

rising in cities across our country and around the world to say enough is enough. People from all walks of life are coming together to call for real change to address the inequities and failures of our systems, to shine a light on persistent and systemic racism, and to demand justice for the senseless deaths of African American men and women like George Floyd, Breanna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery.

Moments like these in history force us to confront the sobering truths of who and where we are as a nation. Many will have their eyes opened to realities and perspectives they did not see before, thus beginning or furthering their journeys to unlearn deeply engrained beliefs and better understand how racism continues to shape our daily lives. Others still will feel emboldened to turn their knowledge and empathy into action for the first time.

And then there are those leaders who have been in this fight for much longer. I rise today to honor as Iowan of the Week one such leader who has been on the front lines not only of recent peaceful protests, but also of the day-to-day work of lifting up a community from within: Kameron Middlebrooks.

Kam's history of activism and accomplishments belie his relative youth. Now in his early thirties, he's already spent half his life advocating for Des Moines' black community. If you mention Kam's name to someone in central Iowa, it's likely they've already heard of him. That could be because they went to school together at Roosevelt High, read about him as one of the Des Moines Register's 15 People to Watch in 2019, heard about the work he's done on the Des Moines Human and Civil Rights Commission, or for a host of other reasons. As busy as life in Congress keeps me, I wonder how Kameron fits everything into his day.

Kam currently serves as President of the Des Moines Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), an organization he joined in high school before becoming its youngest-ever Midwestern Regional Field Director and successfully leading a campaign to register more than 15,000 people of color to vote across the Midwest. He's owned his own small business, and now coaches African Americans interested in becoming small business owners through that process as minority business coordinator for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. He hosts annual trainings at Des Moines' Evelyn K. Davis Center for Working Families to equip participants with essential skills to successfully run their own shops. He coordinates multiple work groups to address disparities among black and white residents of Polk County in critical areas like employment, education, and housing. And his efforts to create a more equitable society without racial discrimination don't stop there.

Kam and I spoke on the phone last Monday. He'd spent each of the several nights prior at peaceful protests until the early hours of the morning to make sure the younger generation got home safely. When thanked for his work, he praised others. When asked what comes next, he already had plans for how we can empower youth voices and create a stronger community. His passion, selflessness, and drive were infectious. It's no surprise he's emerged as someone Iowans are eager to follow.

Across my state and the country, thousands continue to gather day after day to stand to-

gether against injustice. Young leaders like Kameron are among them. While it is imperative current elected officials heed their calls for action, it is also my hope that the young voices powering this movement are inspired to stay involved and ultimately become the officeholders called upon to enact more just and equitable policies.

For many reasons, the people of Iowa are fortunate to call Kameron Middlebrooks one of our own. I ask today that the House of Representatives join me in honoring his continued service and leadership by naming him our Iowan of the Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. SCOTT MENZEL FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER WITH THE WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Scott Menzel for his years of distinguished service to students in Michigan and offer my heartfelt congratulations as he begins a new chapter as superintendent for the Scottsdale Unified School District in Arizona. Although we are all sad to see him go, we are proud to celebrate his outstanding contributions to the Washtenaw Intermediate School District.

In 2011, Dr. Scott Menzel became the superintendent of the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) and started his tenure at a pivotal moment in the community's history. In 2012, Willow Run and Ypsilanti schools began the consolidation process to form a new district. The consolidation, which many thought to be impossible, came to fruition thanks to the support of the WISD and Menzel's tenacity, hard work, and commitment to education. Prior to his work in the WISD, Menzel served as superintendent for Whitmer Lake Public Schools from 2002 to 2007. Later, Menzel led similar operations at the Livingston Educational Service Agency from 2007 to 2011.

