

chosen to spend their careers sparking curiosity and creativity in our children. So please allow me to express my deep appreciation and thanks to every teacher in Iowa's Third Congressional District, and to honor them as Iowans of the Week.

HONORING ROMIALD OSCAR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Romiald Oscar is the founder of Sunshine Services Group, a financial and consulting firm serving Polk County since 2011. Romiald is an accountant and consultant at the firm, where he works directly with individuals to examine the accuracy of financial statements and review financial records for tax filing; he also documents business financial transactions and compiles the necessary information to prepare entries for the company accounts. Romiald provides short term emergency loans to the people in his community such as cash advance and payday loans. He also assists them with immigration services and processing since Polk County has a large immigrant community that includes Haitians, St. Lucians, Jamaicans, Mexicans and others. Romiald successfully sustains over 9 years in providing services to Polk County.

As a leader, Romiald always stands with his community. He would volunteer to assist and help the people with various issues and concerns. He networks, seeks resources, and spots talents as he promotes his rich and colorful Haitian culture on Haitian holidays and especially on Haitian Flag day. Romiald has served as the president of the Haitian Association of Polk County since 2018 and contributes to several educational radio stations such as Radio Kalalou, Radio Tonmtom Internationale, and Voix Communauté Haitienne to inform, educate, and advise his community throughout Polk County and beyond.

Romiald has a very strong academic background. He completed his courses in pursuit of a Doctorate of Business Administration in Finance and is currently working on his dissertation from Walden University. He holds both an MBA in Accounting and bachelor's degree in Government from Liberty University, where he took part in the Student Government Association and other social activities.

Romiald Oscar is a respected and well-known name amongst the Polk County, Florida. He is a powerful voice in the community and will continue blazing a trail for the progress of the people in professional settings.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. GEORGE FLOYD AND CALLING FOR SYSTEMIC LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. George Floyd and to call for systemic law enforcement reform and accountability in our nation.

On May 25, 2020, Mr. George Floyd was murdered by a Minneapolis Police officer while three other officers stood by. This was a horrific crime that demands that the perpetrators be held fully accountable by our justice system and our society. The shocking video of Mr. Floyd's murder makes us all a witness to the brutally cruel and excessive treatment that caused Mr. Floyd's death. Now that the four officers involved in this outrageous act have been taken into custody and charged, the family of Mr. Floyd and our communities deserve to see justice done.

But the tragic death of Mr. Floyd was not an isolated incident of the cruel and excessive use of force against Black Americans or other people of color in police custody. It is only the latest example of a systemic problem that has plagued every state in this nation for generations. It is the duty of police and peace officers to keep our communities safe, but protecting public safety fundamentally demands a respect for the civil rights and human rights of all residents. All too often, people of color do not get that respect from the police.

Mr. Floyd should be alive today. He was a loving father and a proud older brother who looked out for his siblings. His family describes him as a kind soul and a gentle giant. My thoughts and prayers are with his family in their time of grief.

Mr. Floyd's death was a senseless tragedy that should never have happened. What we can do now to honor his memory is to finally bring accountability to our law enforcement practices and ensure that everyone in this nation regardless of the color of their skin is treated with dignity and respect. In Congress, that means passing the Justice in Policing Act of 2020. Madam Speaker, I am proud that the House of Representatives is advancing this critical reform legislation to a vote on the floor so that every Member of Congress has the opportunity to say loud and clear—no more.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF MARTIN POHL

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and exceptional service of Mr. Martin Pohl. Martin dedicated his career to our Central Valley almond industry and his efforts have positively benefitted communities and farmers throughout California.

Martin was known for many roles within the almond industry and will be remembered for

his strong leadership and passion for the industry and the people he served. Martin remained active with the Almond Board of California throughout his career as shown through his service on the Board's Technical and Regulatory Affairs committee, where he served as chairman. Additionally, his contributions to the industry's world-renowned food safety programs are unparalleled. His guidance and care for the almond industry and those who worked in it can be seen through his role as a mentor for the Almond Board's Leadership program since its inception. In addition to his work with the Almond Board, Martin and his original founding partners, Ham Cunningham and Cleo Barth, developed Hughson Nut Inc. in 1985. His skills in engineering and design were considered critical to the company's success and reputation as a leader in the industry.

