

May God bless Cheryl Cates.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 373; NAY on Roll Call No. 374; YEA on Roll Call No. 375; YEA on Roll Call No. 376; NAY on Roll Call No. 377; NAY on Roll Call No. 378; NAY on Roll Call No. 379; YEA on Roll Call No. 380; NAY on Roll Call No. 381; NAY on Roll Call No. 382; NAY on Roll Call No. 383; YEA on Roll Call No. 384; NAY on Roll Call No. 385; and NAY on Roll Call No. 386.

HONORING MICHAEL R. MELILLO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and pay tribute to Michael Melillo, of Niles, who passed away on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at the Cleveland Clinic. He was 64 years old.

He was born April 6, 1957, in Warren, the son of Ray and Jean Walden Melillo. Mike was a 1975 graduate of Niles McKinley High School and owned and operated Men's Union Barbershop as well as the adjoining beauty shop, Hair Design by Michael. Mike deeply loved the city of Niles, and he was a beloved fixture of the community. For the last almost 40 years, he could be found daily at his Robbins Avenue barbershop—an establishment built by Mike's immigrant grandfather, Phillip Melillo in the 1930s.

He was a lifelong member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Parish in Niles and was a proud Italian-American. His world revolved around his family and nothing pleased him more than to be surrounded by his adoring grandkids.

Mike led a very active and healthy lifestyle. Beyond daily fitness, Mike enjoyed golfing, swimming, running and playing bocce. He loved basketball and was known for his sharp jumpshot all the way up until he quit playing in his late 50s. Many of Mike's days were spent coaching his children's youth sports teams and eventually attending his grandchildren's games. Mike restarted the Mount Carmel grade-school basketball program with Stu Sussman in 1999, where his teams were exceptionally successful in both winning games and building life-long loving friendships. Family traditions were important to Mike. In the summer, he could be found tending his garden and, in the fall, crushing grapes in the wine cellar. Mike was also a Niles Frontliner who had a reverence for the proud Red Dragon Football program.

Mike meant the world to his loved ones and served as the guiding star for his wife and children. He will be gravely missed by his father of Niles; his wife, Gerri Gatta Melillo; a son, Vincent Melillo and his wife, Christina of Dublin, Ohio; two daughters, Michelle Spano

and her husband, Randy of Canfield and Rose Allison Johnson and her husband, Chaz of Niles; a brother, Raymond T. Melillo and his wife, Pam of Poland; three sisters, Vickie Janik and her husband, Ed of Niles, Monica Melillo and her fiancé, Bill Hensley of Painesville and Gwen Maynard of Youngstown; seven grandchildren, Chaz, Enzo, Nico, Mia, Carmela, Capri and Michael; and a little girl due in June (Vince and Christi). He was preceded in death by his mother.

A friend to so many, Mike had a one-of-a-kind sense of humor. He had a knack for building profound relationships and leaving a positive impact on people's lives. While his presence will be most painfully missed by both his family and community, his influence will be everlasting.

HONORING KNOXVILLE CHIEF OF POLICE EVE THOMAS' RETIREMENT

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Knoxville Police Chief Eve Thomas, who recently announced her retirement after nearly 30 years in law enforcement.

Chief Thomas joined the Knoxville Police Department in 1993. She served in many capacities, including as a Patrol Officer, Problem Solving Instructor, Field Training Officer, and a Domestic Violence/Terrorism Instructor at Walters State Community College.

In 1998, she was promoted to Sergeant and served as an Accreditation Manager, Patrol Sergeant, and Personnel Sergeant.

Chief Thomas was promoted again in 2005 to the rank of Lieutenant. With this promotion, she assumed administrative responsibilities of KPD's specialty units, including the Crisis Negotiation Unit, Special Operations Squad, K9 Unit, and several others. She was critical to all these units' operations and, as a result of her reliable performance, Chief Thomas was given additional responsibilities as Patrol Lieutenant, Central Business District Supervisor, and Traffic Services Supervisor.

In 2011, Chief Thomas achieved the rank of Captain and gained supervision of KPD's Support Services Division.

In 2013, she was assigned to the Patrol Division as East District Commander, and then served as Commander of the Department's Internal Affairs Unit and the Criminal Investigations Division.

In February 2018, Chief Thomas was promoted to Deputy Chief over the Criminal Investigation Division. Four months later, she became the 26th Chief of Police and the first woman to hold the top position at the Knoxville Police Department. She has served in this position ever since.

