

work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Francisca Vasquez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Francisca Vasquez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding a missed vote due to attending a friend's funeral. Had I been present for roll call vote number 118, On Passage to the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for roll call vote number 119, On Passage to the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act, I would have voted "yea."

APRIL VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. HERN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the First District of Oklahoma's April Veteran of the Month, Willie Braggs.

Willie Braggs is a retired Air Force officer and Vice Wing Commander of the 138th Fighter Wing of the Oklahoma Air National Guard. His service included two combat tours in the Middle East. Colonel Braggs faithfully served our country for over thirty years and continues to give back to his community and fellow veterans.

He is involved with the Jenks Public School System as their assistant webmaster and varsity photographer for their athletic department. As the father of two Jenks graduates, he is a long-time parent volunteer. Colonel Braggs currently sits on the board of directors for the Coffee Bunker, a non-profit organization that helps service members transition to civilian life. He is a man of impeccable integrity who has dedicated his life to serving others.

He answered the call to defend freedom across the globe and sacrificed whatever was necessary in the name of that noble cause. It is my honor to recognize Willie Braggs as the first Congressional District of Oklahoma's April Veteran of the Month.

HONORING MRS. DELLA
MCCAUGHAN

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Della McCaughan who passed away on February 4, 2021 at the age of 92. I send my condolences and prayers to her family and friends.

Born and raised in Pass Christian Mississippi, Della was the youngest child in her family and was honored to claim the Mississippi Gulf Coast as her lifelong home.

Mrs. McCaughan was a teacher in the Biloxi Public School System for 44 years. She was the first person in the nation to teach Marine Biology at the high school level. Additionally, she wrote the first textbook to be used for that purpose.

Della loved teaching and believed in her students, helping them realize their potential. Della was the recipient of many awards. Some of her most valued awards include: Shell Meritt Fellowship, Mother of the Year, and Teacher of the Year. She was awarded an Einstein Congressional Fellowship to work in the U.S. Senate as an educational advisor, and in 1994, received a commendation through Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 578, whereby the Mississippi State Legislature recognized her outstanding career and meritorious service during her years as an educator.

Although we are saddened by her passing, we take comfort in her example of a life well lived and the legacy she leaves behind to all the young lives she touched. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Mississippi, we honor the memory of Mrs. Della McCaughan, a loving teacher, mother, wife, and woman of God.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SCOT
AMES, JR.

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Lt. Scot Ames, Jr. who passed away on a pilot training mission on February 19, 2021. I join his family and his squadron in mourning his loss.

Scot grew up in Pekin, Indiana and attended Eastern High School. He was an athlete and outdoorsman. Before graduating, he earned his Private Pilots License. He attended Indiana State University, where he was an active member of the ISU Bass Fishing Team. He studied Aviation Management and met his wife Audra. The two met almost three years ago and were married in the Fall of 2020.

Scot was known by his squadron for his love of flying. When he was young, he spoke of one day becoming a pilot in the United States Air Force. He was dedicated to his students as an instructor pilot and he impacted countless lives throughout his career.

Left to cherish Scot's memory are his wife, Audra Dial Ames; parents Ginger Bailey and Scot Wayne Ames; sister, Courtney; nieces Fe-

licity and Gwen; nephew Evan; and countless loved ones.

I join my fellow Mississippians in mourning the loss of a talented and dedicated young pilot. He will be deeply missed.

EMMA ARVIZO-AGUIRRE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emma Arvizo-Aguirre for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Emma Arvizo-Aguirre is a 12th grader at MESA and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Emma Arvizo-Aguirre is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emma Arvizo-Aguirre for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING JOSEPH CHERUP, JR.

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine and a true American hero from Fenton, Michigan—Mr. Joseph Cherup, Jr.

Throughout the course of his life, Mr. Cherup has worn many hats in the service of his nation, his community, and his family. While serving his country in Korea, he proudly wore the cap of an Army captain. As an officer at the Koje Do POW prison, Mr. Cherup was instrumental in negotiating the successful release of General Francis Dodd when he was held hostage for three days.

When Mr. Cherup returned home, he wore the hat of an engineer. He has owned several businesses and was a founding member of the Leelanau Conservancy, Traverse City Condominiums, Custom Electric, Revolution DC, Kolene Corporation, and Trade Winds Bar in Detroit.

But beyond his honorable service and his achievements in business, at his core, Mr. Cherup is simply a kind man who has helped take care of others.

When he was 21 years old, his father, Joseph Sr. passed away, leaving him to care for his mother, Rose, and his younger sister, Delores. In 1984, his mother moved in with him in Fenton so he could take better care of her, which he did until she passed away in 2007.

His entire life, Mr. Cherup has generously donated his time and his money to charities and causes that help others. He has worn

many hats—Army officer, business owner, and loving son. For this and for all he has given back, it is my honor to recognize his contributions on the floor of the People’s House.

IN MEMORY OF STEVE FOX

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the tragic passing of Steve Fox, a pioneering advocate, strategist, a true leader in the cannabis legalization effort.

It is fitting today that we are passing the SAFE Banking Act. We wouldn’t be where we are today without Steve and his amazing efforts. His life work, leadership, and strategic brilliance are unmatched.

Passing this critical legislation today would be a small part of a fitting memorial for a man whose efforts made it possible, indeed, imperative to solve this problem.

