all over the country and all over the world, Molly, I am proud to say, was devoted to Kansas City, and more specifically to the Kansas City music community. She supported organizations like GUILDit, which seeks to connect the world of music to the world of business to help support artists, After all, when Molly was diagnosed, she had no health insurance—a tragically common phenomenon among independent artists. And recently, she chose to donate the proceeds from her albums to the Midwest Music Foundation, ensuring that her giving spirit will continue to touch artists in her community for years to come.

I have always been struck by Molly's ability play any room at all. Molly sang the National Anthem at Arrowhead Stadium. Molly sang it at Kauffman Stadium. Molly sang at the Kauffman Center. Molly sang at the Folly Theater. And yet, even when her fight with cancer was at its most painful ebb, Molly got out every single weekend and brought her voice and her presence to local jazz clubs and Unity churches throughout Kansas City. When the pandemic struck, dealing a crushing blow to musicians and venues everywhere, Molly sang online from her living room. On stage with a microphone in hand and a piano to sing beside—that's where Molly felt at home. She used to say it was because music fed her soul. I so hope Molly knew that her music fed our souls as well.

Today, my heart is with Molly's family and friends, who are coping with a loss no amount of preparation could have softened. To Molly's parents, I say this: we are never prepared to outlive our children. I hope you take comfort in that you were able to see Molly exhibit a resilience that every parent hopes their child will have when they send them out into what can be an unfair and unforgiving world. Scripture tells us, ''Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.'' Molly's story, to me, is a story of service. Molly was given the gift of a singular voice and a presence that could light up jazz club, a concert hall, or a stadium, and she used it to bring joy and music to others. Molly was dealt a terrible disease, and she used it to bring awareness and comfort to those fighting alongside her. Molly administered God's grace in one of its most breathtaking forms, and she did so for all of us.

Jazz is about many things. It is about finding beauty where there is pain. It is about finding freedom where there are shackles. But at a musical level, jazz is about setting up rules, so they can then be broken. It is about establishing a rhythm, so that it can be defied. Madam Speaker, as I reckon with this loss, I take comfort in my belief that Molly has defied the unrelenting rhythm of this mortal world and taken her place among a choir of angels. There is piano somewhere in heaven that has been waiting for Molly, and I know that today, she is singing beside it.

So, Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life and legacy of Molly Hammer. Though she may never return to the stages where we've seen her before, today Molly joins a pantheon of jazz greats whose music echoes through time. Artists never really die, and I woke up this morning with Molly's music in my head. ''So let me fly out of this world,'' she would often sing at the end of her concerts, ''And spend the next eternity or two / with you.''

HONORING JOSEPH A. MYERS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today, with my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, in memory of Joseph A. Myers, who passed away on December 29, 2020.

Born January 16, 1940 in Cloverdale, Mr. Myers was a native Pomo Indian. He began his career as a law enforcement officer and was the first known California Indian to serve in the California Highway Patrol. He earned both his undergraduate degree and Juris Doctor from UC Berkley.

Mr. Myers became a revered leader in the Native American community and developed a reputation for working effectively to preserve Native American history through education and activism. He served as the Associate Director of the American Indian Lawyer Training Program where he mentored advocates on tribal law, and notably joined a lawsuit against the Bureau of Indian Affairs that successfully reversed the termination of 17 Rancheria communities in California. Mr. Myers later founded the National Indian Justice Center to help tribes strengthen governance capacity and improve the quality of life in Indian country. He was also a founding board member of the California Indian Museum and Cultural Center.

Mr. Myers shared his knowledge of Native American issues at UC Berkley as a professor in the ethnic studies department. The University named the Joseph A. Myers Center for Research on Native American Issues as a tribute to Mr. Myers contributions to the community including the Native American students on campus.

Along with his hard work ethic and commitment to making a positive difference for others, Mr. Myers was known for his good sense of humor, compassion and wit. Although he is already greatly missed, there is no doubt his legacy will continue to be an inspiration for many.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join Congressman MIKE THOMPSON and me in expressing deep gratitude for Mr. Myers and his many years of selfless service to the Native American community and the entire North Coast, and in extending condolences to his family and many friends.

HONORING KELLY WALTERS

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Kelly Brice Walters of Christiansburg, Virginia, who passed away on December 26, 2020 at the age of 84. Mr. Walters was a first responder who committed his life to providing and improving emergency services in the New River Valley.

