

of the first Alabama physicians to become certified to start an office-based opioid treatment center. In 2008 he helped develop an approved prescribing course sponsored by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners. Since that time, he has presented the course to over 15,000 Alabama prescribers and was awarded the Administrators in Medicine National Award for Excellence for the course in 2015.

Along with his accomplishments in the medical field, Dr. Harrison in an instrument-rated pilot, a certified scuba diver, photographer, and has served his church as a talented pianist for over 25 years.

Dr. Boyde J. Harrison is a prime example of the steadfast, hardworking people that I am proud to represent in Alabama's Fourth Congressional District, I ask that you join me in congratulating him on completing 40 years of dedication and service not only to my hometown of Haleyville, but to Northwest Alabama and the great State of Alabama.

HONORING DR. KEITH WEAVER

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Keith Weaver ahead of his retirement this month.

Dr. Weaver's 37 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and to the conservation and management of the National Wildlife Refuge System played a critical role in protecting important natural resources in Arkansas and throughout the nation. Wildlife refuges are an essential piece to both the economy and culture of the Natural State, and we owe many thanks to Dr. Weaver for his leadership in conservation.

His career officially began at Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge in northeast Louisiana as a forestry technician. There he oversaw logging contracts, participated in reforestation activities, dealt with nuisance beaver control, and later became the refuge's first Wildlife Biologist where he conducted important research on the area's black bears. He served outside of the Southeast in refuge leadership positions at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in Maryland's Eastern Shore and Nulhegan Basin Division of the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge in northeastern Vermont. Dr. Weaver took his current position as the project leader at the Central Arkansas National Wildlife Refuge Complex in 2007. He is responsible for managing six refuges at Bald Knob, Big Lake, Cache River, Holla Bend, Logan Cave, and Wapanocca, Arkansas—five of which are primarily managed for wintering waterfowl.

Throughout his career, he invested in future conservation leaders and earned a reputation of the highest character, integrity, and honesty. He engaged with national, regional, and local stakeholders and was a dependable resource for my staff and I, always ready to help serve Arkansans.

Dr. Weaver's dedication and leadership has not gone unnoticed, and in September 2021, he was awarded the Department of the Interior's Distinguished Service Award, the highest honorary recognition an employee can receive within DOI. This award is reserved for out-

standing individuals who make significant contributions to science or to the public service.

Both the state of Arkansas and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are losing an exceptional public servant. I thank Dr. Weaver for his decades of commitment to keeping the Natural State a vibrant, safe, and beautiful place to call home.

RECOGNIZING 30 YEARS OF KAZAKHSTAN'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan achieved its independence from the former Soviet Union and became a self-governing nation-state on December 16, 1991. Guided by its first President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan quickly renounced nuclear weapons, and worked with the United States to close the former Soviet nuclear test facility at Semipalatinsk and secure the nuclear materials stored there. These bold gestures by President Nazarbayev and his government at a time of significant instability in the region set a precedent on nuclear safety and nonproliferation efforts for Kazakhstan in the international community.

After independence, Kazakhstan quickly turned away from Soviet-inspired central economic planning and built a stable market economy. As early as 1992, Kazakhstan joined international arbitration bodies and actively invited foreign investment in the country. Today Kazakhstan's economic output is one of the most robust in Central Asia, and American companies are some of the largest investors in Kazakhstan. In 2015, after twenty years of negotiations, Kazakhstan acceded to membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO), further broadening its relationship with the global economic community.

In 2019, the Kazakh people elected President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev who has pledged more important economic and political reforms. He has called his vision of government, "the listening state," and has promised to hear and respond to Kazakh citizens, to act consistently with international social, labor, and human rights standards, and to encourage participation in the political life of the country. I applaud these calls for reforms and hope that the government of Kazakhstan will implement them which will ultimately benefit the country and cement its place as a reliable friend of the United States.

