Corbett, Army
Samuel J. Dale, Navy
Dean C. Decker, Navy
Raymond R. Ebersole, Navy
James B. Ebersole, Army
Russell J. Gibson, Sr., Army
Russell J. Gibson, Jr., Army
James P. Misner, Army
H. William Pollack II, Army
Angelo J. Sorci, Army
Thomas A. Sweeney, Navy
Michael. L Turpin, Marine Corps

It is now our duty to remember their sacrifice, courage, and valor as we go forward and continue to grow and build the greatest nation the world has ever seen. On behalf of the United States Congress and New York's 23rd Congressional District, I ask that this body join me in honoring these brave service members.

CONGRATULATING ALEXANDER'S DELI DINER ON BEING NAMED NEW BALTIMORE'S BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alexander's Deli Diner, a family-owned restaurant that has been selected as Business of the Year in the City of New Baltimore. I am proud to honor Robin and Milt Arvanitidis, the proud owners of Alexander's Deli Diner, whose unwavering commitment to excellence has made a lasting impact on their countless patrons and the wider community.

Since the diner opened in 2022, the Arvanitidis has been tirelessly dedicated to providing exceptional food and service. Their team is beyond deserving of the title of "Business of the Year."

From supporting first responders and military personnel to collecting food, clothing, and toys for local charities during the holiday season, the Arvanitidis family exemplifies the true spirit of compassion and generosity in their contributions to the Anchor Bay community.

Alexander's Deli Diner's selection as 2024 Business of the year is a testament to the Arvanitidis family's selfless efforts, dedication to excellence, and firm commitment to community service. As they continue to strive for excellence, I am hopeful that their success will continue to inspire others to pursue their dreams all while giving back to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Robin and Milt Arvanitidis and the entire Alexander's Deli Diner team on this well-deserved achievement.

CONGRATULATING DORCHESTER COUNTY CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH CENTER

HON. NANCY MACE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend special recognition to Thomas McNeil, Director of Dorchester County Emergency Management, Tristan Proctor, Deputy Director of Dorchester County Emergency Management, and Mario Formisano, Deputy Administrator for Public Safety for Dorchester County.

Their leadership and vision have been instrumental in addressing the challenges faced with the old facility, which was not built to withstand significant tropical storm force winds or seismic activities and lacked adequate space.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I was unable to be present for votes due to a family funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 153; YEA on Roll Call No. 154; 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. WILEY NICKEL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Thursday, June 13. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 261; NAY on Roll Call No. 262; NAY on Roll Call No. 263; NAY on Roll Call No. 264; NAY on Roll Call No. 265; NAY on Roll Call No. 266; NAY on Roll Call No. 267; NAY on Roll Call No. 268; NAY on Roll Call No. 269; NAY on Roll Call No. 270; NAY on Roll Call No. 271; NAY on Roll Call No. 272; NAY on Roll Call No. 273; NAY on Roll Call No. 274; and NAY on Roll Call No. 275.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 5, 2024, I missed Roll Call votes 243, 244, 245, 246, and 247.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 243; YEA on Roll Call No. 244; YEA on Roll Call No. 245; YEA on Roll Call No. 246; and NAY on Roll Call No. 247.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF PEORIA RADIO PERSONALITY SCOTT WHEELER

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor and congratulate Scott Wheeler on his retirement from Midwest Communications' Peoria stations after 46 years in the industry.

Scott Wheeler was hired as a radio personality and promotions director by the Top-40 radio station KZ93-FM in 1987. During his career, he worked as a director of production, promotions, programming, and operations. Wheeler also held the positions of Morning Show Host, Brand Manager, and Air Personality. In 1997, he launched Big Oldies 93.3 which received the top ratings throughout its 10-year duration.

