

the Collin County Reserve unit where he was employed as a Detention Officer in the Collin County Detention Facility. After moving to Anna, Texas in 1988, he would become a full-time Patrol Deputy.

During his time with the Collin County Sheriff's Office, Mike held a variety of responsibilities, including serving warrants and civil papers, working as a narcotics officer and supervisor, and working as a patrol office supervisor. He continued to serve for 17 years as a member of the SWAT team, seven years of which he served as Commander. Additionally, for an impressive twenty-six years, he worked in the Criminal Investigation Division as a Criminal Investigator.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in commending Mike Vance upon his retirement for his thirty-plus year career in law enforcement and for his dedication to ensuring the safety of Collin County and its residents.

RECOGNIZING JODIE PENROD JOLLY FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jodie Penrod Jolly of Dillon for Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for her service to her country and her support of fellow veterans in her community.

Ms. Jolly is a veteran of the United States Air Force where she served as a nurse for over thirty years. She has received multiple commendations over her time in the Air Force including the USAF National Defense Medal and the Saudi-Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Ms. Jolly had one goal when she came to Dillon: to support and help veterans in the community. She started the Beaverhead Chapter of Joining Community Forces and hosts an annual dinner to honor veterans, active duty personnel, and their family in the community. Ms. Jolly is known to be a go-to person in the community for veterans seeking assistance, connecting them with Veteran service providers. She is also active with the VFW Bill Carroll Post 9040, serving as Senior Vice-Commander.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Jodie Penrod Jolly for her dedication to and support of veterans in her community.

RECOGNIZING DON S. HAVENS

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Don S. Havens on his retirement from the office of Mayor of Tipton, Indiana. A well-respected public official for many decades, Don's career has been defined by his faithful service to his fellow citizens. Don's record of electoral victories is a testa-

ment to his ability to connect with constituents and to deliver results. Throughout his 12 years on the Tipton City Council and 8 years as Mayor, Don has led the City of Tipton into the new millennium, helping to bring new ideas to fruition by directing projects aimed at building a better community for all of Tipton's citizens.

Growing up in Tipton, Don graduated from Tipton High School in 1963, and furthered his education at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. In 1965, Don became a reporter and editor for the Kokomo Morning Times, a position he would hold until 1967. It was in 1967 that Don was called into service for the United States Army and deployed to Vietnam, where he served until 1968. His military service overseas as a Private First Class garnered Don the Vietnam Service Medal. His training and experiences in the military also helped prepare Don for the next four decades of leadership roles he held in both the public and private sectors.

After his time in the United States Army, Don reentered the workforce as a Manager with Anixter Brothers, a wire manufacturing company in Tipton. In 1975, Don started Havens Realty, where he has been at the helm for over 45 years, continuing to grow the business and further strengthen the local economy. Don became a founding member of the Tipton Economic Development Corporation, a group created to help strengthen and develop the Tipton County business community.

Ever the man on a mission, Don continued to be heavily involved in the public sphere of the Tipton community. Spending 12 years on the Tipton Utility Service Board, Don helped to lead this municipally-owned group in its effort to deliver affordable electric power, water and wastewater collection and treatment to the citizens of Tipton. Throughout his career in public office Don has been an innovative force helping to move Tipton forward, opening new economic opportunities to the citizens of the community. He spent a total of 20 years in elected office, never losing an election, including the post-Watergate election during which Don was the only Republican to win his local race. His service record over his 12 years as a member of the Tipton City Council solidified his sterling reputation as an outstanding civic leader.

Later in his career Don was elected to two consecutive 4-year terms as Mayor of Tipton, first in 2011 and then again in 2015. Taking office at a time of economic tumult for cities throughout the country, Don's experience and leadership were integral to the continued success of the local Tipton economy. While many municipalities were struggling to attract new business and limiting civic programs, the city of Tipton was able to grow the local economy and embark on bold public initiatives as a result of the tireless work of Mayor Havens. Working together with fellow city and state leaders, Mayor Havens was able to attract Chrysler FCA to move operations and massive investment to Tipton.

