

years and anti-racism measures discussed at the September 2020 Joint Meeting I hosted in my capacity as Chair of the U.S. Helsinki Commission with my European colleagues “Reinforcing U.S.-EU Parliamentary Coordination to Combat Racism and Systemic Discrimination.”

Recommendations from these efforts have included the implementation of EU-wide anti-racism strategies; European Black History Month and Remembrance Day for Victims of Colonialism and Enslavement; a fund for Black European led initiatives to address continuing disparities and discrimination and support for empowerment initiatives; European-wide strategies for the inclusion of People of African Descent; and support for transatlantic exchanges on common issues of racial prejudice and discrimination.

The need for recognition of Black populations in Europe became clear more than a decade ago when I chaired a U.S. Helsinki Commission hearing entitled, “The State of (In)visible Black Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics”, where we learned that the situation in Europe is very similar to the one in the United States. A number of these similarities were most recently highlighted by global racial justice protests following the murder of George Floyd.

While the presence of Blacks in Europe can be traced to enslavement, colonization, military deployments, voluntary or forced migration, the movement of refugees and asylum seekers, or educational and other professional exchanges, the story of Europeans of African Descent and Black Europeans still remains largely untold—rendering many of their past and present contributions to the very fabric of Europe unseen or forgotten, which is unacceptable.

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that when we gather in the years to come to review the efforts of the United Nations designated International Decade for People of African Descent, we will not only speak of how our efforts resulted in our respective nations publicly recognizing the injustices and long-term impact of slavery and colonialism, but also of how our societies reconciled these issues in a manner that ensured equal opportunity, access, and justice for all people of African descent.

I am greatly encouraged by recent Executive Orders from President Biden focused on equity and justice in this country, and see the adoption of this resolution on Black Europeans as well as a bill I have introduced calling for the creation of a State Department Office on Global African Descent Affairs as complementary to the President’s domestic efforts. I urge you to join me in supporting this resolution recognizing Black Europeans and other efforts in support of achieving racial justice.

**SUPERMARKET EMPLOYEE DAY
PROCLAMATION**

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following proclamation. On

behalf of the people of Wisconsin I, MARK POCAN, United States Representative of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 22, 2021, as Supermarket Employee Day.

Whereas, there are nearly six million supermarket employees in the United States; and
Whereas, in Wisconsin there are 148,959 food retail jobs that generate \$15,630,033,800 in economic activity; and

Whereas, supermarket employees provide all Americans with access to safe, healthy, and affordable food; and

Whereas, supermarket employees work to enhance the health and well-being of each customer; and

Whereas, supermarket employees contribute and volunteer countless hours in their communities; and

Whereas, supermarket employees face unprecedented challenges keeping grocery shelves stocked during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

Whereas, supermarket employees have and continue to meet and exceed these challenges, while displaying courage, compassion, dedication, and leadership, as well as exemplifying customer service and community outreach; and

Whereas, the need for supermarket employees is greater than ever because of current and growing consumer demands as well as their reputation for excellence; now therefore I, MARK POCAN, United States Representative of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 22, 2021 as Supermarket Employee Day and ask all citizens to join in honoring our Supermarket Heroes.

**REFUGEE SANITATION FACILITY
SAFETY ACT OF 2021**

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the reintroduction of the Refugee Sanitation Facility Safety Act of 2021. This bill will ensure women and girls in refugee camps are able to access bathrooms without fear of violence.

Refugees awaiting resettlement are fleeing conditions like war, violence, and persecution. While many hope to find safety in temporary refugee camps, violence and insecurity can also follow, especially for women and girls. Women are at a greater risk of experiencing sexual assault and violence if they do not have separate bathrooms. During the COVID-19 pandemic, refugees are even more vulnerable and even more in need of secure access to sanitation.

The measure would remedy this problem by ensuring recipients of U.S. aid provide safe and secure access to sanitation facilities, with a special emphasis on women and girls, and vulnerable populations.

Women and girls deserve and need sanitation facilities that are safe and free from harm. It is disheartening that today’s refugee camps create conditions that allow sexual assault and violence to occur. This is why I am leading this legislation with Congressman ZELDIN to

ensure women, girls, and other vulnerable populations have access to safe and secure restrooms. Last Congress, this bill unanimously passed the House of Representatives. I urge my colleagues to support this measure so that it can finally be signed into law.