One of the requirements of the WTO is that members extend permanent normal trade relations to each other. Unfortunately, the U.S. has yet to grant permanent normal trade relations to Kazakhstan, citing the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the Trade Act of 1974 which restricts trade relations with non-market economies that limit the right of citizens to emigrate. This measure was aimed at the Soviet Union and its then-allies in response to their punitive restrictions on Jewish émigrés. Joined by my friends, Ms. WALORSKI, Ms. MURPHY, and Mr. CHABOT, I introduced H.R. 5544 in October to grant permanent normal trade relations to Kazakhstan. It is long past

time for the U.S. to take this step. The Soviet Union no longer exists, and its successor, the Russian Federation, was granted permanent normal trade relations in 2012. Meanwhile, since independence, Kazakhstan has granted all of its citizens the freedom to emigrate and adopted a stable market economy. The conditions that led to enactment of Jackson-Vanik no longer exist, and the reasons for its restrictions on trade relations have long since ceased to apply to Kazakhstan. Permanent normal trade relations will benefit Kazakhstan and will also benefit the many U.S. companies investing in and doing business in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan also has been a crucial leader and partner to the U.S. on counterterrorism efforts, providing support and assistance to the U.S. during its engagement in Afghanistan. The country has an abundance of natural resources, including rare earth and other critical minerals that will play a significant role in the global shift away from fossil fuels. Kazakhstan has a young and educated workforce and actively promotes universal education, including English language skills, so its citizens can fully participate in the global economy. For these reasons, I believe Kazakhstan deserves our sustained interest, friendship, and attention as it continues to evolve.

Madam Speaker, I recently assumed the role of co-chair of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Caucus because I believe our relationship with Kazakhstan is very important to the economic and national security of the United States. We clearly benefit from our friendship with this vibrant and growing nation located in such a strategic part of the world. I invite all my House colleagues to consider joining the Caucus and supporting the granting of permanent normal trade relations to Kazakhstan.

Congratulations to the Kazakh people on 30 years of independence, progress, and growth.

RECOGNIZING THE JEFFERSON DAVIS COUNTY JAGUARS AS MHSAA 3A STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I'd like to congratulate the Jefferson Davis County Jaguars and Coach Lance Mancuso on their MHSAA 3A State Championship victory. This is Coach Mancuso's ninth straight state championship, an unprecedented accomplishment. I commend Coach Mancuso for his record-setting success at the helm of the Jaguars football team and wish him and his team continued success in the future.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to the young men who worked tirelessly for the championship trophy. Every early morning, every extra rep, and every sacrifice they made to better themselves and their team has resulted in the top prize.

In the coming days, as the thrill of victory begins to fade, I would encourage those young men to reflect deeply on the investment they made to realize this championship. They will never forget the feeling of their great accomplishment; but in the future, as they reminisce on this victory, I would challenge them to remember the qualities that made them champions.

Those qualities of hard-work, commitment, and determination will continue to serve them well in the future as they transition from leaders on the field to leaders in their families, communities, state, and Nation.

Congratulations to the Jefferson Davis County Jaguars. They earned this victory.

COMMEMORATING JUDY
MCKIERNAN

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Judith Ann McKiernan, wife, mother, public servant, and community leader. Mrs. McKiernan passed away on November 30th.

Judy is survived by her husband of twenty-nine years, Michael and their two children, Hannah, and Adam. Lovingly known to Judy as, Team McKiernan.

A native of Shreveport, Louisiana, Judy grew up in Houston, Texas and made her way to Winchester in the late 1980s. Judy dedicated her life in Winchester to community service, as a social worker, public school counselor and administrator for over thirty years, and as a Member of Winchester City Council. She was currently serving as Director of Student Support Services for the Winchester Public Schools.

Judy was known for her spirited personality and fierce determination to advocate for those she loved. She enjoyed dancing, being out in nature, and welcoming all who came through her door. She loved serving her community and found great joy in supporting the development of making it a more equitable place to thrive and grow. Judy supported the many organizations whose missions aligned with her values, including Bright Futures, Winchester Area Thermal Shelter (WATTS) NAACP, and many others.

Judy McKiernan leaves behind a lasting legacy of dedicated public service and will be missed by family, her many friends and the community she served.

HONORING COMMISSIONER EMMIT
JIMMAR OF COLBERT COUNTY,
ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize today the profound service and legacy of the late Emmit Jimmar of Colbert County, Alabama. Emmit Jimmar held the office of county commissioner for 28 years, serving as the first Black commissioner elected in Colbert County. We mourn his passing today and reflect on the influence his service brought to North Alabama.

