

CONGRATULATING ADDISON  
PISCHKE AND HER RELAY TEAM  
FOR WINNING THE IHSA STATE  
TITLE IN TRACK

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Addison Pischke and her relay team for winning the Illinois High School Association State Title.

Pischke ran a strong first leg and passed the baton to Alison Bowers. Bowers handed the baton to third leg Annie Wirth, and the Leafs were in the lead. Wirth increased the lead slightly and when the baton came to Ali Rapps, she increased the lead more and finished in 1:42.55, nearly two seconds ahead of the rest of the field. The team captured a state title in the relay and shattered the previous school record of 1:43.85. As a former athlete, I commend the determination and drive of these young women. They are a bright example of the importance of team dedication and strong work ethic. I am proud to see them represent their community so well throughout the state and the country with their dedication and passion.

It is because of student leaders like them that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Addison Pischke and the relay team for their accomplishment.

HONORING RON JACKSON FOR RECEIVING THE FRANCISCA IRWIN AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ron Jackson for receiving the Francisca Irwin Award for Community Service from the Essex Community Fund.

For decades, Ron Jackson has selflessly served the North Country. Mr. Jackson has lived in Essex all his life, joining the local fire company at 16 before studying engineering at SUNY-Maritime and serving with the Merchant Marines. As town Supervisor for 10 years, Mr. Jackson worked to upgrade the community sewer and water systems and helped gather funds for Beggs Park. A pillar of the local EMS and fire units, he helped to both design and build the fire house. Following the events of 9/11, he even led an ambulance crew to New York City to offer assistance. Mr. Jackson remains a devoted community leader today and currently serves on the town board.

The Francisca Irwin Award for Community Service is named for "Frisky" Paine Irwin, who was a devoted advocate for the Adirondack community. Based on Mr. Jackson's decades of tireless service, he is undoubtedly deserving of this recognition. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I thank Mr. Jackson for his service to the North Country and congratulate him on receiving this award.

HONORING WWII VET NORVAN D.  
MCCLURE

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Norvan D. McClure of Fort Wayne. Our Nation owes Norvan a tremendous debt of gratitude for his service to our country in the United States Army during World War II. Serving in an Engineer Combat Battalion in the Europe, his sacrifices were critical to the defense of our homeland, of Europe and to the security and prosperity of millions.

Most notably, Norvan's service earned him the French Legion of Honour award, the highest distinction awarded by France. Established by Napoleon in 1804, the Legion of Honour known as *Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur*, is awarded only to the most exceptional of soldiers served in defense of the French Republic. As a combat engineer, Norvan was charged with most perilous tasks of any soldier during the war: removing mines and booby traps left behind by a retreating fanatical Wehrmacht. But for Norvan and his heroic actions, many more America have been killed and the Allied advance across Western Europe would have been even more difficult and deadly than it was.

Norvan's unit continued into Germany, and then Austria, where it remained involved in combat operations until the end of the war in Europe in May 1945. Norvan returned to Indiana, raised five children with his wife, Maryann, and became a Locomotive Engineer, a job he had for 44 years. I'm proud to honor him. On behalf of Congress, let me say: We hope Norvan's heart is filled with joy knowing he has experienced our country's blessings, including the affection of family, friends, and a grateful Nation, over a long and well-lived life. May God Bless Norvan, and may God Bless the United States.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 98TH  
TURKISH INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Turkish-American Cultural Association of Michigan on the celebration of the 98th Turkish Independence Day on October 29, 2021. The Turkish-American Cultural Association of Michigan has been a positive force in our community and this celebration is worthy of commendation.

The Turkish-American Cultural Association of Michigan have been a strong voice for the Turkish people here in Michigan and their efforts play a role in cultivating a meaningful relationship between Turkey and the United States. The group serves as a bridge that unifies our communities to promote, plan, and execute programs that improve humanitarian and cultural welfare of the Turkish community in Michigan and abroad. Their leadership and the sharing of their unique tradition and culture has made a difference here at home and in communities across the nation.