Chief Thomas dedicated her career to protecting the people of Knoxville. I thank Chief Thomas for her service. I wish her the very best in her retirement.

ARKANSAS CODING ACADEMY

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Arkansas Coding Academy on their 5-year anniversary.

Since its foundation in 2016, the Arkansas Coding Academy has provided roughly 300 students with the tools and resources needed to succeed in the rapidly growing tech industry and programing opportunities across central Arkansas.

Individual courses typically last only four weeks, and the curriculum as a whole is typically completed in six to nine months.

Their annual Demo Day provided students with the opportunity to show off their final projects while also having the opportunity to be recruited by hiring managers.

The Arkansas Coding Academy develops skilled workers, and I am proud to have such an outstanding program in central Arkansas.

HONORING MARC BOSWELL

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer sympathy and prayer to the community of Andrews, as well as the family of Marc Boswell, who was tragically killed in a bus crash while traveling with the Andrews High School Band to a Mustangs playoff game two weeks ago.

Marc Boswell was a humble and beloved Andrews public servant, who tragically passed away in the bus crash.

Marc devoted his life to Andrews—as a high school math teacher, employee of the Andrews school district, involved community leader, and beloved friend, father, husband, and son. After retiring, Mr. Boswell stayed busy running stats for the Andrews football team, timing the swim team meets, and driving buses for Andrews ISO sports and extra-curricular activities.

He was known for his servant heart, incredible work ethic, infectious smiles, and deep love for his wife Carol and his children and grandchildren.

Andrews ISO and our communities across West Texas are mourning the loss of Mr. Boswell.

Camille and I are sending our support and prayers to Andrews and to Mr. Boswell's family.

HONORING ROSETTA MILLER-PERRY AND THE TENNESSEE TRIBUNE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor The Tennessee Tribune, one of Tennessee's most influential publications, and Rosetta Miller-Perry, who is the paper's founder, publisher, and CEO.

Thirty years ago, Rosetta took a business risk to launch The Tribune in order to raise awareness of, and address issues facing, Black families. The Tennessee Tribune has become the state's largest minority weekly newspaper, fearlessly speaking truth to power and highlighting stories too often ignored by other publishers.

From joining the United States Navy to working alongside civil rights leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Z. Alexander Looby, Rosetta has always been an advocate for good on the right side of history. Before founding The Tennessee Tribune, she worked at the United States Civil Rights Commission and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. After arriving in Nashville, Rosetta founded the city's Black Chamber of Commerce, which is still the preeminent resource for African American businesses in the area. It's no surprise that Rosetta is known to many as the Queen of Jefferson Street, the historic center of Nashville's African American community.

Rosetta's lifetime of accomplishments is documented in HistoryMakers, an oral history collection of prominent African Americans. In 2019, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Newspaper Publishers Association for her work with The Tribune.

The Tennessee Tribune's work is multi-dimensional. It has two stores in the Nashville International Airport so that most visitors to our state will see the importance and power that diversity has made in shaping our growing region. This progress would not have been possible without Rosetta and The Tribune.

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of The Tennessee Tribune and Rosetta's dedication to championing the cause of civil rights and leadership of African Americans. Rosetta always makes our city, state, and country better, and I am honored to call her a friend. I look forward to The Tribune's next thirty years and many more decades after that.

CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF DR. CHARLES TEAMER, SR.

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize Dr. Charles C. Teamer, Sr. of New Orleans, Louisiana, a civic leader and accomplished banker in my district. He has been a role model, an educator, a businessman, and an inspirational mentor to myself and so many others over the years.

Born on May 20, 1933 in Shelby, North Carolina, he received his B.S. degree from Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia in 1954. He served in the U.S. Army from 1956 to 1958, and later received his M.A. degree from the University of Nebraska and his Ph.D. degree from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dr. Teamer has worked as a business manager at several colleges and universities, ultimately becoming the vice president of finance at Dillard University and was promoted to chief financial officer in 1968. In 1983, he was appointed by Governor David Treen as the first African American Commissioner for the Port of New Orleans.

Dr. Teamer has been a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for 70 years and is a current member of the Sigma Lambda chapter. From 1985 to 1988 he served as the Fraternity's 27th general president. He is also a longtime member and former Grand Sire Archon of the Sigma Pi Phi.

