

their priorities as a delegate to the California Teachers Association's State Council. Jeanette is tireless in her efforts to engage others and ensure that everyone in her community has a place to express their beliefs and take part in the democratic process. She currently serves on her county's Democratic Central Committee where she promotes accountable leadership and encourages civic engagement. Jeanette aspires to be a leader in her community who listens to the needs of everyone. Recently she has been reaching out to her neighbors and peers to have conversations on city safety, the importance of neighborhood parks, plans to address poverty, and providing quality education to future generations. Jeanette's years of service as an educator and community advocate are an inspiration to all who know her.

Robin Ziegenmeyer is an enthusiastic community servant who has made significant contributions to programs benefitting local children and families. Robin has coached little league, organized school field trips, and provided digital media for school, sports, and community organizations in Sutter. As a dedicated member of the Sutter Youth Organization, Robin works with the community to maintain the foundation along with its recreational centers and philanthropic events. Robin's work on behalf of the Sutter Youth Organization has allowed the center to be renovated and updated, providing facilities where youth can gather to play sports, train, and swim recreationally. Her work has benefitted countless members of the community, enabling a beloved city institution to flourish. Robin is a kind, generous, and enthusiastic leader in her community whose work will leave a lasting legacy.

I congratulate each of them and commend them for their work. I am inspired by them and firmly believe when women succeed, America succeeds.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, on October 2, 2020, I was unable to be present for the recorded votes on Roll Call No. 218. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 1154, Condemning QAnon and rejecting the conspiracy theories it promotes.

HONORING ROBERT "BOBBY"
SMITH FOR 34 YEARS OF PUBLIC
SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert "Bobby" Smith for more than three decades of service to our country, our state, and our community. A U.S. Navy veteran and leader in emergency management, Mr. Smith's public service has spanned more than 34 years.

Mr. Smith began his career in 1985 as a Telecommunicator and Emergency Medical Technician for Guilford County Emergency Medical Services. Over his career in public service he has also served as a firefighter, hazardous materials technician, rescue technician, fire inspector, and Chief Fire Investigator. During his work in Emergency Management he has developed, tested, and implemented numerous response, recovery, mitigation, preparedness and continuity plans, and has been an integral part of emergency operations during national events and disasters. Today, he retires as Director of Emergency Management and Fire Services for Cabarrus County.

Over the years, Mr. Smith has proven to be a strong and effective leader and our region is better and more prepared due to his work. He has served as Unified Incident Commander during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic; coordinated response to a number of declared natural disasters; served as a member of the Domestic Preparedness Region (DPR 7) Committee, North Carolina Emergency Management Association Legislative Committee, and Rowan Cabarrus Community College Emergency Management Advisory Committee; and worked closely with the Local Emergency Planning Committee to develop emergency response infrastructure for local businesses.

An exemplary public servant, Mr. Smith represents the best our nation has to offer and we will look up to his leadership for generations to come. I know I speak for everyone in our community when I say we are truly grateful for his tireless service and cannot thank him enough. I would like to offer my most heartfelt appreciation and wish him a long and happy retirement.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Robert "Bobby" Smith for his 34 years of public service.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
AND UNSELFISH WORK OF
HILLSBOROUGH COMMISSIONER
LESLEY "LES" MILLER, JR.

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in admiration and respect to honor the achievements and unselfish work of Hillsborough Commissioner Lesley "Les" Miller, Jr. and to congratulate him on his retirement. Les' remarkable contributions to our hometown of Tampa have had a tremendous impact on our neighbors and citizens of Florida and is worthy of recognition.

Les was born in Tampa in 1951, graduated from Middleton High School and later served in the United States Air Force as an administrative specialist. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and master's degree in public administration from the University of South Florida (USF) and received an honorary doctorate degree in humane letters from Florida A&M University in 2005. During his academic career, Les served as the First African American President of the Student Government Association and President of the Black Student Union. Before making a switch to political science, Les was a music major and rose to be drum major at Middleton High.