As we celebrate the 98th Turkish Independence Day, I am proud to recognize the many Americans of Turkish descent who have made significant contributions to our state, especially those notable Turkish-Americans who reside in Michigan's 12th Congressional District who tirelessly work towards innovation in the fields of academia, the arts, and technology. Turkish-Americans enrich our communities through sharing their culture and continue to demonstrate a steadfast commitment to making Michigan a more inclusive, vibrant, and prosperous place for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 98th Turkish Independence Day. We thank the Turkish-American Cultural Association and their President, Dr. Mehmet Erdem Yaya, for their commitment to the betterment of our state of Michigan and look forward to celebrating this special anniversary for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING ILLINI BLUFFS  
HIGH SCHOOL'S SOFTBALL TEAM  
FOR WINNING IHSA CLASS 1A  
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Illini Bluffs High School softball team for winning the Illinois High School Athletic Association Class 1A State championship.

The team won the state title in softball, completing a perfect 29-0 season. The Tigers fell behind 3-1, but rallied in the fifth inning. Triples from Zoe Eeten and Addie Welsh as well as timely base knocks from Ashley Aksun, Emma Hicks and Annabelle Fortin allowed the Tigers to score five unanswered runs and pick up a 6-3 win over Orangeville. As a former athlete, I commend the determination and drive of these young women. They are a bright example of the importance of team dedication and strong work ethic. I am proud to see them represent their community so well throughout the state and the country with their dedication and passion.

It is because of student leaders like them that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Illini Bluffs' softball team on their Class 1A State Finals championship.

HONORING KARA MAGGY FOR RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED LEADER OF TOMORROW AWARD FROM THE GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kara Maggy for receiving the Distinguished Leader of Tomorrow Award from the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York.

Kara Maggy has been a Girl Scout for 11 years in addition to her participation in 4-H.

She works as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Meadowbrook Nursing Home, where she treats each resident with respect and the highest quality of care. Going above and beyond what is required of her to help others, she has twice provided potentially life-saving assistance at accidents outside of her job. As proof of her dedication to serving her community, she received the Presidential Award at her CV-TEC graduation. This young woman serves as a great example to the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York.

Ms. Maggy truly embodies the spirit of helping her neighbor, which is present throughout the North Country. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to thank Ms. Maggy for her commitment to her community and congratulate her for this well-deserved recognition.

#### TRIBUTE TO JEAN HALE

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the remarkable career and astute leadership of my dear friend, Jean Hale of Pikeville, Kentucky, who plans to retire after dedicating 52 years in the banking industry in Central Appalachia, serving as Chairwoman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Community Trust Bancorp for the last 23 years.

Jean Hale joined Community Trust in 1969 and progressed through the officer ranks, working twice as hard to make her mark in a male-dominated industry. In 1992, she was named President and CEO of Community Trust Bank and seven years later, became president and CEO of Community Trust Bancorp. In 2005, Chairwoman was added to her growing list of leadership roles. During her tenure, the company's total assets increased 152 percent from \$2.2 billion on December 31, 1999, to \$5.5 billion on June 30, 2021, with banking locations in Kentucky, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

She credits her stellar work ethic to her parents. Her father was a coal mining electrician, and she refers to her mother as a "home-making engineer" for making their clothes, raising their garden and canning goods. Together, they put Jean and her three siblings through college with no debt, moving from Grapevine to Pikeville so they could live at home and go to college, saving money on room and board. Jean has carried the same financial wisdom and skills throughout her career, even making her own suits when she first started working for Community Trust.