Kelly Walters was born on September 16, 1936 in Rogers, Virginia, to Vada McGuire and George M. Walters Jr. He began his career as a first responder in 1964 with the Christiansburg Lifesaving and First Aid Crew. In this organization, later the Christiansburg Rescue Squad, he served as Captain, First Lieutenant, Second Lieutenant, Treasurer, and President of the Board of Directors. He helped launch rescue squads in Floyd County and Riner in Montgomery County. In the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, he served as the District 7 Vice President twice and ultimately as President and was also honored in its Hall of Fame.

Colleagues and community members remember Mr. Walters for his kindness and dedication to the emergency services. They told the Roanoke Times about his willingness to help coworkers with bills without expecting repayment or to pay for EMT certifications for others before the state reimbursed such expenses. Many colleagues looked upon him as a mentor.

In addition to his work with the Christiansburg Rescue Squad, Mr. Walters worked earlier life at the Blue Ridge Overall Factory, Cromer Furniture, and as caretaker of the Cemetery Corporation. He also served for eighteen years as Montgomery County's Animal Control Officer. Apart from these responsibilities, he was a member of the Christiansburg Hunting Club, which he served as President and as a member of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Walters was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia Gerald Walters. He is survived by his daughter Nancy; grandson Bradley Hutchenson; great-grandchildren Elizabeth Ann and Halley Jo; sisters Brenda Thomas, Shirley Bartlett, and Jean Walters; and sister-in-law Jane Akers. I would like to offer my condolences to them and the people of Christiansburg on the loss of this dedicated public servant.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BICYCLE COMMUTER ACT OF 2021

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Bicycle Commuter Act of 2021. This legislation passed the House last session in Section 90436 of the Moving Forward Act (H.R. 2, 116th Cong.) and would reinstate and improve the bicycle commuter tax benefit.

The bicycle is the most efficient form of urban transportation ever devised. Cycling reduces carbon emissions, provides enormous physical and mental health benefits, and is one of the most cost-effective modes of transportation available. Communities across the country have realized these benefits and substantially invested in building better bike networks and improving facilities for biking to work. These investments are one of the reasons that rates of biking to work have increased by more than one-third since 2000. Still, however, only 0.51 percent of workers biked to work in 2019.

Despite these impressive developments, there is no commuter tax benefit for biking to work—like we have for parking and transit. First enacted in 2009, the bicycle commuter benefit was a tax benefit that employers could offer to provide a reimbursement of up to $20/month for expenses relating to bicycle commuting expenses. But if an employee elected

to take advantage of the bicycle commuting reimbursement, they were not eligible to receive transit or parking commuter benefits. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act suspended the bicycle commuting reimbursement benefit through 2025, taking away a valuable financial incentive for people who choose to bike to work.

With more employees choosing to bike to work, it is critical that Congress reinstates the bicycle commuter benefit and uses this opportunity to improve the benefit to reflect present-day commuting options. The Bicycle Commuter Act of 2021 reinstates the bicycle commuter benefit and changes the structure of the benefit by making it a pre-tax benefit, allowing employees to receive a higher benefit amount, allowing the benefit to be used with parking and transit, and adding bikeshare and electric bikes as an eligible expense.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation and provide Americans with cleaner, more efficient ways of commuting to work.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL SEAN D. FOSTER

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Sean D. Foster on his retirement from the Army. LTC Foster's remarkable career spans nearly three decades of distinguished service in defense of our nation.

LTC Foster's career started in the Army National Guard, where he enlisted as a Tank Crewman. He attended the United States Military Academy at West Point and was commissioned as an Infantry Officer upon graduation. After serving for five years in the Infantry, including a year-long deployment to Iraq, LTC Foster attended law school and became a Judge Advocate through the Army's Funded Legal Education Program.

LTC Foster's career as a Judge Advocate has been truly exemplary. He immediately established himself as a criminal law expert and served in prosecutorial and defense capacities to ensure the fair administration of justice. Notably, LTC Foster was also selected to serve as the lead defense attorney for a general officer in a historic courtmartial that garnered national media attention.

From 2014 to 2016, LTC Foster served in the Special Operations Community, deploying to Germany and Afghanistan. As the Group Judge Advocate for the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Carson, Colorado, LTC Foster directly supported the development of more than 60 complex special operations missions in 13 countries.