During his time as a radio personality, Scott Wheeler has been recognized with numerous accolades for his exemplary professional performance. He was recognized as one of Radio Ink Magazine's "Top Ten Best Small Market Program Directors in America" from 1999 until 2003. Wheeler was known for his tremendous contributions to the radio community, as well as his success at CHR KZ93 and Big Oldies 93.3.

Scott Wheeler has always been committed to his work and his community. It is my privilege to congratulate him on his accomplished career as a radio personality. We have all been blessed to have Scott Wheeler on our radio. The City of Peoria is a better place because of his airtime presence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I had to return to California unexpectedly this week for a family emergency and missed votes. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on Roll Call No. 279 on final passage of H.R. 8070, and NO on Roll Call No. 260 on agreeing to H. Res. 1292.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE OF BALRAM "B" BHEODARI

HON. NIKEMA WILLIAMS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate Balram Bheodari, a constituent of Georgia's Fighting Fifth Congressional District who was instrumental to the success and growth of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

Known to everyone in Atlanta as "B," he brought the sense of duty forged during his time as an Army aviator to his 22 years of service to the airport. As General Manager for

Hartsfield-Jackson, he was pivotal in the airport's growth and its recognition as the world's busiest and most efficient airport.

Under B's leadership the airport completed numerous major capital projects, making use of transformative investments totaling billions of dollars and positioning Hartsfield-Jackson as the model of success for all large airport hubs across the nation. B oversaw pivotal projects such as the creation of the airport's fifth runway, the Consolidated Rental Car Center, the Maynard H. Jackson International Terminal—the most extensive hold baggage screening system in the country, and countless other terminal renovation projects.

B's expertise in the airport and aviation space has been invaluable as he and I worked closely to deliver future projects through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to continue to grow Atlanta's airport.

But it's not just the billions of dollars he helped deliver to the airport that made B a great General Manager, it was B's leadership and the ability to reinforce his mission and vision to over 63,000 employees at Hartsfield-Jackson and the 400,000 jobs supported by the airport. His mission was to bring all those directly or indirectly employed to see themselves as one team, delivering excellence while connecting our community to the world. During unprecedented times like the COVID-19 pandemic, B's leadership and management were critical. He weathered the operational and commercial challenges that came with the pandemic through close coordination with airline partners and his team. B understood what made Hartsfield-Jackson the busiest and most efficient airport in the world was a commitment to an excellent customer experience. He delivered on that even through the challenges of a global pandemic.

His philosophy centered around three P's: "People, Purpose, and Performance." B's philosophy helped make Hartsfield-Jackson the largest employer in the state of Georgia and contributed to a regional economic impact of 66 billion dollars. Numbers can't tell the whole story of B's impact, and for the past two years, Hartsfield-Jackson has been awarded the ACI-Airport Service Quality award for the Best Airport in the world for arrivals.

Today, I honor and celebrate B's service, commitment and contribution to the Fighting Fifth, and while I will miss our conversations and his physical presence in the airport, I want it to be known in the halls of Congress that our success in the district was made possible by my friend and Co-Conspirator for Justice, Balram "B" Bheodari. Please join me in recognizing B's outstanding career in service to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Georgia's Fighting Fifth Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING A DEDICATED
PUBLIC SERVANT: DAVID LECIK

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of David Lecik. After 37 years of dedicated service in state government, 12 of which were spent working with the Illinois Department on

Aging's Senior Health Insurance Program, Mr. Lecik will be retiring as Education Specialist and technical expert on Medicare and Medicaid, and he will be missed by many.

Mr. Lecik served in the U.S. Air Force for 12 years while married to his wife Sheila and raising three children, Stephen, Dan, and Rosemary. His armed forces career started as a dental assistant, and he later retrained in computer operations. He was stationed in Maryland, Southern Illinois, and Athens, Greece and rose to the rank of Master Sergeant.

