

life of Ms. Rafaela Garcia and to pay tribute to her monumental legacy in Kansas City, Missouri. Ms. Garcia, known as “Lali” to her family, friends, and neighbors, lived a life of service, selflessness, and passionate advocacy. She was ambitious and tenacious, with the goal of improving life for the Latino community guiding her work every step of the way. As I stand here today, I can confidently say that we all owe Lali an enormous debt of gratitude for the progress she fostered towards racial equality, advancing the cause of a historically marginalized population by championing equal opportunity and political representation. Lali’s dedication to serving the Latino community as an activist, community member, and office holder defined her 93 years spent on this earth and improved the lives of thousands. Lali uplifted the voices of those in need and left a profound impact on every person who crossed her path.

Born in 1927, Lali observed and experienced discrimination against the Latino community along with the severe lack of political representation for non-white citizens. During her youth, Lali used the discrimination she faced in everyday life as a source of motivation to fight for change. Years later, Lali shared stories from this time in her life to remind us of our history and the progress we have made. Lali remembered movie theaters with segregated seating, jails without due process for people of color, restaurants that barred admission for Latinos, and inferior educational opportunities for Latino students. Lali’s passion for social advocacy started young, at the age of 13, when she first visited the Guadalupe Center in Kansas City, Missouri. The Center, at that time, was dedicated to administering a school and clinic for underprivileged immigrants who settled in the mid-western city. Even at this young age, Lali saw the potential for the Center to become a vibrant community gathering place, a structure to fight against the social inequities she witnessed, and a pillar of the Latino community. As Lali served for forty-six years on the Center’s Board of Directors, this vision came to fruition, with three terms as the Board President. She oversaw a massive expansion of the services provided by the Center, advancing opportunities, services, and protection for the Latino community. Today, largely in part to Lali’s commitment, the Center has grown to provide healthcare, education, financial assistance, childcare, workforce development, and more. We are forever indebted to Lali’s work to transform this organization as it continues to provide opportunities, support, and stability for newly arrived immigrants and Kansas City natives alike. Her legacy challenges each of us to continue making Kansas City a welcoming place for immigrants to find a home, celebrate their culture, and become part of the community. As we follow in her footsteps, we must strive to ensure that all those who make the journey to the United States feel valued, cherished, and loved—the same way Lali made all of us feel.

Beyond her immeasurable work at the Center, Lali was a fierce advocate for political equality and representation for the Latino community. Lali understood the importance of responsive leaders who use their positions in the halls of government to protect and uplift all members of the community, regardless of race or ethnicity. She also recognized the need for leaders who would advocate for the fair and

equal treatment of the Latino community. In 1989, Lali founded La Raza Political Club. Under her leadership, La Raza elected many of the first Latinos to public office in Kansas City, finally creating a seat at the table for her community. During her time with La Raza, Lali registered new voters, fought back against discrimination at the polls, and proved the importance of perceptive leadership. By registering hundreds of Latino voters, Lali amplified their voices and worked to create a more just, equitable, and accepting nation. We are called to pick up this duty where Lali left off and to emphasize the importance of political engagement in all communities.

A short recognition cannot adequately describe the breadth of Lali’s tireless work building community resources, political representation, and cultural acceptance. At the end of her life, amidst a global pandemic, her work never ceased. Lali served as a member of the Guadalupe Centers Board of Directors; the Jackson County Ethics, Human Relations, & Citizen Complaints Commission; and the Civil Rights Consortium. She was also a member of the Union Cultural Mexicana Ladies Auxiliary and a full-time volunteer at the Casa Felix Senior Center. Lali was also appointed to the Guadalajara Sister City Commission and the Port Authority Board of Commissioners and has served on the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast Committee since 1987. Intentional acts of humble service filled each minute of her life. Lali’s commitment to those around her teaches us what it means to be an outspoken and selfless advocate and to meaningfully participate in the community.

Lali’s life reminds us that a single individual relentlessly fighting for what is right can, in fact, change the world around us. Change requires a person with the courage to acknowledge the unjust, the persistence to carry on through hardship, the will to protest loudly, and the spirit to fight until all are seen as equal. For Lali, this all came naturally, and her leadership has left a legacy that will continue to change lives for generations to come. Madam Speaker, let us rise each day and ask ourselves, as Lali Garcia did, how we can positively impact our community. Today, and every day, let us be fervent in service, gentle in heart, and motivated by love—just like Lali before us.

RECOGNIZING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE EDWARD AMBURG HISTORY MUSEUM

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Grand Opening of the Edward Amburg History Museum in Grafton, Illinois, which will take place on Saturday, June 19, 2021.

At age 83, Edward Amburg passed away in November of 2018. He is remembered by the community for his dedication to historical research of his beloved community.

Thanks to Ed’s efforts the City of Grafton received funding to build a museum focused on its storied past. The museum will include documents and artifacts donated by the Grafton Historical Society that will represent the rich

boat making, manufacturing, and farming history that Grafton is known for.

Ed’s passion and dedication for the history of Grafton will carry on through the museum that bears his name.

Again, I thank Ed for the legacy he left behind and congratulations to his wife Bobbie and the entire community. I look forward to visiting this great addition to the City of Grafton.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MAYOR RUDY DURHAM

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the public service career of Rudy Durham, the former mayor of Lewisville, Texas. Mayor Durham devoted almost 30 years of his life in service to his hometown.

Mayor Durham’s second 3-year term as mayor of Lewisville concluded in May 2021, ending 27 consecutive years of service in public office. Prior to his election to the Lewisville City Council in 1994, he volunteered as a member of the Planning and Zoning commission. He served as a city councilman for ten years prior to his first run for mayor.