His exemplary work was recognized in 2013 when he received the prestigious Almond Board of California's Almond Achievement Award and again in 2017 when he was recognized as the Almond Alliance's Member of the Year. Martin was a tremendous individual and had the love and respect of his peers in the community. His good nature and sincerity were infectious and many in the industry will tell you that Martin was the person they felt comfortable going to for guidance. His warmth and willingness to help everyone is an example of how Martin was a silent leader and strived to make the world a better place.

I am honored to recognize the life and exceptional service of Mr. Martin Pohl. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Martin for his countless contributions to the almond industry and the State of California throughout his career.

HONORING KELLIE PARKIN AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, as the Pride Chamber's Chief Executive Officer, Kellie is a leader of Central Florida's LGBTQ economic equality movement. An award-winning photographer and writer, as well as an insatiable learner, Kellie works tirelessly every day, using her extensive experience in business development and journalism, to make our world a better, more inclusive, and equal place for all humans; and specifically, for her rainbow tribe whom she loves dearly.

A puzzle solver, pattern reader, and team builder, Kellie has the ability to see the big picture, understand other viewpoints, and seek new ways and solutions that lead to consensus and action. She has a global perspective and an individual approach.

Some of her recent recognitions include the Business Equality Network's National Top 40 LGBTQ Leaders Under 40, Watermark's Most Remarkable People, and the inaugural Chamber Leader of the Year Award by the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce. Under her transformative leadership, the Pride Chamber was honored as Chamber of the Year.

Last year she spearheaded the effort that led the City of Orlando and Orange County to

be the first in Florida to embrace and recognize LGBT businesses in their procurement processes.

Kellie serves on the Orlando Mayor's Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission and volunteers with the Central Florida Freethought Community, a non-profit dedicated to the separation of state and church. In the wake of the Pulse Tragedy, she served on the taskforce to formally establish the One Orlando Alliance, a coalition of non-profits unifying Central Florida's LGBTQ+ community.

She believes every moment counts, and that together we can create positive change if we show up, speak out, and act with love, which she strives to do daily for the community at large, and for her family, where she is a proud and fierce mama bear.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LOUISE ENDEL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Louise Endel, a pillar of the New Haven community and a dear friend. Though she lived a long and fulfilling life, it still feels as though she was taken from us much too soon. Hers is a legacy of compassion, philanthropy and generosity that will surely continue to serve as an inspiration to all those who know her—and likely many that did not.

Louise and her husband, Charlie, moved to North Haven with their three daughters in 1952 and soon became actively involved in the community and with a myriad of community organizations, including the League of Women Voters, the Girl Scouts, and Ridge Road School's Parent Teacher Association. Louise and Charlie were also founding members of the Ridge Top Club, the first swimming club in the area to "eschew racial and religious discrimination." Over the course of her life, Louise served on fifty-two local, state and national boards and was passionately devoted to supporting many New Haven non-profits including the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, the Long Wharf Theatre, the Elm Shakespeare Theatre, St. Raphael's Hospital Foundation, and L.E.A.P.

Louise was the epitome of a "people-person." She intrinsically understood the soul of a person—where their passions lay and how best they could make a difference. Louise herself was one of the most giving people I have ever had the good fortune to know. She was affectionately known as the "matchmaker"—not because she matched people for love, but because she could match people to the best ways in which they could contribute to the community. Louise connected people with complimenting talents, ensuring the success of countless organizations and events. In a word, she was remarkable.

I myself benefitted from her unique talents. Louise was one of the first people to approach and encourage me to run for Congress. I remember her coming to me and asking if I would ever consider running, and when I replied that I was, she said, "let me introduce you to . . ." and the rest, as they say, is history. I, like so many others, consider myself fortunate to have called her my friend.