After the Air Force, Mr. Lecik worked for Victor J. Andrew High School in Tinley Park while earning a bachelor's degree in psychology at Governors State University. In 1997 he was hired by the State of Illinois at the Department of Human Services (DHS) and worked as a Human Service Caseworker and Staff Development Specialist. The work at DHS laid the foundation for his incredible ability to teach advocates and counselors on Medicare and the many benefits that are offered to Illinois citizens.

Mr. Lecik joined The Senior Health Insurance Program-SHIP in 2012 and mastered the Medicare program. David's dedication to serving older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers across the State of Illinois is remarkable. His passion to ensure access to quality healthcare for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries has been at the forefront of his career. He shared his knowledge and talents with the 1,000 SHIP counselors who work with both Medicare and Medicaid programs to assist eligible beneficiaries with lifesaving programs and benefits. He re-wrote the training manual for SHIP and restructured charts and desk aids that summarized difficult subjects for optimal understanding.

His ability to explain the medical programs for seniors and the technical support he has given to hundreds of SHIP counselors is exceptional as he has championed high quality education and advocacy within in the SHIP program. Mr. Lecik has not only supported Medicare recipients by providing counseling to ensure they retain and navigate their health care benefits but has also been a pillar of support for Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors and professionals throughout the State by helping them navigate the complex Medicare and Medicaid systems. He has provided countless older adults and professionals with the information needed to make informed decisions about their benefits and championed for the most vulnerable and limited income beneficiaries to ensure they have quality health coverage.

Mr. Lecik has presented to numerous audiences such as retirement groups (City of Chicago, Cook County Courts system, and AFSCME), case managers, caseworkers, and advocates from every area of the state. During his career at SHIP and has attended and spoken at national conferences, the Age + Action conference, and has worked with legislators to bring Medicare/Medicaid education to beneficiaries in many local areas of the state. He has worked closely with Social Security outreach staff, liaisons with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the state agency—Healthcare and Family Services. Dave is known throughout the country for his knowledge and expertise with SHIP. He never steers away from a challenge, and he sticks with an issue until it is solved to a successful end.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I thank David Lecik for all the work he has done for the citizens of Illinois. We are so grateful for his invaluable service and wish him the best of everything in his future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PAUL
MOLLOY AND THE LIVES HE
TOUCHED THROUGH OXFORD
HOUSE

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of an extraordinary Marylander, John "Paul" Molloy, who we lost two years ago this week. Paul was a public servant and a former Capitol Hill staffer with a storied career in both the House and Senate, having helped craft and pass such landmark laws as the National Rail Passenger Act of 1970 establishing AMTRAK, the Resource Recovery and Conservation Act of 1976, the nation's bedrock law governing the safe disposal of solid and hazardous waste. He was always committed to bipartisanship and insisted on celebrating the passage of every bipartisan law with the teams—Democrats and Republicans alike—who made them happen. Even in the midst of all these professional achievements, all was not as it seemed. In 1975, Paul found himself living on the streets, divorced and alone because of his stubborn battle with alcoholism.

Fortunately, Paul was able to seek help and begin the long road to recovery. He checked himself into a Montgomery County-run halfway house in Silver Spring. This started a new chapter in his life that would in turn come to touch the lives of so many others in similar situations.

When the County-run halfway house closed, Paul joined with his fellow residents to take over the house's management. They all agreed: they would split the rent and utilities equally; they would all contribute to the cooking and cleaning together; and they would accompany one another to treatment. If anyone relapsed, they would have to leave to protect the health of their fellow residents. They called this new sober-supportive living environment "Oxford House," and began a new addiction recovery model that would spread across the country and the world. Today, there are over 3,300 Oxford Houses helping people maintain their sobriety in a supportive environment.

The reason the first Oxford House wasn't the only Oxford House is simple—one of its cofounders was a congressional staffer. Paul had the knowledge, experience and contacts that proved instrumental in passing provisions in the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 that created a revolving loan fund for supportive sobriety models like Oxford House. This fund was instrumental in establishing the network of recovery residences that has spread across the country.