Throughout all capacities, Menzel has been recognized as a humble leader who strives to make a lasting and meaningful difference in students' lives. He dedicates himself to causes he believes in, and encourages others to demonstrate compassion, service, and excellence. Undoubtedly, Menzel's passion for education and academic opportunity have left a profound impact on the school district, evident in the recent passing of a bond proposal that will help construct a new \$53.2 million school for special-needs students outside of Ann Arbor. Moreover, Menzel's focus on addressing racial disparities and promoting racial equity throughout the district has set a clear example for other districts to emulate. He has been an avid proponent of My Brother's Keeper, an initiative created under the Obama Administration to address persistent opportunity gaps facing young boys and young men of color, and his involvement has helped the program flourish and grow throughout Michigan. He has received numerous honors and accolades for his work including the National African American Parent Involvement Day Spirit Award, the

MASA Regional Superintendent of the Year Award, and the White House YMCA Champion for Change Award, among a host of others.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Scott Menzel. Menzel has helped students develop skills and gain confidence not only needed to succeed academically, but in life beyond the classroom. He has impacted their futures in profound ways, and we are all grateful for his commitment to his students, his district, and his community. We thank him for his service to students in Michigan and wish him the best of luck in Arizona.

GREGORY THOMPSON
CONDOLENCES

HON. DAN CRENSHAW

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise with deep sadness to mourn the loss of Gregory Thompson, who passed away on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Gregory sadly joins countless Americans who fell victim to the COVID-19 pandemic. At just 56 years old, his full life was cut far too short.

Gregory served our country in the United States Air Force and was a Security Officer at the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C. for more than 15 years.

A self-made man, Gregory was the owner of Made to Measure, a custom tailor clothing business that he owned with his partner Howard Wallace. That's how I knew Gregory.

Gregory was kind, warm, and I always enjoyed our time together. Gregory always took on the difficult task of making me look my best with a smile, and I am grateful that I had such a talented craftsman to take care of me during my first year in Washington.

But much more than a tailor, Gregory was a father to Giovanni and a brother to Elizabeth, Veneda, Michael, and Walter. He was a cherished friend and beloved family member to many, all of whom are grieving this profound loss.

I ask the whole House to join me as we mourn the loss of Gregory Thompson and offer our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time.

Never Forget.

HONORING THE CAREER OF PATRICIA RADER, A LIFELONG PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Patricia Rader, as she retires from serving as a Claims Specialist at the Social Security Administration in Minneapolis.

A Blaine native, Patricia has served the Social Security Administration and the many Minnesotans that benefit from their services for forty years. Over the course of her four decades of work, she has touched the lives of

Minnesotans every day, and helped secure the livelihoods of countless men and women in our community.

I congratulate Patricia on her retirement. I wish her nothing but the best of luck in her next chapter.

RECOGNIZING ALEXIS AYANO
TERAI

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my great appreciation for Alexis Ayano Teraï, who over the past five years has served as Manager of the Congressional Study Group on Japan.

Through her hard work and dedication, Alexis has enriched our nation's relationship with this most critical and important ally.

The Congressional Study Groups are the premier international projects administered by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress.

They are also one of the most active and substantive bipartisan exchanges involving the U.S. Congress and the legislative branches of allied countries.

Alexis has been an integral part of the Study Group's outstanding success and her kindness to others and commitment to her job have been exemplary.

She has worked tirelessly to help build and foster the Congressional Study Group on Japan and strengthen the U.S.-Japan alliance and partnership by creating opportunities for Members and Congressional staff to exchange views with their Japanese counterparts both in the U.S. and Japan.

Among her many accomplishments, Alexis helped to develop a myriad of programs focused on the bilateral relationship with Japan and the broader Asia region.

As Co-chair of the Congressional Study Group on Japan, I've had the pleasure of working with Alexis over the last five years. And I know I speak for all of my colleagues in the group when I say that Alexis will be missed.

As Alexis pursues her Master's Degree in Asian Studies at Georgetown University, we wish her much success and happiness on this new path.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
UNITED STATES PROBATION OF-
FICER BEN BERRY

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Officer Ben Berry, who retired in April after more than 20 years with the U.S. Probation Office. Throughout his career, Officer Berry demonstrated a profound commitment to public safety and the improvement of the U.S. Probation Office.