LTC Foster was selected to participate in the Army's Congressional Fellowship program in 2016. He earned a Master's degree in Legislative Affairs from George Washington University and worked as a Fellow in the U.S. Senate. In 2018, he continued on as a Legislative Counsel in the Army's Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison, and also served as the Chief of the Army's Congressional Response team. As a Legislative Counsel, LTC Foster led multiple congressional delegations worldwide, and I can personally attest to his excellent leadership and communication skills from my own experience participating in delegations led by LTC Foster.

LTC Foster has compiled an outstanding record of significant contributions to the Army over the past 27 years and has unceasingly provided the highest standards of commitment to duty. His service to our great country is indeed a gift to the American people. I thank LTC Foster and wish him and his family the very best on this occasion of his retirement.

RECOGNIZING WIKIPEDIA FOR CELEBRATING ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Wikipedia on the 20th anniversary of its founding on January 15, 2001. The organization has developed a flourishing, free, and accessible home for the world's knowledge and has become an indispensable part of our lives.

While encyclopedias have long relied on a small number of academics and experts to write and update information, Wikipedia leverages a voluntary, community-based approach that has allowed the product to expand to cover an extraordinary array of topics that has worldwide scale, well beyond what all previous encyclopedias could cover, combined. To date, Wikipedians have created an astonishing 175 million pages that are visited by two billion unique devices per month.

The world-class team of people . . . employees and volunteers that administer Wikipedia, are a major reason why the project has been such a success, and I'm proud that many of my constituents are part of this group. Wikipedia's success is also due to the fact that it is managed by a values-driven nonprofit organization, the Wikimedia Foundation.

Wikipedia is a large part of the reason we all have the world's information at our fingertips and it's a privilege to congratulate Wikipedia on celebrating 20 years of informing the world.

A PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam speaker, I was grateful to represent South Carolina's Second Congressional District at yesterday's inauguration of President Joe Biden and Vice President KAMALA HARRIS and to join my colleagues to witness this historic event.

I appreciate the Capitol Police, National Guard, Secret Service, and all law enforcement officers who worked to ensure our security and a peaceful transition of power. The South Carolina National Army National Guard was ably led by Colonel Edward Cloyd including Second District Congressional Office District Director 1Lt. Alex Morris.

Moving forward, it's time to keep working toward what is best for the country. Americans still need a way out of this Wuhan pandemic, job growth, and continued support for our men and women in uniform. Having traveled with Senator Biden on delegations to Iraq and Belgium, I know firsthand he can seek unity.

Best wishes Congresswoman-Elect Claudia Tenney, fighting for a fair election. In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVICS LEARNING ACT OF 2021

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Civics Learning Act of 2021, a bill that aims to promote democratic ideals by ensuring that young Americans receive a strong civics education.

On January 6, 2021, our country witnessed an armed insurrection on this sacred ground. This insurrection was fueled by lies and conspiracy theories that were allowed to take hold in too many minds of our fellow Americans because they have not come to understand even the most basic parameters of our democratic republic. Disturbingly, an Annenberg Public Policy Center poll conducted in 2018 found that only 32 percent of American adults could name all three branches of government. In 2017, only 37 percent of Americans surveyed could name any of the rights guaranteed under the First Amendment. The failure to establish an extensive understanding of American democratic principles begins in grade school: In 2014, only 23 percent of eighth graders performed at or above the proficient level on the National Assessment of Educational Progress civics exam. This lack of civic awareness leads to an unstable bedrock for our democracy, which requires widespread knowledge of American government for it to function properly.

This is why I have introduced the Civics Learning Act of 2021, which increases funding for innovative and evidence-based civics learning and teaching programs, including hands-on civic engagement activities, online and video game-based learning, service learning, and participation in student governance. Recognizing that most civics programs focus on high school teachers and students, this bill would ensure funding for elementary, middle, and high school programs to create a strong foundation for civic knowledge. In addition, this bill would prioritize funding for high-need schools, underserved populations, and low-access areas such as rural or inner-city communities. With this focus, the bill can inspire the participation of marginalized communities and better integrate them into American democracy.

Madam Speaker, it is my sincere hope this body will expeditiously pass this measure. Doing so will reaffirm America's commitment to civics education, fostering a more informed citizenship that will only strengthen our democracy.