

to the U.P. and went on to positively impact many Veterans' lives during his two decades of service at the Iron Mountain VA Medical Center.

After years of work on behalf of Yooper Veterans, Dan was driven to become an advocate on behalf of all Michiganders when he ran for Congress in 2010. As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, he continued his steadfast support of Veterans in his district while also working to pass legislation to protect our state's most valuable landmarks as a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources—most notably the nationally-recognized Sleeping Bear Dunes. I have been and continue to be greatly inspired by Dan's selfless work and dedication to our Veterans as well as his fellow Yoopers. He served the First District of Michigan for three terms from 2011 to 2017, leaving a lasting mark in Washington, D.C.

Dan's passing is a significant loss to the Upper Peninsula, but Michigan and the United States have benefited immensely from his lifetime of public service. He is missed dearly by his family and friends, and his memory will undoubtedly live on for generations to come. Dan's tireless devotion to the public good touched the lives of so many Michiganders, and the impact of his work cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District, I ask you to join me in honoring the life of Dr. Daniel Joseph Benishek. I was honored to call Dan a friend, and it is an honor to uphold his legacy in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO TRAVIS L. THOMAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Travis L. Thomas who became an angel on September 21, 2021. As we reflect on his extraordinary life, my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

Travis dedicated his life to defending our country, keeping the streets safe, and improving his community. After fighting in the Korean War, Travis returned home and continued his life of service with the Department of Public Safety, serving in the Burnet police force before finishing his career as the police chief of both Georgetown and Luling. His devotion to law and order resulted in safer communities that residents are proud to call home.

Travis was a stellar and committed volunteer following his retirement in 1998, contributing his considerable talents and energies to a broad array of causes. Travis will be especially remembered for how much he loved the City of Burnet where he was involved in a multitude of civic organizations that allowed him to use his abilities to make Burnet the pride of Central Texas.

While I join Travis Thomas's family and friends in mourning his passing, the positive impacts he had on the lives of others will remain in our hearts forever. His presence was a blessing for all who knew him.

RECOGNIZING J.D. GROM

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize J.D. Grom, the Executive Director of the New Democrat Coalition, who recently left us to serve his country in a new capacity at the Department of Commerce.

As Democrats, we all have fight in us. That's never been the hard part. We look at the world around us, see that things can be better, and know that smart people, working hard together can create a better future. But how do we best focus our efforts? It can seem easier, at times, to amplify our differences, drawing battle lines and characterizing our political opponents as existential threats. But that approach is rarely, if ever, in the best service of the nation.

The more constructive path—one that I truly believe will lead to a more equitable, sustainable, and better future—requires not only a deep understanding of the policy challenges we face but the willingness to make progress where we can with allies we recruit and convince along the way.

J.D. Grom spent his time as the Executive Director of the New Democrats committed to this important mission. He never allowed partisan politics to come before the essential work of helping the American people. Staying focused on this responsibility, while managing a large and diverse caucus of big personalities, is no easy task. But it is one that J.D. carried out with the utmost competence, humor, and success, all while being a caring and present husband to Stacy and father to Jack and Emma.

I wish him great professional success in the future, at Commerce and beyond. As he moves into this new phase, he should take pride in the fact that he has left the New Democrat Coalition in a stronger position than he found it, and has set an inspiring example of leadership for his successors.

CONGRATULATING ANNIE WIRTH 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 Annie Wirth and her relay team for winning the Illinois High School Association State Title.

Addison 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 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 Annie Wirth and the relay team for their accomplishment.

HONORING ELLEN BOUCHARD FOR RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Ms. STEFANK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ellen Bouchard for receiving the Distinguished Personal Achievement Award from the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York.

Ellen Bouchard is a prime example of someone deeply devoted to serving her community. In addition to working as a Business Development Officer at Dannemora Federal Credit Union, she is a dedicated member of her local Rotary Club. She has served as a board member, the chair of the Roducky Derby, and the President of the Plattsburgh Noon Rotary Club. As a further marker of her selfless dedication, she has received numerous awards including the Rotary Paul Harris Award, Rotarian of the Year, and the Rotary President Award. Going above and beyond for her community, she has also served on the board of the Senior Citizens Council, Lake City Referrals, Go Red for Women, PBS, and Business and Professional Women. Ellen Bouchard is an outstanding role model for Girl Scouts throughout Northeast New York.

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

HONORING MRS. BETTE HORSTMAN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Bette Horstman and wish her a very happy 100th birthday on December 6, 2021. Mrs. Horstman is a distinguished resident of Morton Grove, Illinois and a constituent of mine. She was an honorable 1st Lieutenant who served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps as a Physical Therapist during World War II.

Bette Horstman was born on December 6, 1921 in Hibbing, Minnesota and grew up in Chicago, Illinois with her younger sister and parents. Mrs. Horstman graduated from the University of Michigan in 1943 and was accepted into the Mayo Clinic's Physical Therapy (PT) program.

Students in the program were visited by a U.S. Army recruiter who told them about their country's need for their skills and service and she enlisted in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in 1944. Upon completing her training, she was sent on her first assignment at Tripler General Hospital in Oahu, Hawaii, and later 3,700 miles west to Saipan, where her professional skills helped heal many soldiers during the war. She was discharged in 1946 and was honored for her service with a Meritorious Service Unit Citation with one Star, the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

In her post-service life, Mrs. Horstman helped establish the PT departments at three Chicago area hospitals. She was the first female in the state of Illinois to open up her own PT practice. She continued her education and received both a Master's in Education and a nursing home administrator's license. She was also a long-time member of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Mrs. Horstman volunteers and gives back to the community to this day. She has worked with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, and at the North Chicago VA as a post commander, where she has volunteered for nearly two decades. Before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, she volunteered for the bedside care program "No Veteran Dies Alone."