Les' involvement and willingness to serve did not stop after his college career. He also served as a member of the Florida House of Representatives from 1992 to 2000 and as a member in the Florida Senate from 2000 to 2006. Commissioner Miller was the first Democrat in Florida to serve as both Florida House and Senate Minority Leader. His hard work and dedication towards public policy and passion for giving back to his community, has granted him several awards including the Florida Education Association President's Award; the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Memorial Service Robert W. Saunders Award for Efforts to Promote Civil Rights; the University of South Florida Presidents' Distinguished Citizen Award; the Early Learning Coalition Legislative Excellence Award; Florida League of Cities Legislative Award; and the Florida Housing Coalition Legislative Award.

Les has been an integral part of the growth and development of Moffitt Cancer Center, Florida's only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. Les was already a cancer survivor before Moffitt opened, but throughout his life, he and his loved ones still needed Moffitt more than he might have imagined. Les has survived three bouts of cancer, and both his wife, Gwen and daughter LeJeane, have twice survived cancer. Through his career in the Florida Legislature, Les made funding Moffitt one of his priority issues. His many accomplishments there, include, a measure he authored to earmark a percentage of Florida's tobacco sales taxes for Moffitt research and patient care. Les continues to give back through Moffitt's annual Men's Health Forum which encourages men regardless race, religion and socioeconomic background to get information and guidance on prostate and men health. Les credits Moffitt for being alive today and has made it a life mission to help the center in any capacity.

Les' relentlessness to fight for what is right inspired him to lead efforts throughout his career, both at the state and local level, for tough laws to stop gun violence and keep guns out of the hands of people like the men who shot his son, Trey. Les' tough and collaborative approach has allowed him success despite strong opposition from special interests and even the Florida Legislature. It passed a law to try to take gun violence efforts from local governments. Les' strength and passion can be seen in his continuing efforts to fight to stop gun violence even in the face of rules that threaten local officials personally who try to protect their communities.

During his tenure as a Commissioner for Hillsborough County, Les has continued to improve the lives of many by continuously fighting for affordable housing, better transportation and protection of the environment. He also served on several Boards and Councils including Aviation Authority, Committee of Six, Expressway Authority, Florida State Fair Authority, HART, Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Visit Tampa Bay, Tourist Development Council and Election Canvassing Board.

Outside of his role as Commissioner, Les continues to be an active voice in civic affairs including being a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. a member of Harram Temple No. 23, Prince Hall Shriners; a member of the United Supreme Council, 33rd Degree Mason, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliate; Life Member and Past Master of Landmark Lodge No.

93 of Prince Hall Free & Accepted Masons; Life Member of the Tampa Branch of the NAACP; and a Deacon of the New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Tampa, Inc. He also continues to uplift and highlight the history and contributions of the African American community to Hillsborough County.

Madam Speaker, Les Miller, Jr. embodies what it is to be a public servant and citizen. He has shown the way for generations to come, always giving his very best, leading by example and always working to make lives better for those he serves. On behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor Les Miller, Jr. for his formidable efforts and selfless devotion to the people in our community and congratulate him one more time, on his retirement.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES E.
TROSTLE

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles E. Trostle of Huntingdon County for his service in the United States Army. Charles is an outstanding Pennsylvanian, and I am grateful for his service to our nation, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and our community.

In Pennsylvania and across the country, our veterans have served and sacrificed for Americans' freedom and our values. They answered the call to serve and fight for us—at a great cost. Truly, our veterans are the best of America.

In Congress, it is my privilege—and my responsibility—to stand up for those who have served our country in uniform, as well as to recognize these brave Americans. As a nation, we are indebted to them. On behalf of the 13th Congressional District, I thank Charles for his service to our nation and our community.

RETIREMENT OF WANDA
BLACKWELL

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Wanda Blackwell on her retirement from the Webster County Senior Center, where she has served as Director for the last four years. She is beloved by the seniors she cares for and their families because her devotion to serving others is evident in every effort she undertakes.

Just a year ago, Webster County opened a new senior center that has already enriched the lives of so many and is evidence of the devotion Wanda and her team have for their fellow citizens.

