

The all-volunteer Middleridge Civic Association was formed in 1973. The civic association promotes an exceptionally strong sense of community that greets new residents with open arms, providing welcoming gifts to the newest neighbors. The Civic Association coordinates regular stream clean-ups and awards annual scholarships to high school seniors. Annual events include an Easter egg hunt, home and garden tours, Halloween parade, a holiday light decorating contest and community movie nights.

In 2002, Middleridge established a National Night Out celebration in partnership with the Fairfax County Police Department. Of the scores of NNO events held each year, the Middleridge National Night Out has been recognized as the largest event in the entire county—again a testament to the community spirit and activism of Middleridge residents.

As the former president of the Mantua civic association, I know firsthand that a community is more than houses in a development. In fact, the health and well-being of a region can be measured by the involvement of its citizens. When residents invest their time, care, and energies, a true community is created to the benefit of all. Fairfax County is considered one of the best places in the nation in which to live, work and raise a family, largely because of the willingness of so many to become actively involved. Middleridge Civic Association and the residents of this neighborhood provide an excellent example of how to create a thriving, energetic, and welcoming place to call home.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Middleridge and in thanking the residents and civic association members and officers for their contributions and service to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. CHARLES
W. REEDER, JR.

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness but great respect that I take this time to remember Mr. Charles W. Reeder, Jr., who passed away on September 7, 2020, at the age of 69. Mr. Reeder's love for his family and dedication to his community is noteworthy and admirable. While he will be truly missed by his family and friends, the impact he has had on his community will live on for generations to come.

Mr. Reeder received a Master of Divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary and he later completed a Doctor of Ministry from Ashland Seminary and worked for Food for the Poor, raising funds for third world countries. During 40 years of ministry, he served churches in Ohio, Illinois, Washington, and Colorado. He also taught classes at several college venues as well as prisons. Teaching and preaching were his passions, and he excelled at both. He had a love for theology and physics, remodeling and good music.

His life was filled with compassion, and he lived to serve the needs of others. His greatest loves, however, were his wife, Pat, his two daughters, and his three precious grandsons.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask you to rise with me in honor of Mr. Charles Reeder, Jr. He will be profoundly missed, but his memory lives on in his family.

CELEBRATING JUSTICE RUTH
BADER GINSBURG

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, today we celebrate Ruth Bader Ginsburg. We remember her groundbreaking work and remarkable legacy. We owe our opportunity to be who we are to what she accomplished.

That's why we call her the Notorious RBG. Justice Ginsburg defied expectations. Despite her acumen and proven ability in the law, she was denied jobs for which she was well-qualified. She nonetheless pursued that career at a time when social norms kept women at home and discouraged them from working.

Justice Ginsburg showed up for a generation of women and men. Equality drove her work.

Her vision and imagination demanded that she not allow an individual's dreams be short-changed by institutional inequality.

When people are held back by unjust laws, they cannot flourish and thrive. She felt that in her bones, and she strove to fix it.

As a Jewish woman, I feel a strong sense of identity with her. She was grounded in the teaching of Tikkun Olum—to repair the world and the Torah's admonition that one doesn't have to complete the work but cannot desist trying.

Now, there will be not just a void with her passing, but a chasm as our role model—our champion of liberty, equality, and democracy.

So we and future generations must pick up the torch and continue her fight.

HONORING MOHANDAS
KARAMCHAND GANDHI

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, one of the most influential men of the modern world. As we celebrate the close of the 150th anniversary of Gandhi's birth, it is important to remember that his legacy is born out every day in the lives of billions of people who live the way they do because of his selfless work.

His teachings of non-violence have impacted the entire world; and his promotion of racial, social, and political equality will continue to touch the global community as we work towards a brighter, freer future.

It is vital that we continue to embody Gandhi's perseverance and non-violent ways as we work to make the world a better place. Today, we honor his legacy and the power that an individual man had to change the world. 151 years ago, Gandhi was born an ordinary man. Today, he is a worldwide symbol of peace and civil disobedience. May he con-

tinue to rest in peace, and may his legacy prevail eternally.

