

As a Town Councilman, a member of the Board of Adjustment, and a member of the Library Board, Joseph was known for working tirelessly to be a beacon of change for his community. Faith was central to Joseph's life and influenced everything he pursued. He was a dedicated member of Trinity United Methodist Church and an active participant in the United Methodist Men's group. His unwavering belief in the power of community and spirituality was evident in all that he did.

Our hearts go out to his wife, Patricia, and his three children—Joseph, Laurie, and Thomas—and all who knew and loved him. May his memory continue to inspire us all and live in the heart of our city.

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAY DUNLAP

#### HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2025*

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Jay Dunlap, whose work in financial services helped create hundreds of great jobs and strengthened communities across the Cornhusker State.

Born in Douglas, Nebraska, Jay completed college and then spent two years of service in the United States Navy. After leaving the military, he put his experience to work finding remarkable success in Nebraska's banking sector.

Jay was instrumental in the growth of two prominent Nebraska banks, each of which continues to carry forward his legacy of hard work, dedication, and a deep commitment to giving back to the communities they serve.

Jay's life's work was not just about banking. It was about building relationships and investing in the future of Nebraskans. He will be deeply missed, not only as a pillar of Nebraska's economic success, but also as an inspiring example of integrity and generosity.

Our hearts and prayers go out to Shirley and the entire Dunlap family as we all celebrate his life and legacy.

#### HONORING COACH BEN REAVES, JR. AND THE MILTON HIGH SCHOOL EAGLES FOOTBALL TEAM

#### HON. RICHARD McCORMICK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2025*

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true leader in our community. It is my distinct privilege to honor him and his team by sharing their achievements.

Ben Reaves, Jr. is the Head Football Coach of the Milton High School Eagles, who on December 17, 2025, beat Langston Hughes High School Panthers scoring 56–35 to clinch back-to-back State Championship titles in the highly competitive 5A Division of Georgia High School Football.

Their high-powered offense, led by starting Quarterback and Miami University bound Luke Nickel, University of Georgia commit Tight-End Ethan Barbour, and electric Running Back T.J.

Lester, steamrolled opponents over the previous two seasons. Football is in genetics. Coach Reaves inherited his passion for coaching and mentoring young athletes from his father, who was a longtime coach at Newton High School. After playing for his father in high school as a standout wide receiver, Coach Reaves played for a season at the University of Georgia before he transitioned to his true calling: coaching. After making multiple coaching stops on his journey, Coach Reaves joined Milton High School's staff as an offensive coordinator in 2017. As a member of the football coaching staff, he helped turn Milton High School into a football powerhouse building on top of the three region titles and playoff games the team has won since 1950.

In 2022, Coach Reaves took over the program from his successor, Coach Adam Clack, and has since led the Eagles to a strong 23–6 record. Coach Reaves exemplifies the tradition of football excellence in our community and is known by all as an incredible mentor, coach, father, husband, and friend. The success of the Milton High School team is a culmination of efforts, from the players to the coaches, parents, teachers, and training staff. However, there is no question about who the glue is that holds the program together and drives it toward excellence. I extend my best wishes to Coach Reaves and the entire Milton High School team going into the next season, Go Milton Eagles.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently gave birth and am unable to travel to D.C. to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 43; YEA on Roll Call No. 44; and YEA on Roll Call No. 45.

#### NEWSLETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2025*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on Hurricane Helene recovery efforts and legislation to protect U.S. communities.

Dear Friend,

The 119th Congress is well underway, and I'm excited to continue serving the people of Western North Carolina from my seats on the House Appropriations and Budget committees.

In addition to serving on the Appropriations Committee's Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee, I am honored to have been appointed to the role of vice chairman of the National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Subcommittee.

Under a unified government, the new majority has a rare opportunity to reverse America's spiraling debt and create a safer and stronger future for our Nation. I'm eager to walk with my colleagues to make real

changes that will better the lives of the American people, continue to bring federal resources to aid in WNC's recovery, and fix how Washington works.

#### THE PEOPLE OF WNC ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

It was a privilege to welcome U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy to our mountains and accompany him to see the devastation brought by Hurricane Helene as well as our efforts to clean up and rebuild.

During his time in Haywood County, we surveyed the damage at I-40 near the Tennessee line, and it was confirmed that I-40 is set to partially reopen on March with one lane available in each direction.

The people of Western North Carolina continue to be reminded that we are not forgotten, and I appreciate Secretary Duffy for his attention to helping out mountain folk rebuild.

#### FIXING A BROKEN AGENCY

It's an honor to be named by President Trump to the FEMA task force to fix how this broken agency works.

After being on the ground throughout the Hurricane Helene response, it's clear that an overhaul of FEMA is necessary to more effectively and efficiently respond to natural disasters.

I'll be lending the insights I've gained so that our Nation will be fully prepared to prevent and respond to future disasters, and to save lives.

#### PROTECTING U.S. COMMUNITIES FROM THE FENTANYL AND BORDER CRISIS

In the House, we have voted on and passed multiple bills—including the HALT Fentanyl Act and the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act—to make our communities safe again by combatting the fentanyl and border crises wrought by the previous administration's open border policies.

The temporary order designating fentanyl-related substances (FRS) as a Schedule I drug is set to expire soon. If this designation expires and is not made permanent, these substances will become street-legal, taking away law enforcement's authority to seize fentanyl and allowing drug traffickers to continue funneling deadly drugs into our country.

I voted in support of the HALT Fentanyl Act to permanently classify FRS as Schedule I drugs as defined by the Controlled Substances Act. Schedule I drugs have high potential for abuse with no accepted medical uses, and this bill would make sure that law enforcement has the resources to keep these drugs off our streets and allow for further research of FRS.

In addition to the fentanyl epidemic, many Americans have paid the price for illegal immigrants breaking our laws and engaging in high-speed chases to avoid detention. The Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act would make it a criminal offense to operate a vehicle within 100 miles of the southern border while fleeing from Border Patrol agents or any law enforcement officer assisting Border Patrol, including jail time and being prohibited from ever receiving legal status in the U.S.

#### STREAMLINING THE FEMA APPLICATION PROCESS FOR DISASTER VICTIMS

After Helene hit Western North Carolina, I saw how complicated and difficult the disaster recovery assistance applications were. Many folks had to apply to multiple agencies, including FEMA, the SBA and USDA, for disaster assistance, each of which had its own extensive applications.

That's why I introduced the Disaster Survivors Fairness Act, which would streamline FEMA's application process and improve coordination among federal agencies to more effectively aid disaster victims.