From the 1980s until the end of his life, Paul found renewed purpose as the Director of Oxford House, overseeing its resident-driven expansion into new neighborhoods and new states. Even as Paul carefully stewarded the expansion of new Oxford Houses, he was

careful to maintain the organizational commitment to democratic self-governance within each house, which has empowered generations of Oxford House residents to navigate the inevitable obstacles of life with persistence and patience.

After his recovery, Paul and his wife, Jane, decided to remarry, and enjoyed another 34 years together. When he passed away two years ago, Paul left behind not only his beloved Jane but his five children and eight grandchildren. He is sorely missed, but his legacy of good humor and incomparable compassion lives on among his family and Oxford House family. I join the people of Maryland's beautiful Eighth District and people across the United States in expressing the warmest gratitude for Paul's work as we celebrate his life.

COMMEMORATING THE 83RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN AND THEIR HEROISM

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and honor the Tuskegee Airmen as we celebrate their 83rd anniversary. As the United States fought to defend freedom with our allies in World War II, exceptional pilots in the fight for air superiority made the difference between victory and defeat.

The Tuskegee Airmen stand out in history, as they not only had to carry the immeasurable weight of battle, but also had to fight racial discrimination.

Prior to the Tuskegee Airmen's incorporation in 1941, the military was segregated, and the Army Air Forces did not accept African American pilots. In the face of this discrimination, these brave men stood up when their country and the world needed them most. They flew with skill and courage on critical missions, demonstrating that excellence knows no color, and that discrimination had no place in our military. The Tuskegee Airmen were among the most talented and decorated squadrons of World War II, earning 3 Presidential Unit Citations, 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 1 Legion of Merit, 1 Silver Star, 2 Soldier Medals, 8 Purple Hearts, 14 bronze stars, 744 air medals, and 1 Red Star of Yugoslavia. Their heroism, bravery, and remarkable achievements contributed directly to the desegregation of the United States Military.

On Saturday, May 25, 2024, veterans, officials, airmen, and their decedents gathered at Wings of Eagles Discovery Center to remember these amazing heroes and commemorate their significance nationally and their deep local ties to our community here in the Finger Lakes, Southern Tier, and Western New York. Their story will forever serve as a symbol of courage in the face of adversity.

On Memorial Day and every day, we thank the men and women in uniform who have sacrificed so much so that we may live free. We owe them a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid, both for defending our Nation's freedoms and advancing them for generations to come.

COMMEMORATING THE ST. CLAIR ROTARY CLUB'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Clair Rotary Club and the occasion of their 100th anniversary. Since its founding on April 22, 1924, the St. Clair Rotary Club has served as an emblematic example of the Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self."

Throughout the last century, the St. Clair Rotary Club has focused on a lot of community projects benefitting the St. Clair community. Notably, during the 1930s, the club began a student assistance program, helping high school graduates work towards higher education. In 1964, the club started the "Preparation for Employment" program with St. Clair High School and soon after in 1965, the "Seminars for Tomorrows Leaders" which continues to this day.

The club has managed to preserve their accomplishments and history at the St. Clair Historical Museum, dating back to its founding in 1924. Their team has a remarkable devotion not only to the improvement of the St. Clair Community, but the preservation of the club's rich history. More recently, the club has also notably raised over \$150,000 for the St. Clair Little League Park, donated 32 Chromebooks to the St. Clair High School, and led efforts for community spaces throughout St. Clair. As the club celebrates its centennial, it continues to make a difference through projects like the Storybook Walk in Klecha Park and the renovation of Rotary's Wildlife Landing.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the St. Clair Rotary Club will continue to be a significant benefactor to the wider St. Clair Community for many years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the club and its members for reaching this incredible milestone.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR. ANDREA E. CHAPDELAINE

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and celebrate the remarkable tenure of Hood College President, Andrea E. Chapdelaine. For nine years, Dr. Chapdelaine has dedicated her career to the advancement of higher education, enriching the lives of students and bolstering local communities throughout her career.