MALCOM BLAIR "MAL" WHITE

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mr. Malcom Blair "Mal" White of Metter, Georgia, who passed away on September 21st.

Mal was a beloved son, husband, father, grandfather, leader, and friend.

Mal taught high school math at Savannah Country Day School in Georgia's First District for over three decades.

Mal generously and selflessly served Savannah Country Day in various roles, including math department chair, dean of students, Upper School assistant principal.

He was dedicated to enriching the lives of all students and equally invested his time to athletics, including assisting with the varsity football and JV basketball teams, serving as the varsity girls basketball head coach, as well as serving as the varsity golf coach for over three decades.

He led all teams to numerous victories.

I am thankful for the lasting impact Mal made on his community, and I know his legacy will continue at Savannah Country Day School for years to come.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends, and the countless students, parents, and teachers' lives he touched.

TRIBUTE TO BABA SHEIKH

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, I want to express my heartfelt condolences to the Yazidi community around the world and in my hometown of Lincoln, Nebraska on the loss of spiritual leader Baba Sheikh.

In August 2014, ISIS launched a genocidal campaign against the Yazidi people in Iraq, killing and brutalizing thousands. Five years later, hundreds of thousands of Yazidis are still displaced in refugee camps in their own country. Throughout all this terror and diabolical suffering, the spiritual leader of the Yazidi people, Baba Sheikh, stood steady as a great source of comfort, love, and inspiration.

Madam Speaker, it's not widely known, but two years ago, at the behest of Vice President Pence, I traveled to Northern Iraq to assess the situation faced by religious minority communities after the ISIS genocide. It was my privilege to meet with Baba Sheikh. Together we met with the Yazidi women who had been enslaved by ISIS. I will never forget his gentleness, kindness, and eagerness to be with us even amidst all the suffering.

May he rest in peace.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIRST
ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUSTARD
COMPANY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to The Custard Company on celebrating its first anniversary. This milestone is worthy of commendation.

The Custard Company is an ice cream shop located in Downtown Dearborn. Although only one year old, the Custard Company has already become a local favorite. The institution has established a stellar reputation throughout the community and endeavors to continue building meaningful and lasting connections with customers. The company prides itself on creating high-quality treats and ice cream creations including frozen custard, milkshakes, flurries, sundaes, and the cookie monster sandwich, to name a few.

In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, the first anniversary of the Custard Company has given our community a reason to celebrate. Its vibrant environment, dedicated staff, and delectable treats have drawn friends and families together and make all feel welcome. The Custard Company's demonstrated commitment to serving Dearborn and all those in it is immensely appreciated, and we are confident the institution will continue to thrive in the years to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating The Custard Company's first anniversary. Congratulations on a successful year, and best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MR. JERRY KANE

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Jerry Kane, a giant in the Corpus Christi community, who passed away on September 24th, 2020. A prominent businessman, public servant, and family man, Jerry was well-known and well-loved in our part of Texas. His family emigrated here after World War II from Czechoslovakia, where his parents survived the Holocaust and fought for the freedom of their people.

Jerry spent many years in the family meat-packing business, and during his time as President and CEO, he moved the company forward through innovation and pioneering new technologies. He was also a tremendous public servant for both the city of Corpus Christi and the state of Texas, serving on the Regional Water Task Force, the Governors Committee for Disaster Recovery and Renewal, and the Texas Board of Human Services.

Most importantly, Jerry was a devoted family man. He especially loved spending time with his grandchildren, and was known for being friendly, caring, and always helpful. I

offer my condolences to his family and friends as they grieve the loss of a great man. He will be fondly remembered by all.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMENDATION HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Every year from September 15 to October 15, the history and culture of Americans who are from or have ancestors from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America is recognized and celebrated. This observation was first established as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson in 1968 and President Ronald Reagan expanded the observance to a full month in 1988. This thirty-day period encapsulates many celebrations of independence for Latin American countries. September 15 is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile also celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18.