When Tipton was impacted by extreme flooding in April 2013, Mayor Havens and fellow city leaders worked closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to acquire grants that allowed for homes to be rebuilt and renovated for multiple Tipton residents. Furthering his pride in the city, Don was integral in the creation of the Tipton Main Street Association, a volunteer organization with a mission of helping to build a better Tipton. Recent projects have focused on the

beautification of the downtown area, with landscaping and flower planting transforming downtown Tipton into a vibrant and exciting center for public gatherings. The Alley project revamped an empty downtown alley into an engaging gathering place for the residents and visitors to come and enjoy the heart of the city.

Mayor Havens has also overseen efforts to undertake demolition projects of dilapidated properties throughout the city, as well as a \$3 million investment in parks and recreations infrastructure. Over his last 8 years in office, Mayor Havens and fellow Tipton municipal officials have led a city initiative to invest \$2.5 million into construction projects aimed at fixing and replacing the city's streets, sidewalks, and drainage infrastructure, furthering the efforts to improve the city of Tipton and better serve citizens.

For over four decades, Mayor Don Havens has consistently served the best interests of the City of Tipton, as a member of the Utility Service Board, the City Council and as Mayor. His career record in government has shown Don to be an honest, ethical, and transformative public servant who has had an immensely positive impact on the citizens of Tipton. On behalf of all Hoosiers I thank my friend, Mayor Don Havens for his decades of exemplary service to the citizens of Tipton and wish him, his wife and fellow leader in the Tipton community Tami, and his family all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

CONGRATULATING COACH BRYANT WRIGHT OF FESTUS HIGH SCHOOL FOR HIS 2019 HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Bryant Wright on being inducted into the Missouri Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Throughout his 18-year Hall of Fame career, Coach Wright's teams accomplished unbelievable success. He has led the boys cross country team to seven state championships, including the last five in a row, and the girls cross country team to two state championships. He has been a wonderful asset to the school and Festus community. I wish him many more years of success in all of his endeavors.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Coach Bryant Wright on an extraordinary career and wish him all the best in his much-deserved Hall of Fame induction.

RECOGNIZING ERIC AND DAVID GROOS AS CONSTITUENTS OF THE MONTH

**HON. MIKE LEVIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eric and David Groos,

two constituents from San Juan Capistrano, as my Constituents of the Month for April.

Each month, I recognize constituents who have gone above and beyond to help their neighbors, give back to their community, and make the country stronger. As co-founders of a non-profit that provides under-served and at-risk youth with outdoor recreational activities, there is no question that Eric and David are deserving of this recognition.

The brothers' non-profit, Great Opportunities, has served over 3000 young people in my district, mainly coming from San Juan Capistrano's geographically identified gang induction zones where kids are most at-risk of being drawn toward gang activity. Organizations like theirs play a critical role in generating opportunity in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities, and I am extremely grateful for the services they provide.

Eric and David provide kids in my district with more than just recreational activities—they are providing experiences that will help kids develop leadership and problem-solving skills, which will serve them well throughout their lives. I believe we must do more at the local, state, and federal to support organizations like theirs that provide under-served youth with the skills they need to succeed in life, and that will continue to be one of my priorities.

I am proud to recognize Eric and David as my constituents of the month for April, and I am deeply grateful for everything they do to give back to our community.

#### VAN WEZEL 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

#### HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall as it prepares to celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

An architectural landmark and a cultural treasure, the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall was built on Sarasota Bay in 1968 and 1969 and dedicated to the City of Sarasota on January 5, 1970.

Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright's son-in-law, architect William Wesley Peters and inspired by a seashell found by Wright's widow Olgivanna near the Sea of Japan, the Van Wezel is the world's only purple seashell-shaped theater.

A true pioneer in the cultural development of Sarasota, the Van Wezel has a history of presenting spectacular Broadway musicals, national and international performers, popular comedians and a compelling mix of classical productions.

Some of the stars that have visited the theatre throughout the years include Lucille Ball, Ray Charles, Bob Dylan, Van Cliburn, Liberace, Luciano Pavarotti, Josh Groban, Carol Burnett, Crosby, Stills & Nash, Hall & Oates, Tony Bennett, Dolly Parton, Jay Leno, Steve Martin and Martin Short, Ringo Starr, Renee Fleming, Vladimir Horowitz, John Legend, Sheryl Crow, Red Skelton, Count Basie and many more.