Under her leadership, Hood College experienced growth in both undergraduate and graduate enrollment and improvement in student retention. Dr. Chapdelaine spearheaded the completion of the strategic plan, "Moving Together Beyond Boundaries," which introduced new academic programs, expanded strategic partnerships, and enhanced employee compensation.

She oversaw nearly \$100 million in campus investments, including major renovations and

new construction, led the successful "Forging the Future" campaign, and raised nearly \$75 million for scholarships, experiential learning, and the Hood Fund. Her tenure also saw the receipt of a historic \$54 million gift from The Hodson Trust, marking the largest donation in Hood College's history.

It is a privilege to acknowledge Dr. Andrea E. Chapdelaine's service and support for higher education. Her legacy will undoubtedly inspire future leaders and continue to benefit Hood College students and the broader community for years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION FOR EID DAY ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce the bipartisan Eid Day Act, which would create a federal holiday for Eid. I thank Rep. GRACE MENG and my other House colleagues that joined me to support this bill. Eid al-Adha is an Islamic holiday which commemorates Abraham's symbolic sacrifice of his son to God, as referenced in the Quran, Old Testament, and New Testament. Eid al-Adha also marks the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, called Hajj. Eid al-Fitr is an Islamic holiday which commemorates the sighting of the new moon, signifying a month-long end to fasting and reflection for all Muslim followers.

Eid is a holiday of great importance to over 3.5 million American Muslims. Whether it be in the military, government, health, business or other leadership positions, Muslim Americans have always contributed to our country. Eid is a meaningful occasion for the Muslim community to reflect and celebrate on the importance of faith, sacrifice, freedom, and justice—the same values that all Americans hold dear. This year, Eid al-Adha will be celebrated on June 16th. We must continually strive to create a more inclusive nation and honor the diverse tapestry that makes up this country. Muslim Americans have meaningfully contributed to the American society since the nation's early history. They cherish American values, take pride in the country's pluralism, multiculturalism, and its embodiment as the land of liberty and opportunity.

Recognizing Eid as a Federal Holiday will allow them to not only freely practice their faith, but also help them feel more at home and connect better with America's spirit as a religious minority. This bill is particularly timely given the alienation that parts of the Muslim American community feel after years of anti-Muslim sentiments as well as recent developments in the Middle-East. As Members of Congress, we need to uphold the values that our nation was founded on, including freedom of religion and equality for all.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing and uplifting this important cultural and historical celebration by making Eid a federal holiday.

HONORING THE CRITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF COLONEL CARLOS BERDECIA

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Carlos 'Slinger' Berdecia of the United States Air Force upon his retirement from the U.S. Military after more than 23 years of service.

Colonel Berdecia was born and raised in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, and graduated from the University of North Carolina with a Bachelor of Science in marketing. He also holds a Master of Business Administration from the City University of Seattle. Colonel Berdecia began his flying career in 2003 at Joint Base Lewis McChord in Washington State, flying the C-17A Globemaster III with the 8th and 10th Airlift Squadrons. He quickly upgraded in the 'Mighty Moose' from Co-Pilot to Instructor Pilot in just four years, flying combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. After his assignment at McChord, Colonel Berdecia taught the newest C-17A pilots in the 58th Airlift Squadron at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma. There, he was accepted to the United States Air Force Weapons School, where he graduated in 2009 and earned the callsign 'Slinger.'

After his time at Altus, Colonel Berdecia moved to Charleston, South Carolina, and became a member of the Special Operations Low Level community in the 16th Airlift Squadron, where he executed missions in support of the Combined Joint Chiefs of Staff. In 2014, he was selected to work as the AFRICOM J3's Executive Officer in Stuttgart, Germany, and in 2017, was chosen to return to Altus and Command his previous Squadron, the 58th Airlift Squadron 'Rat Pack.' Due the trust and confidence his leadership had in his ability to lead, Colonel Berdecia was selected as a Secretary of Defense Executive Fellow with Team Rubicon in Los Angeles, California. After his time in Los Angeles, Slinger was assigned to the Pentagon, and after a tour on staff with the Joint Staff, he was brought back to the C-17A. His final assignment in the Air Force was that of the 437th Operations Group Commander at Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, leading the men and women of Air Mobility Command's Premier Operations Group.