Whether she was serving or delivering meals, decorating and improving the center or raising funds to expand their offerings and programming, she did it all with a smile on her face. Wanda lives by the saying, "grow where God planted you" and has been a shining example of giving back to the local community.

I join with Wanda's family, friends, and all those she has served throughout her time with the center to thank her for her outstanding efforts to better the lives of others, and I wish her many happy years of retirement.

HONORING CITY OF ST. HELENA
EMPLOYEES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the city employees of my hometown, St. Helena, California, for their bravery and service while protecting our community from the devastating Glass Fire. These first responders, public works employees, and civil servants rose to responsibilities well outside of their roles, exhibiting altruism and versatility in their efforts to protect our community in times of crisis.

St. Helena is fortunate to have dedicated first responders to call upon when disaster strikes. Despite dangerous conditions, the men and women of the St. Helena Fire Department courageously battled the blaze for 23 continuous days. Working 12- and 24-hour shifts, they successfully defended our city from the wildfire. In coordination with the Fire Department's efforts, the St. Helena Police Department went door to door to notify residents of the mandatory evacuation orders. Officers, many of whom were displaced by the Glass Fire, worked night and day to ensure public safety by closing roads and escorting evacuees to collect their belongings.

In addition to the heroes in St. Helena's emergency services, other city employees answered the call to safeguard our community. Six Public Works employees risked their lives to shield vital infrastructure at the Louis Stralla Water Treatment Plant and the Bell Canyon Reservoir from destruction, fighting flames in their street clothes alongside city and CalFire crews. Persevering through power outages and poor air quality, city workers across numerous city departments continued to work to meet critical needs in the face of disaster. These are only a few examples of the tremendous grit and commitment city employees showed during the emergency.

Lastly, the city of St. Helena could not have gotten through this disaster without strong leaders at its helm. In particular, Fire Chief John Sorenson, Police Chief Chris Hartley, and City Manager Mark Prestwich distinguished themselves through their exemplary leadership and expertise in coordinating the city's response.

Madam Speaker, during times of crisis, our citizens often look to their public servants for guidance and assistance. The employees of the City of St. Helena represent the very best in service, dedication, and selfless conviction to community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them today.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD J. SCRAM

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward J. Scram of Huntingdon County for his service in the United States Air Force. Edward is an outstanding Pennsylvanian, and I am grateful for his service to our nation, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and our community.

In Pennsylvania and across the country, our veterans have served and sacrificed for Americans' freedom and our values. They answered the call to serve and fight for us—at a great cost. Truly, our veterans are the best of America.

In Congress, it is my privilege—and my responsibility—to stand up for those who have served our country in uniform, as well as to recognize these brave Americans. As a nation, we are indebted to them. On behalf of the 13th Congressional District, I thank Edward for his service to our nation and our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HEE SOOK
LEE

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2020

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Hee Sook Lee, the founder of Buk Chang Dong (BCD) Tofu House, a chain of Korean soondubu jjigae (tofu soup) restaurants that have since become a cultural touchstone to so many Korean Americans and have helped bring Korean cuisine to the global stage.

Lee's life story reflects the passion and commitment to which she built the legacy of BCD. When Lee was younger, her father suffered a debilitating stroke. Lee decided to skip college to support her mother who had been washing dishes in restaurants and selling dishware at flea markets to support Lee and her three siblings.

In 1989, Lee immigrated to the U.S. and settled in Los Angeles so her children could learn English and seize the opportunities life in the U.S. offered. Her husband became an established restaurateur and Lee became busy raising their three sons. However, Lee was itching to start something of her own. Seeing how so many Koreans found success in opening restaurants, Lee decided to open one of her own. In 1996, on Vermont Avenue in LA's Koreatown, Lee opened BCD, naming the restaurant after the district in Korea where Lee gained some experience and training in the food industry.

Lee eventually achieved her dream of opening a restaurant where she could share her love and passion for Korean cuisine. However, she never imagined what she had started would soon become an empire of Korean restaurants, with 13 locations across the U.S., and that she would have Asian supermarkets stocked full of her soup starter kits.

Over the years, BCD has become the go-to place for those seeking good and authentic Korean food. To others it quickly became