The Van Wezel's powerhouse 2019 through 2020 Broadway season features seven Sara-

sota premieres including *Come From Away*, based on the events that took place in Newfoundland on September 11, 2001 and the days after, as well as the critically-acclaimed production of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, detailing the life and career of the iconic songwriter. They are also thrilled to present returning favorites *Les Misérables* and *The Book of Mormon*.

Furthermore, the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall is implementing its 2nd National Endowment for the Arts Grant to bring arts integration to schools. This is done through Schooltime Performances, teacher training, classroom workshops, and family workshops that serve over 30,000 students, teachers, and family members each year.

The Van Wezel has a long tradition of enriching the community and supporting arts education. I appreciate this opportunity to help commemorate its 50th anniversary.

#### RECOGNIZING THOMAS STRAUGH FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON- GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM- MENDATION

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Straugh of Dillon for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service and leadership in his community.

Mr. Straugh served with the U.S. Navy for 30 years and served in Vietnam. Mr. Straugh received many commendations during his time in the Navy, including the Vietnam Service Ribbon and the National Defense Ribbon.

Mr. Straugh is a known leader in his community. He served on the city council and multiple committees to improve the community, such as the site selection committee for the Veteran Home in Butte. Mr. Straugh is active in the American Legion, serving as Commander and Vice Commander during his time. Additionally, Mr. Straugh volunteered his time driving with DAV van and logged more than 7,500 hours.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Thomas Straugh for his service to our country and his leadership in the community.

#### RECOGNIZING THE GARY CHAM- BER OF COMMERCE'S 12TH AN- NUAL LAKESHORE CLASSIC

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize the Gary Chamber of Commerce as the organization celebrates the 12th annual Lakeshore Classic basketball invitational. In observance of this special event, the Gary Chamber of Commerce will host a celebratory corporate luncheon at the Majestic Star Casino Event Center in Gary, Indiana, on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, followed by the basketball invitational at

West Side Leadership Academy on Friday, November 29, 2019, and Saturday, November 30, 2019.

The Lakeshore Classic aims to support the education and guidance of the youth of our communities to positive paths, actions, and endeavors. The Gary Chamber of Commerce has invited Mr. Kenny Lofton, an East Chicago native and retired Major League Baseball (MLB) player, to be the keynote speaker for the event. Born and raised in East Chicago, Mr. Lofton graduated from Washington High School and was an all-state basketball player. Following high school, Kenny accepted a basketball scholarship to the University of Arizona, where his unprecedented skills led his teammates and coaches to believe that he was able to play any professional sport. During Mr. Lofton's junior year, he joined the University of Arizona baseball team. Kenny's speed and potential were widely recognized by baseball scouts, and he was soon drafted in the 17th round of the 1988 MLB draft. During his outstanding major league career, he played on several different teams and was a six-time All-Star and four-time Gold Glove Award winner. Mr. Lofton was also inducted into the Cleveland Indians Hall of Fame and the Negro League Baseball Museum Hall of Fame. In addition, he is one of only two men that played in a college basketball Final Four and an MLB World Series. In 2007, Mr. Lofton retired from his seventeen-year MLB career, and for his hard work and determination, he is to be commended.

Upon retirement, Mr. Lofton created his own film company, FilmPool, Inc., a full-service production company with a mission to bring diversity to the screen. He is also a board member for the Still Got Game Foundation, a not-for-profit organization for former professional athletes and philanthropic individuals that provides charitable resources in promotion of social change in our local communities and throughout the world. Recently, Mr. Lofton presented the Cleveland schools with \$15,000 from the foundation and his celebrity poker tournament. Kenny Lofton's contributions to the youth of our communities and his support for positive social reform will have an unforgettable impact for generations to come.

At this time, I would like to recognize the schools participating in the Lakeshore Classic basketball tournament. These schools are dedicated to positively impacting Northwest Indiana through academic excellence and sportsmanship, and they are successful in their efforts. The participating schools include West Side Leadership Academy of Gary, John Marshall Metropolitan High School of Chicago, Thea Bowman Leadership Academy of Gary, East Chicago Central High School, George Washington High School of Indianapolis, 21st Century Charter High School of Gary, and Charles Tindley Accelerated High School of Indianapolis.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the Gary Chamber of Commerce, the organizers and sponsors of the 12th annual Lakeshore Classic, and the devoted volunteers who make this event possible. Their influence, passion, and dedication to our youth in Northwest Indiana are truly commendable.