I first met Steve as we were strategizing on the Oregon legalization effort. Back in 2013, after the Colorado legalization campaign that he orchestrated had passed and before Oregon joined the ranks of legalization, he was already a legend. He pioneered so much of the groundwork for the legalization movement that exploded after the success of the Colorado campaign which owed so much to his strategic brilliance.

Steve was thoughtful, hardworking, and self-effacing. While this has become a national movement with many leaders now emerging, none compare with Steve. Few will fully understand his many contributions and importance. I for one will miss his genuine, quiet leadership.

As someone who’s been working on this longer than anyone in American politics, I know we are all deeply, deeply indebted to Steve. We mourn his loss, extend our thoughts to his family and many friends.

This should be the year that we finish the pioneering work of his career. It would be a fitting capstone to a lifetime of cannabis leadership, activism, and progress.

HAJIR MOHAMMED

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hajir Mohammed for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Hajir Mohammed is a 12th grader at Eagle Ridge Academy and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hajir Mohammed is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Hajir Mohammed for winning the Adams County

Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF REVEREND JOSEPH MCKNIGHT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Reverend Joseph McKnight who passed away February 27, 2021. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Born to Reverend Richard Franklin McKnight and Flora Hicks on January 4, 1956, Rev. McKnight was raised with the conviction of service to God. He grew up near Nashville, Tennessee and graduated high school before continuing his education in Theology and Psychology. At the age of 16 he recognized his call to ministry. In September of 1988 he was ordained as a Licensed Minister with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. McKnight married Roxan Prater on June 10, 1977. Throughout his ministry he has served as Pastor at Milledgeville Pentecostal Church, Youth President of the Tennessee District ALJC, and Youth Pastor for the Pentecostal Church of Blue Mountain. He has also served on the board of Iron Hill Christian Academy, Chairman of the Board of Blue Mountain Children’s Home, and New Beginnings International Children’s & Family Services Board.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Roxann; brothers Robert, Richard, Ron, and Steve; sister, Glenda; and many nieces and nephews.

Rev. McKnight had an immeasurable impact on the faith community across Mississippi and I am grateful to his service to God, family, and state.

HONORING HANK ROGERS

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Hank Rogers who passed away on January 4, 2021. My deepest condolences and most sincere prayers are with his wife of 49 years, Nancy, as well as his family and friends.

Mr. Rogers grew up in D’Iberville, and proudly lived and raised his family in South Mississippi. He is a 1970 graduate of D’Iberville High School and obtained his associates degree in Drafting from MGCCC.

Hank was a principled man devoted to his faith, his country, and his family. Many describe him as a funny, quick witted, intelligent, strong willed, “Southern Gentleman” who was committed to his beliefs, maintained a strong work ethic and served as a mentor to many in the community.

Hank was a volunteer leader having served as the President of the D’Iberville Historical Society, for two years, “heading up” many

projects geared toward revitalizing his hometown. He was a member of the Mississippi Civil Air Patrol, serving as Wing Commander from 2016 until his death, advancing up to the rank of Colonel. We honor Mr. Rogers for the service he showed to his country and to his community.

Although we are sad to hear of his passing, we take comfort in his example of a life well lived and the legacy he leaves behind. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Mississippi, we honor the memory of Mr. Hank Rogers, a loving husband, a dedicated civil servant and a man of God.

IN HONOR OF THE HANNAFORD SUPERMARKETS ACHIEVING ZERO WASTE IN THE YEAR 2020

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Hannaford Supermarkets in producing zero pounds of food waste in 2020. Hannaford Supermarkets has 183 stores located across New England and New York, making it the first large-scale supermarket to achieve this landmark in sustainability. Throughout 2020, Hannaford Supermarkets successfully diverted 65 million pounds of food waste out of landfills.

Instrumental in Hannaford’s success in this endeavor is that each of its 183 stores has a team of hardworking individuals dedicated to rigidly following the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Food Recovery Hierarchy. After reducing surplus at the source of production, the Food Recovery Hierarchy advises that to create a more sustainable food system, we donate surplus product to food insecure individuals, followed by donations to local farmers for animal feed.

Food recovery and donation have long been staples of Hannaford operations. However, when donations are not feasible, Hannaford Supermarkets partners with Agri-Cycle to engage in the hierarchy’s fourth tier, industrial repurposing. Based in Scarborough, Maine, Agri-Cycle is a food waste recycling company that turns food into energy. Through this partnership, Hannaford has been able to fully realize their zero-food waste goal.

Achieving zero waste is an accomplishment on its own, but I would like to highlight the added difficulty to this task caused by the coronavirus pandemic. As the coronavirus waged on with no clear end in sight, our agriculture and food system industries were disrupted to an unprecedented degree. While shoppers began to decrease their number of supermarket visits to limit their exposure to the disease, they simultaneously began spending more per trip. Hannaford Supermarkets were able to not only weather this supply and demand shock, but also to divert all unsold food away from landfills.

New Hampshire’s way of life is rooted in our natural surroundings and keeping our landfills as empty as possible is imperative to preserving the environment and our natural resources. Hannaford’s pioneering curiosity has led to a landmark achievement in supermarket sustainability. Hannaford Supermarkets’ continuing dedication to sustainability and service are immeasurable.