Over the year, her counsel and expertise have been highly sought after among financial sector experts, leading her to become Chairwoman of the Board of the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority and a member of the Kentucky Economic Development Partnership Board, the Commonwealth Seed Capital, LLC Board, the University of Pikeville Board of Trustees, the ARH Foundation Board, and the Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

In addition to her work in the banking industry, I am personally grateful for Jean's commit-

ment to SOAR—Shaping Our Appalachian Region—a non-profit organization that she helped launch to revitalize rural communities in Kentucky's Appalachian region as a result of the downturn of the coal industry. Jean was one of the first leaders that I personally asked to help establish SOAR. The initiative that started in 2013 is now a comprehensive regional movement that is effectively shaping a brighter future for the people of southern and eastern Kentucky. Since day one, she has served on the SOAR Executive Committee and as Chair of the Development Committee and Finance Committee. Thanks to her leadership, SOAR is a thriving, self-sustaining grassroots organization that is empowering economic development and growth where we need it the most.

The characteristic that sets Jean apart is her passion. She deeply loves Eastern Kentucky and watching our region thrive despite our challenges. I count it a great honor to celebrate my friend, Jean Hale and the countless accomplishments that she has made on behalf of so many Central Appalachian families and businesses. May her retirement be blessed by many wonderful years with her family and beloved grandchildren.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF GERDA M. FITTS (KRUEGER)

### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the steadfast service of one of Missouri's World War II U.S. Cadet Nurses, Gerda Fitts (Krueger).

Born in 1924, Gerda grew up during the Great Depression, where she helped on the family farm, read the Bible and helped with the chores around her family home. Gerda graduated high school while America was engaged in World War II. Her father had served in World War I and seeing her brothers' commitment to fight for their country in World War II, encouraged a patriotic earning within her soul. Thus, determined to do her part, Gerda enlisted in the United States Nursing Corps in 1943. This was when God first called her to serve others, and the time spent doing His work set her on a path she has been following ever since. After getting out of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, Gerda started working for the Wentworth Military Academy as the social director. She taught etiquette class to the young boys who attended Wentworth Military Academy. It was during this time that she met her now-husband, James 'Jim' Fitts, an Air Force veteran who had just retired after serving a dedicated 34 years. Gerda and Jim both retired from Wentworth Military Academy, Gerda as the social director and Jim as the Academy Commandant. After their retirement, they moved to Hermitage, Missouri, where they have both continued serving their community.

Gerda Fitts has been alive nearly a century. During this time, she has seen the world advance in ways she could have never dreamed. She had to live through the horrors of the Great Depression, a World War, and a Cold War. She has witnessed 17 Presidential administrations and has watched as America had its ups and downs. Through it all, she remains

the same humble, sweet, caring woman who never forgets to check on her friends, and who truly loves her community and country.

Although the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps is not recognized as a formal branch of service, it is important that women like Gerda are recognized for their service to our country during World War II. Please join me in honoring Gerda Fitts for her steadfast service to our Nation.

#### CONGRATULATING BLACK HAWK COLLEGE ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Black Hawk College for its 75th Anniversary. Black Hawk College has long been an excellent college in our district.

Black Hawk College started off as Moline Community College in 1946, and was located at Moline High School. The College accommodated World War II veterans seeking higher education and offered transfer, career, and adult education classes. In 1961 it became Black Hawk College, which was the first county-wide junior college in Illinois. Black Hawk College expanded as neighboring school districts petitioned to join its district. In 1965, with the passage of "The Illinois Public Junior College Act," Black Hawk College became part of the state's system of higher education, committed to offering traditional liberal arts courses, occupational courses, and adult education courses at its campus in Moline. I commend Black Hawk College for all it has done for students and community colleges in our district.

It is because of community leaders such as Black Hawk College that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize and congratulate Black Hawk College for its 75th Anniversary.

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 132

### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 2021*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor American Legion Post 132 of Orange, California, an inspiring organization dedicated to supporting veterans, national security, Americanism, and our community and its young people.

For more than ten decades, American Legion Post 132 has helped veterans adjust to life after service. It has served as a second home for some, helped others find jobs, and offered many the chance to forge lifelong friendships.

Post 132 was organized in 1919, the same year the American Legion was chartered by Congress as a patriotic veterans organization. Post 132 then received its temporary charter December 17, 1919 and its official charter October 1, 1920, making it one of the earliest