Dr. Teamer was co-founder and chairman of Dryades Savings Bank. After retiring from Dillard University, Teamer led an investment partnership to open The Cotton Exchange and Holiday Inn Express Hotel in downtown New Orleans. He also served as president of the World Trade Center of New Orleans.

From serving as executive director of the Amistad Research Center and a consultant to the U.S. Department of Education, Dr. Teamer has also held numerous board appointments. These included the Board of Education of the United Methodist Church, the National Association of Colleges and University Business Officers, the Ford Foundation, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Ochsner Medical Foundations, the Audubon Institute, and the Common Fund. He also served as chairman for the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, Harrah's New Orleans Casino, the Metropolitan Area Committee, the Greater New Orleans Foundation and the United Way.

Dr. Teamer was a member of the business and higher-education council for the University of New Orleans as well as served on the board of the Southern Education Foundation. This do-it-all man was also president of fiscal affairs at Dillard University and Clark Atlanta University and president of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers. He served on the board of supervisors for the University of Louisiana System and for Tulane University. Dr. Teamer also had tenure as the Entergy New Orleans director.

As you can see, Dr. Charles C. Teamer, Sr. is a busy man, and I am grateful that our paths have crossed so many times throughout his illustrious career. I want to express my thanks to him and his family, Linda Phoenix Teamer, Charles Jr., Roderick, and the late Mary and Cheryl Teamer, for all of the time and energy he has given to New Orleans. Dr. Teamer has given so much to the community he loves and has lifted up all boats with him as he achieved success. The entire state of Louisiana is grateful for his longtime work and service.

HONORING DR. MAXINE O'DELL
GERNERT

**HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK"
FLEISCHMANN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Maxine O'Dell Gernert of Athens, Tennessee and recognize a lifetime of service to her community and our nation. Dr. Gernert retires from my Congressional staff today.

Dr. Gernert obtained a BS in Education from the University of Tennessee and subsequently earned a Masters of Divinity from the Church of God School of Theology and a Doctorate of Ministries from Columbia Theological Seminary.

Dr. Gernert is an ordained minister, has taught at Lee University, and has spoken internationally for chaplain training. She performed Clinical Pastoral Education training in hospitals and was interim director and chaplain for the Serenity Women's Shelter in Knoxville, TN.

Maxine has been married to Dr. John N. Gernert for over 50 years, and the two have three children and seven grandchildren.

Maxine has been a pillar of public life in East Tennessee for over 30 years. She served as the Area 2 President for the National Federation of Republican Women and as Chairman for the McMinn County Republican Party for two terms.

Dr. Gernert was recognized as the Tennessee GOP Steward of the Year for District 2 in 2005 and received the Lincoln Award from the McMinn County Republican Party in 2016. She was awarded the Extraordinary Leaders prize from the American Association of Physician Specialties in 2017.

For the past twelve years, Maxine has worked as Field Representative, first in Tennessee's Second Congressional District for Congressman Jimmy Duncan, and since 2013 on my staff in Tennessee's Third Congressional District. In this role, she has tirelessly served our great East Tennessee community helping countless individuals by providing constituent services.

Dr. Maxine Gernert has been an asset to East Tennessee and to me. Always positive and assertive, she has had a tremendous impact on all those fortunate enough to know her. I will treasure my time spent with Maxine and know we will continue to cross paths in the many ways she remains engaged in our communities. I wish her all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

God bless Maxine.

COMMEMORATING THE TUNA
CANYON DETENTION STATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition as it commemorates the 80th anniversary of the opening of the detention station located in Tujunga, California. I commend the organization's tireless efforts to preserve and document the historical site and the stories of the lives that were forever changed while they were detained at the Tuna Canyon Detention Station (TCDS) during World War II.

At the onset of World War II, Presidential Proclamations 2525, 2526, and 2527 authorized the arrest and imprisonment of people deemed a threat to U.S. national security. The proclamations served as justification to arrest individuals of Japanese, German, and Italian ancestry along with extradited Japanese Peruvians and detain them without due process.

The U.S. Department of Justice subsequently appropriated a Civilian Conservation Corps camp a week after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 which they would then transform into the detention station that we know today as TCDS. From December 16, 1941 to October 30, 1943, the Tuna Canyon Detention Station imprisoned over