At the beginning of his career in law enforcement, Officer Berry served as a United States Army Officer, Probation Officer for the

State of Florida, and a Federal Probation Officer for the Northern District of Florida. In 1999, Officer Berry moved to Central New York where he took a job working as a U.S. Probation Officer in Northern District of New York, Syracuse office. Working his way up the ranks, he held the position of Senior U.S. Probation Officer Sentencing Guidelines Specialist and was later promoted to Supervising U.S. Probation Officer, where he oversaw the Investigations Unit. A proficient marksman, he also served as the Lead Firearms Instructor. In this role, he trained and certified officers in the use of firearms, and helped develop and improve the firearms training program.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in recognizing the career of Officer Ben Berry. As a dedicated public servant and a leader in the U.S. Probation Office, I wish Officer Berry the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR TIM-
OTHY HANNA'S 24 YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Timothy Hanna and his 24 years of service as the Mayor of Appleton, Wisconsin. After being elected mayor of his hometown in 1996, Mr. Hanna retired this year as the longest-serving mayor in the city's history, leaving behind a legacy that makes Appleton the beautiful city it is today.

During his time as mayor, Mr. Hanna spearheaded projects like the construction of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center and the Fox Cities Exhibition Center, redeveloping Appleton's downtown area. While these projects invigorated the local economy, Mr. Hanna cites establishing programs of diversity and inclusion as his greatest accomplishment in office.

In one of his first initiatives as mayor, Mr. Hanna pursued intercultural relations reform in Appleton. In October 1997, Mayor Hanna created Appleton's Diversity and Intercultural Center, hiring the first-ever Intercultural Relations Coordinator. Since then, the Intercultural Relations Coordinator has bridged the racial and social divides between the various communities within Appleton to create a stronger, unified city.

Mr. Hanna led Appleton through the tragic September 11th terrorist attacks, the city's recovery from the Great Recession, and the initial response to the coronavirus pandemic. His strong leadership and commitment to the people of Appleton helped them persevere through these crises. Mr. Hanna instilled confidence, provided guidance, and inspired his citizens to thrive both in times of hardship and prosperity.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in recognizing Timothy Hanna for his service as mayor. His selfless leadership and commitment to the development of Appleton serves as an example for every public servant.

HONORING SPEAKER MIKE TURZAI

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Mike Turzai, who has devoted decades of service to our Commonwealth and our Nation. Since taking office in 2001, Speaker Turzai has championed our American values and defended our Constitutional rights.

During Speaker Turzai's tenure in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, he has worked hard to achieve important policy wins—such as creating jobs, supporting our small businesses, improving workforce development, expanding choice in education, reforming the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board system, and reducing burdensome regulations. Speaker Turzai was a consistent champion of fiscal conservatism; he opposed tax increases and the midnight pay increase. Additionally, he has led the Chamber's pro-life agenda to defend the dignity of life. Before becoming the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, he served in a number of leadership roles in the chamber and propelled commonsense, conservative policy forward.

A lifelong Pennsylvanian, Speaker Turzai was raised in Moon Township and graduated from Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame before earning his Juris Doctor from Duke University. In addition to his official work, Speaker Turzai has a long record of leadership in his community. He and his wife Lidia live in the North Hills of Pittsburgh with their three sons, Andrew, Stephen, and Matthew.

Upon Speaker Turzai's retirement from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, I thank him for his commitment and service to our Commonwealth. He represented the values of his constituents well. As the Turzai family begins a new chapter, I wish them every continued success.

HONORING BILL SITES, THIRTY-
SEVEN DEDICATED YEARS WITH
THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Commander Bill Sites of Waconia, Minnesota on his retirement after 37 dedicated years of service. Bill served in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Corps for 23 years, and accepted a civil position with the National Weather Service that brought him and his family to Minnesota.

Bill graduated from NOAA Basic Officer Training Class in December 1982. From 1983 to 2005, Bill was stationed across the country with assignments ranging from Norfolk, Virginia to Seattle, Washington. Bill served NOAA's primary functions of monitoring oceanic and atmospheric conditions and supporting major waterways. One of Bill's most