Our great nation would not be the same without the profound influence of Hispanic Americans across the country. Men and women from numerous countries have come to the United States in search of a better life for themselves and their families. In turn, their contributions have brought new ideas, new cuisines, new cultures to us all, and their presence here has created a more prosperous nation for all Americans. Guided by the promise of freedom and the chance to participate in the unique American experiment in democracy, some of these individuals arrived with nothing but the clothes on their back and the hope of a better tomorrow. Hispanic Americans have had influence on practically every part of American history, from politics to sports to sciences. Every day I am proud of their countless contributions to our country's story, and I would like to take this month to honor the crucial role that Hispanic Americans play in our society, and in Georgia's Sixth Congressional District in particular.

The Hispanic community in Georgia is vibrant and continues to grow significantly. I am proud to stand up and fight for the men and women who have contributed so much to our communities each day. Hispanic Americans help contribute to what makes this nation remarkable, and I am honored to lift up the voices of those who have selflessly dedicated their lives to building up themselves, their community, and this country. During these unprecedented times, we must work harder than ever to respect and encourage the diversity of our nation. I am routinely impressed by spirit of service and leadership displayed by Hispanic Americans in my district who work hard to give back to their own communities. Their work should be recognized every day, but particularly during Hispanic Heritage month. Therefore, I am honored to highlight three professionals who deserve special recognition: Gilda "Gigi" Pedraza, Santiago Marquez, and Vanessa Kosky.

Gilda "Gigi" Pedraza and her team at the Latino Community Fund—Georgia (LCF Geor-

gia) as they advocate for the Latino community, work to increase civic participation, provide immediate relief to the most vulnerable communities and build grassroots organizations. Gigi has over 20 years of experience working for both nonprofit and for-profit spaces as a social entrepreneur. In 2018, she was the recipient of the NFL Hispanic Heritage Leadership award and was recognized as a Woman of Inspiration by the Atlanta Dream. In the same year, she was named one of the 50 Most Influential Latinos in Georgia. Gigi has participated on numerous boards including the Center for Pan-Asian Community Services and the Feminist Health Center. She is also a member of the ARC Global Voices Panel. Additionally, Gigi was the Georgia Awardee of the TUMI USA Entrepreneur Award, which recognizes Peruvian immigrants for their civic contributions. Gigi's roots are from Lima, Peru and she currently resides in Atlanta, Georgia.

Santiago Marquez is the CEO of the Latin American Association (LAA). Marquez has held many impressive positions, including the Director of Employment and Housing for the Latin American Association, which was the first housing department to focus on Hispanics in Atlanta. He was also the Director of Latino Outreach at the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. He began working with the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2008 and has since served as President and CEO. In 2014, Santiago received an award from the National Diversity Council. He has served on multiple boards across Atlanta, including the Aurora Theatre and the WellStar Atlanta Community Board. He is also an alumnus of Leadership Atlanta and the Buckhead Business Leadership Class. Santiago was born in Cuba but now lives in Atlanta with his wife and two daughters.

Vanessa Kosky was just recently appointed to be an associate judge of the city of Doraville, and she will be the city's first Latina judge. A graduate of John Marshall Law School, she was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in October of 2007. She is also a member of the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and the American Immigration Lawyer Association. Vanessa has worked as the owner of her general practice law firm for criminal defense, family law, and immigration defense since 2009. She was a recognized mentor in the Georgia State Bar's Transition into the Practice of Law Program for many years and has been recognized for her work by the Atlanta Legal Aid Society and the Gwinnett Pro Bono Project. During her many years practicing the law, she has also participated in several teaching engagements in both English and Spanish language courses. Vanessa lives in Tucker and continues to represent and speak up for people in her community every day.

It is my distinct honor and privilege to recognize three of the many Hispanic Americans who work hard every day to make a difference in the lives of others in Georgia's Sixth Congressional District. As we continue to celebrate the observation of Hispanic Heritage Month, may we recommit to the spirit of service demonstrated by these individuals and the many others whose stories have yet to be told. On behalf of myself, the Sixth Congressional District of Georgia, and the United States House of Representatives, I am proud to join in the celebration of Hispanic Heritage