**IN RECOGNITION OF ADAM
STEELE**

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Adam Steele on his appointment to Huntingdon Borough’s newly-formed human relations commission.

The goal of the commission is to ensure equal access to employment, housing, and other public services to all people, regardless of race, sex, ethnicity, and other protected categories. Local governments have a responsibility to ensure the constitutional and legal rights of their citizens are observed, and I know that leaders like Mr. Steele in Huntingdon take that responsibility seriously.

On behalf of Pennsylvania’s 13th Congressional District, I thank Mr. Steele for his leadership and service to Huntingdon Borough and congratulate him on being appointed to this commission.

**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE
ARIZONA INFORMANT**

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Arizona Informant, a newspaper which for the past fifty years has reported on news that directly impacts the Black community across the Phoenix Valley. The Arizona Informant now reaches 100,000 weekly readers and is the only Black owned weekly newspaper in our state.

The Arizona Informant started with an investment of just \$1 in 1971 by brothers, Clovis Campbell Sr. and Charles Campbell, who noticed there was a lack of coverage on issues affecting the Black community in Arizona. Clovis, the first Black Arizona State Senator, and Charles, an educator with a doctorate in higher education administration, were pillars of the Black community in Phoenix whose impact across the Valley is still felt today.

Still family owned and operated, the Arizona Informant has stayed true to its mission of bringing to the forefront stories of accomplishment and achievement in the Black community. The protests that erupted after George Floyd last summer and the ongoing struggle for racial justice have shown that the work of the Arizona Informant is needed now as much, if not more, than it was fifty years ago.

As we continue to celebrate Black History Month, I am proud to be able to recognize and uplift the Arizona Informant. I wish to congratulate the Arizona Informant on fifty years of ‘Recording Black History Every Week’ and thank them for their continued work.

IN RECOGNITION OF HONORABLE
JANE HARMAN

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize the Honorable Jane Hannan on the occasion of her retirement from her role as President and CEO of the Wilson Center after nearly a decade in leadership. The Wilson Center is the nation's leading non-partisan policy forum tackling global issues through independent research and open dialogue.

As the Wilson Center's first female Director, President and CEO, Ms. Hannan leveraged her deep connections across the political spectrum—including lawmakers, global leaders and foreign dignitaries—to ensure the Wilson Center is poised for continued success and growth. Under her leadership, the Wilson Center was named the “number one” regional studies think tank in the world.

Ms. Harman created the Global Women's Leadership Initiative, which works to accelerate global progress towards equal participation in policy and political leadership among women. She revamped the Center and successfully oversaw the transition of the Wilson Quarterly from a print-only publication to an all-digital, award-winning interactive publication reaching thousands of listeners and viewers during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

A native of Los Angeles and a product of local public schools, Ms. Harman graduated from Smith College and began her long and remarkable career in public service as a staffer for U.S. Senator John V. Tunney until she transitioned to President Jimmy Carter's Administration as Special Counsel to the Department of Defense and as Deputy Secretary of the Cabinet.

In 1992, Ms. Harman was elected to represent the constituents of California's 36th Congressional District as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives where she became a pillar of bipartisanship and an internationally recognized authority on U.S. and global security issues. She served on all major security committees, including six years on the Armed Services Committee and eight years on both the House Intelligence Committee and the House Committee on Homeland Security. I became good friends with Ms. Harman when she was the ranking member of the Intelligence Committee and experienced first-hand her excellent leadership and mentorship as we traveled to some of the world's most dangerous places. Representative Hannan received awards and accolades too numerous to mention in their entirety.

I am honored to call Ms. Harman a personal friend and proud of what the Wilson Center has accomplished under her leadership. On behalf of my constituents and all American citizens, I thank her for her service to our nation and I wish her the best of luck in all future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DREW
COUNTY DEPUTY, SGT. AC SIMP-
SON JR.

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sgt. AC Simpson Jr., a committed servant of the Drew County, Arkansas Sheriffs Department for over 35 years. Sgt. Simpson passed away on Sunday, January 31, leaving behind a legacy of joyful service to his beloved home.