Colonel Berdecia's exemplary service to the United States Air Force spans more than 23 years and 5,000 hours in airlift aircraft. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my Congressional col-

leagues and a grateful country, I extend our deepest appreciation to Colonel Carlos 'Slinger' Berdecia and his wife Eva for their dedicated service to the United States Air Force and our country.

HONORING THE 'BLACK ANGELS' OF STATEN ISLAND

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD the following Proclamation honoring the Black Angels of Staten Island:

Whereas Staten Island Sea View Hospital opened in 1913 specifically to treat patients with Tuberculosis and, at its peak, Sea View Hospital saw nearly 2,000 patients and was one of only four municipal hospitals in New York City that did not discriminate against Black nurses;

Whereas the Black Angels, as they are known, were courageous, dedicated, and bold in answering the call to come to Sea View and risk their lives caring for the grievously sick and "indigent consumptives" of New York City, who had been banished to this woefully understaffed sanatorium;

Whereas the Black Angels' caring demeanor, and years of expertise played a significant role in the first ever human trials of Isoniazid, the first drug to cure tuberculosis. Since its discovery in 1952, tens of millions of lives have been saved;

Whereas the Black Angels were activists and active members of the NAACP, neighborhood churches, and community groups, and became founding members of the Lincoln Hospital Alumni Association, the Urban League Guild, and the Women's Civic and Political Union. They were fierce advocates for the integration of Black nurses into the U.S. military and American Nurses Association, and in New York City they worked toward desegregating the hospital system; and

Whereas the people of Staten Island are grateful for the years of service by all the Black Angels who selflessly served on the front lines at Sea View Hospital to treat tuberculosis patients.

CELEBRATING THE ARNOLD VOLUNTEER ENGINE COMPANY NO. 2 ON 100 YEARS

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2024

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the Arnold Volunteer Engine Company No. 2 on its 100th anniversary.

The Arnold Volunteer Engine Company No. 2 held its first meeting at Arnold High School on May 12, 1924. Shortly afterward, Westmoreland County granted the company an official charter on June 14, 1924. It's 17 founding members dedicated their lives and work to the people of the Allegheny-Kiski Valley. Company No. 2 quickly became a pillar in its southwestern Pennsylvania community. The company constructed its first fire hall in 1928, which is still in use today. Additionally, the firefighters, efforts to engage with the community extended beyond protecting citizens and responding to emergencies. In 1949, they built a clubhouse for members, their families, and the community to gather and socialize. Due to continued outreach and service, they assumed the responsibility of transporting Santa Claus through Arnold, Pennsylvania, during the annual Christmas parade. This tradition continues today.

Over the past hundred years, Company No. 2 operated with professionalism, speed, and dedication. After a destructive fire took the lives of three first responders in 1995, the firefighters began training in rapid intervention tactics and protocols. Company No. 2 still provides this rapid intervention training to fire companies around the Allegheny-Kiski Valley area. The volunteer firefighters of Company No. 2 remain focused on sharing their expertise and working with other fire companies to ensure all first responders are trained and ready to respond to emergencies effectively.

There are 42 active members of the Arnold Volunteer Engine Company No. 2. Notably, five charter members of the inaugural Junior Firefighter Program are celebrating 50 years of volunteer service. I want to thank and honor James Duncan, Donald Ferrante, Joseph Puet, John Tort, Jr., and William Weber for their devotion to the people of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate Arnold Volunteer Engine Company No. 2 on its 100th anniversary and its great work serving the community.