Commissioner Jimmar was known by many as a bearer of wisdom. For nearly three decades he served as a mentor for so many, instilling in each of them the importance of passion in service and a love for the work they do.

He paved the way for others to follow, from being the first Black county commissioner to being the first Black teacher at Coffee High School in Florence, Alabama. Commissioner Jimmar also played a key role in fanning the Alabama Education Association by initially joining the preexisting white teacher's association. He would then spend 43 years with AEA advocating for educators and staff in the state.

Words used to describe Commissioner Jimmar have included "a pillar in the Shoals community," and "a mentor, advisor, supporter, and friend." I know that Commissioner Jimmar was all of such and more. The legacy of his avowed service in Alabama will thrive as the communities he has touched continue to grow and benefit from his work.

Commissioner Jimmar leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 59 years, Mrs. Elsa Jimmar, and his two children Kevin and La'Kiska Jimmar; special daughter-in-law Pammie Jimmar; grandsons KC Jimmar and Dallas Jimmar; sisters Martha (Puddin) Stewart and Carrie Jimmar; and brother, Reginald (Tiffany) Hughes and stepsister Debbie Winston. Devoted nephews and nieces, Renita (LaBron) Jimmar-Hall; Myron (Sherry) Hughes; Kimberly Stewart; Kharis Hughes; Nephew Carlton (Verda) Ross; brother-in-law Don Wells (Carol); sisters-in-law Annie Wells and Aurelia Wells, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

I ask that you join me in honoring Emmit Jimmar and help commemorate his lifetime of service as an inspiration for others as they follow in his footsteps on the lasting path he paved.

RECOGNITION OF THE AWARD OF
THE GREENFIELD RECORDER'S
2021 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR TO
CAROLYN SHORES NESS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carolyn Shores Ness, the Greenfield Recorder's 2021 Citizen of the Year. Carolyn is a proud resident of the Second District of Massachusetts and has served her community of Deerfield, and beyond, for many years.

In her 18 years as a member of the Deerfield Selectboard, Carolyn has served on various committees through which she has made a great impact. She has worked to secure grant funding for Deerfield and to support the programs that most benefit the town. Since 2014, she has been leading the charge to revitalize downtown Deerfield and transform it into a booming destination. Carolyn wants to make her town a safe and walkable place where businesses can thrive.

Her aspirations are clear—Carolyn Shores Ness wants to create community. And Madam Speaker, Carolyn is unique in that she does the work to realize her vision.

In addition to her tenure on the Selectboard, Carolyn has served as the Chair of the Deerfield Board of Health and the Co-Chair of the Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition. Through her actions and advocacy, Carolyn has worked to keep the people in our community healthy and safe, especially as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

She has been a member of many councils and commissions, including the Western Massachusetts Homeland Security Council, the Regional Emergency Planning Council, and the Deerfield Green Infrastructure Committee. Carolyn has been a staunch advocate for sustainable and efficient improvements to local infrastructure. Her advocacy exemplifies her unwavering commitment to both service and community.

Madam Speaker, Carolyn has consistently worked to improve our community and bring people together. She is respectful and engaged and values hearing different points of view in order to best advocate for what our community truly needs. She has an incredible gift for collaborating with others to produce creative and effective solutions. Carolyn embodies what it means to be a public servant and Massachusetts is all the better for it.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Massachusetts, I would like to thank Carolyn Shores Ness for her longstanding service and congratulate her on being named the Greenfield Recorder's 2021 Citizen of the Year.

HONORING BRODIE MICHAEL
FOSTER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brodie Michael Foster. Brodie is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brodie has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brodie has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 27 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brodie has completed Boy Scouts of America's National Youth Leadership Training, served in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and has camped a total of 59 nights. Brodie has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Brodie checked Darns for Erosion Control at the City of Glenaire City Park which took 87.5 hours of service to complete.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brodie Michael Foster for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING DENNIS R. GROFF

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dennis R. Groff who is retiring after more than thirty years of service to Paradise Township, located in Lancaster County in Pennsylvania's Eleventh District. A lifelong resident of Paradise, Dennis has dedicated