Having first started his career as an auxiliary deputy in 1985, Sgt. Simpson worked full-time for the Drew County Sheriffs office since 2001. Noted as an avid bowler and fisherman, he was also an invested family man with three grandsons and one granddaughter. His legacy of law enforcement continued in his grandson, Xavier, who became an auxiliary deputy in Drew County in 2020. Remembered most for his ability to brighten anyone's day, Sgt. Simpson's service made him a friend to all in his community.

I take this time today to honor the life of service exemplified by Sgt. AC Simpson Jr. I thank him and his family for their dedication to our fellow citizens and our beloved Fourth District.

WISHING FLORENCE CLARKE A
HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great distinction that I rise today to observe and celebrate the 80th birthday of Reverend Florence Dorothy Jeffries Gilliard Clarke. Florence is the epitome of an altruistic American. A teacher, devout pastor, and community advocate who has dedicated her life to enriching the lives of those within our eastern Connecticut community.

Florence's life began down south in Charleston, SC on February 21, 1941. Guided by a strong spirit and support from loved ones, Florence overcame the tragic loss of her parents at a young age. An astute student, Florence won a scholarship to attend SC State College to pursue a degree in Business Administration. It was during her time at SC State that Florence began to lend her voice to decry mass injustices across our nation marching alongside our colleague U.S. House Representative JIM CLYBURN to desegregate American public schools. Sixty years ago, Florence and JIM and 185 others were arrested at a peaceful protest in front of the state house in Columbia, South Carolina. Despite its peaceful nature, they were convicted of breach of peace and locked up for three days. They appealed this injustice all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and the court ruled in their favor in a landmark first amendment case, *Edwards V. South Carolina*.

Florence remained in South Carolina after college and began her career as a teacher. Drawing from her life experiences, Florence was a beacon of wisdom for her students and

taught not only with energy and positivity, but with care and kindness. Eventually, Florence and her husband, who served in the U.S. NAVY, moved to Connecticut where he was stationed at the Subbase New London. After the untimely passing of her husband, Florence chose to remain in Connecticut. Shifting her career focus, Florence took a position with General Dynamics-Electric Boat—contributing to building our nation's dominant fleet of submarines. Florence, now a true Nutmegger, stayed at Electric Boat for more than 25 years before retiring to return to her passion of teaching. She joined the East Lyme, Waterford, Montville and New London school systems as a substitute teacher and became such a renowned figure in the eastern Connecticut school system that in 2002 she was selected as the commencement speaker for Waterford High School's graduating class.

However, Florence's service to the community went far beyond confines of our schools. The church was another vessel for which she inspired the action of others. In 1975, guided by a deep-rooted mission to serve, Florence became an active member of Walls Temple A.M.E. Zion Church in New London. Her involvement with the church continued to grow and took a pivotal turn in 1997 when she became an ordained pastor and organized Clarke Memorial A.M.E. Zion—at that time the first new congregation admitted in the annual conference in twenty years. Her journey within the ministry came full circle in 2014 when the congregations of Walls Temple and Clarke Memorial merged to become Walls Clarke Temple A.M.E. Zion. With a humble spirit, Florence celebrated 40 years of service in Christian ministry in 2015 and retired from 20 years of pastoral ministry in June 2017.

Florence is unabated in her fight against racial oppression and strives to empower those within her community. I am honored to have marched on State Street with Florence in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, witnessed her advocacy for children through the establishment of National Children's Day, and stood in solidarity with her as we tried to reconcile the tragic acts of June 17, 2015, at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Florence's legacy will forever be ingrained in the fabric of Eastern Connecticut—influencing generation after generation.

Madam Speaker, Fellow Colleagues—I ask you to please join me in wishing Florence a happy 80th birthday and aid me in showing appreciation to this outstanding citizen. Florence, we wish you a joyous celebration on your special day and many more years of happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF NED CRAFTS

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ned Crafts on his appointment to Huntingdon Borough's newly formed human relations commission.

The goal of the commission is to ensure equal access to employment, housing, and other public services to all people, regardless of race, sex, ethnicity, and other protected categories. Local governments have a responsibility to ensure the constitutional and legal