Mrs. Horstman's lifelong commitment to giving back to the community, her service to her country, her groundbreaking career, and her work healing people across the Chicagoland area are truly remarkable. I appreciate Mrs. Horstman's service to the Chicago community and the country, and I wish her a very happy 100th birthday.

WALTER SCOTT

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, lifelong Nebraskan, CEO of Kiewit Construction, cofounder of Level 3 Communications, board member of Berkshire Hathaway Energy, the late Walter Scott, Jr., 90, was one of America's leading builders and entrepreneurs. He will be best remembered, however, for his generous and wise philanthropy. Raised during the Great Depression, grandson of an immigrant carpenter from Dundee, Scotland, Walter learned early on the importance of education and of institutions that make it possible for a person to be educated. His philosophy was to enable others to achieve their own personal success.

As friend Warren Buffett said, "Walter's philanthropy is legendary, even though he doesn't publicize it." He left an indelible mark on Omaha and Nebraska: a new veterans' care center, best-in-class exhibits at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, and the Scott Campus at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. His contributions to Colorado State University and the University of Nebraska ensure that future generations of students at those institutions will go on to make their own marks as well.

Walter's vision and passion extended to service on the international stage. He was past Chair of the Open World Leadership Cen-

ter—now the Congressional Office for International Leadership (COL)—and a member of the Library of Congress Madison Circle. In both capacities, he was close friend to long-serving Librarian of Congress Dr. James H. Billington. Following Billington's passing in 2018, Walter provided long-term funding for the Billington Initiative at the Wilson Center's Kennan Institute to continue Billington's legacy of scholarship on Russian history and culture.

Walter Scott had this advice to young people: "The greatest thing you can do in life is to be a giver because the world already has plenty of takers." May he rest in peace.

IN RECOGNITION OF POST 696 ON
THE 75TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, it is with honor that I rise to recognize the American Legion Gung Ho Post 696 as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary. As the members of Post 696 celebrate this milestone, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring them for always providing exceptional services to WWII veterans and advocating for all veterans in the Sacramento Region.

American Legion Gung Ho Post 696 was formed on April 11, 1946 by returning Chinese-American veterans who were unable to join existing posts due to the prevailing prejudices of the time. The Gung Ho name honors the Chinese phrase Gong he, which means "working together." Despite having to form a segregated post, Post 696 wanted to honor these words and honor those who have died in service of the United States. The commonality of their Chinese heritage created a lasting legacy and a sense of brotherhood promoting compassion and charity for all in Sacramento.

For seventy-five years, from the start of Commander Tim Jang to its succeeding and current commanders, Post 696 dedicated itself to promoting the mission, vision, and values of the American Legion in the Sacramento Region. Their long tradition of advocating on behalf of all veterans and providing services to many individuals has been significant and continues today.

Gung Ho Post 696 members are leaders in our Sacramento community and have advocated for legislation and resources to benefit all veterans. They participate and represent Asian Americans by participating in the annual Memorial Day service and march in nearly every Veterans Day parade in Downtown Sacramento. Today, Post 696 welcomes all veterans to join and strive to promote goodwill in Sacramento.

Madam Speaker, as the members of the Post 696 celebrate their 75th anniversary, I ask all colleagues to join me in honoring them for their service to our country and to the Sacramento area.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
SHRIMAD RAJCHANDRAJI DUR-
ING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the many devout followers of Jainism in honoring in the month of October the life of the remarkable Jain poet, scholar, religious leader, and philosopher Shrimad Rajchandraji, and to acknowledge his many writings, in particular his poetic spiritual masterpiece, *Atmasiddhi Shastra*.

Born in 1867 in the Indian port city of Vavania, Rajchandraji was drawn to a religious life from an early age. His spiritual odyssey led him to Jainism and its core belief of ahimsa or non-violence (the ethical principal of not causing harm to other living beings). Shrimad Rajchandraji scaled great spiritual heights and demystified the path to self-discovery in an effortless manner relevant to the contemporary social environment. Even in a short life of 34 years, Rajchandraji gave the world a rich heritage that continues to guide generations of seekers. His life and works have been compiled and published in a volume titled *Shrimad Rajchandra*, the contents of which are an inspiration to turn within and discover life's eternal truths.

In his early spiritual and philosophical writings Rajchandraji wrote about the importance of women's education and the practices that cultivate the essential mindset of non-attachment, and authored many commentaries on spirituality and Jain religious beliefs. Shrimad Rajchandraji was a visionary who laid the foundations of Jain spirituality for a new era. He composed *Atmasiddhi Shastra* in the late 19th century to present the six spiritual truths and the path to self-realisation. The poem is revered by many seekers as a masterpiece of spiritual enlightenment and guidance.

In 1891, Rajchandraji was introduced to a young Indian lawyer named Mohandas Gandhi. This encounter led to a long friendship and mentorship between Rajchandraji and the future father of modern India. In his autobiography, Gandhi paid homage to his spiritual mentor by noting that "[I]n my moments of spiritual crisis, Shrimadji was my refuge."

Madam Speaker, I also take this opportunity to commend Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji, spiritual visionary and global humanitarian leader, who has devoted his life to sharing the wisdom of Shrimad Rajchandraji through the work of the Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur. Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji's impact in fostering peace and serving society, aligned with Rajchandraji's philosophy, has been recognised by various prestigious forums and contemporary spiritual leaders globally.

Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Shrimad Rajchandraji's teachings on the importance of nonviolence, truth, and peace, which are as relevant today as they were to Mahatma Gandhi over a century ago, and the guidance and comfort provided to his devotees by the epic masterpiece, *Atmasiddhi Shastra*.