Louise was an extraordinary woman whose kind heart and generosity touched the lives of many. A devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Louise is survived by her three daughters, Susan, Barbara, and Patricia; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. To them, I extend my deepest sympathies and hope that they know what an enormous impact Louise had on all those who knew her. Hers is a legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

HONORING ASHLEY FIGUEROA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Ashley Figueroa is an award winning leader in social services and a proud Trans Latina American Woman. Among her chosen advocacy roles, Ashley is the Founder and Executive Director of the Gender Advancement Project (GAP) which focuses on the progression and inclusion of Transgender and Gender Non Binary individuals in Central Florida.

Ashley also works with several local and national community based organizations to make a positive impact in today's society. Some of the boards she currently serves on are: Trans-Action Florida Advisory Council, The Contigo Fund Community Board, the National Network Latin Plus, and the Orlando Trans Collective. In 2019, Ashley was appointed by Mayor Buddy Dyer as the Secretary for the City of Orlando Census Complete Count Committee. That same year, Ashley was honored with the Voice of Equality award by Equality Florida and she was also named one of Watermark's Most Remarkable People of 2019 for her advocacy and leadership with the transgender community of Orlando.

Ashley's work has also earned her national recognition. Earlier this year, she was chosen as an honoree of the 41 List for being a Latinx LGBTQ+ role model.

HONORING THE FAMILY LEGACY OF McCLARD'S BAR-B-Q

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the near-century-old legacy of McClard's Bar-B-Q in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Founded by Gladys and Alex McClard in 1928, the fourth generation of the McClard family, represented by owners Scott and Shannon McClard, keeps its doors open today.

In the last century, McClard's has been a cultural icon of the Hot Springs area, gathering long lines of customers outside its doors on Albert Pike Road. Known for barbecue pork, ribs, tamales, and infamous barbecue sauce, the barbecue joint is a local favorite, even noted to be a favorite of President Bill Clinton's during his upbringing in Hot Springs.

The restaurant's leadership recently made the decision to sell the family-owned spot following a brief closing during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has reopened this week under new ownership, the McClard family is still actively involved in the restaurant's progress in the community.

Not only does McClard's Bar-B-Q boast of some of the best cooking in the Southwest Arkansas area, but the restaurant holds 92 years of Arkansas culture, history, and memories. Theirs is a story of the American dream, and I look forward to seeing this place continue to be a place of joy for Fourth District residents, just as it has for nearly a century. I take this time to thank all generations of the McClard family for their years of hard work and their diligence in creating the most loved of Hot Springs traditions.

HONORING SUPERINTENDENT MARTHA MARTINEZ

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salinas City Elementary School District Superintendent, Martha Martinez, on her retirement after serving the state of California as a public educator since 1975. An outstanding citizen and educator, Superintendent Martinez has made an unparalleled impact in the educational community of the central coast of California and our entire state through 45 years of service.

Superintendent Martinez's began her career as a paraprofessional in California's Bay Area before later becoming an elementary teacher. After 20 years as an educator, she put her expertise towards work as a school administrator with the Santa Clara County Office of Education and Gilroy Unified School District.

In 2015, she became Superintendent of the Salinas City Elementary School District. In this role, she has distinguished herself as a passionate advocate for providing all students, regardless of background, with a quality education that provides equitable opportunities for all learners. As a visionary leader, Superintendent Martinez not only holds students and educators to high expectations, but also provides her own endless support so that all goals can be attainable.

Superintendent Martinez has also built strong support for her district in the local community. She has launched a citywide literacy campaign in Salinas to provide over 160,000 residents with a free Early Literacy App and mobilized leaders across Monterey County to work to end bullying. With her robust background in building local and regional partnerships, Superintendent Martinez was selected to organize Salinas Founder's Day, to celebrate the city's 150th birthday, and the Salinas City Elementary School District's Sesquicentennial Commemoration. With these two events, Superintendent Martinez brought individuals from all backgrounds in our community together to celebrate the City of Salinas and its outstanding students. Recognizing the support of the community around her, Superintendent Martinez is well-known to distinguish the stellar efforts of those she works with at every possible opportunity.