In his business career, he was a Professional Appraiser and Real Estate Broker, and he retired as Chief Appraiser for the Denton Central Appraisal District in 2019. Mayor Durham takes great pride in being a fourth-generation Lewisville resident and he is the fifth Lewisville High School alumnus to serve as the city’s mayor. During his high school athletic career, Mayor Durham qualified for two state meets in shotput and played on the 1972 state finalist football team. His work on behalf of his community since his graduation in 1974 has merited him a place in the Lewisville High School Hall of Fame.

Under his leadership, Lewisville has continued to grow and thrive, even under the difficult circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am pleased to join the residents and businesses of Lewisville in commending Mayor Durham for his efforts to protect his constituents and enhance their quality of life. As Mayor Durham returns to private life, I would like to thank him for his longstanding devotion to his community and wish him the very best in all his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, yesterday, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to vote in Roll Call number 162 on H.R. 1443. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call number 162.

CONGRATULATING CAMAS HIGH SCHOOL ON COMPETING IN THE FINALS OF THE 2021 AMERICAN ROCKET CHALLENGE

**HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to recognize Camas High School for its exemplary achievements in the 2021 American Rocketry Challenge. The Camas High School team qualified for the National Finals and competed at the highest level against other high schools across the country.

I am so proud of our students for pursuing their passions in STEM and dedicating their extra-curricular time to learning and innovating. The American Rocketry Challenge allowed the students to design, build, and launch model rockets, which exposed the team to different forms of engineering, problem solving, and teamwork. And of course, the product of all their hard work was that they reached new heights that I'm sure many thought wasn't possible. It always amazes me what our high school students are able to accomplish.

Congratulations to our Camas High School team for earning this great honor. I would like to thank the students, teachers, and parents for their commitment to STEM education in Southwest Washington.

RECOGNIZING SAMANTHA AND ALEXANDER EDWARDS' ACHIEVEMENTS

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, one of the great honors that I have as a United States Congressman is to nominate young adults from my District for admission to our Nation's service academies, and during my time in Congress I have become acquainted with many fine young persons who have sought a nomination to one of the service academies. Today, I rise to give recognition to two such young persons who are my constituents, Samantha Scott Edwards and Alexander Thompson Edwards, from Mercer Island, Washington.

In 2018, I nominated Samantha to the United States Military Academy Class of 2022, and this spring I nominated Samantha's brother Alex to the United States Military Academy Class of 2025. This coming academic year Samantha will be a senior at West Point, while Alex will be a freshman plebe, and both Alex and Samantha will be competing on the West Point varsity swim team. While it is not unusual for West Point cadets to have relatives who have attended West Point, it is uncommon for a brother and sister to attend West Point at the same time, let alone compete on the same athletic team.

Samantha and Alex are incredibly talented in the pool and classroom and both have been named as Academic All Americans by USA Swimming.

Samantha now holds two West Point records in relay events and is in the all-time

Academy top 10 rankings for her individual times in the 100 yard and 200 yard freestyle events. For her Senior year at West Point, Samantha has been appointed as a Team Academic Mentor, which is a recognition of Samantha's own scholarship as well as her ability to provide scholastic mentorship to other team members.

In addition to earning Academic All-American status from USA Swimming for his scholastic achievements, Alex served as Captain of his high school swim team and received his high school's 2020 "Excellence in Elective Studies in History" Award. In recognition of his accomplishments in the pool, the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association has twice designated Alex as an All-American swimmer.

As their Congressman and Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, I am pleased that Alex and Samantha have each chosen to attend West Point to become officers in the United States Army. Given their academic achievements, as well as their athletic talents, these outstanding young adults could have gone to any number of fine universities—that they have chosen to attend West Point and serve our Nation's Armed Forces speaks volumes about their character and commitment.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Samantha and Alex. I am proud they are my constituents, look forward to great things from them, and wish them the very best in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the American Physical Therapy Association.

The APTA is the leading professional membership organization for the physical therapy profession, with a mission to build a community that advances the profession and improves the health of society.

As the predecessors to modern-day physical therapists, reconstruction aides were strong women who played an integral role in the recovery of many soldiers during World War I. Through their work, they demonstrated the value of the physical therapy and the impact it would have in the future of American healthcare.

The vision of the physical therapy profession is to transform society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience. The efforts to launch a physical therapy education program began in 1960, with the first two classes of physical therapist assistants entering the workforce in 1969. Throughout its history, physical therapy has had a role in military hospitals, on the response team during the polio epidemic, and is currently helping those recovering from the novel coronavirus.

The work of a physical therapist spans many settings, from hospitals to homes, schools to veteran facilities. Physical therapy has been effective at reducing pain and being a first-line approach that has assisted count-

less Americans. During these difficult times, physical therapists and physical therapist assistants have faced their challenges head on, treating the most vulnerable and working with those recovering from the severe effects of COVID-19.

Please join me in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the American Physical Therapy Association.

REMEMBERING DR. SAMUEL L. MYERS, SR.

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2021*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, my district, the State of Maryland, and our country have lost an extraordinary citizen, an outstanding contributor to education and leader for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Dr. Samuel L. Myers, who was a trailblazer for equality and a pioneer in economics and higher education, passed away at the age of 101 on January 8 and will be remembered at a memorial service later this month. I was honored to know him and work closely with him over the years to advance the important causes he championed.

Born in Baltimore, Dr. Myers was the son of Jamaican immigrants and grew up in a home that strongly valued education and public service. After earning his undergraduate degree in 1940 from Morgan State University and a master's degree from Boston University in 1942—both in economics—he was drafted into the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of Captain while serving in the Pacific Theater. At the time, of course, our military was segregated, and Dr. Myers was a trailblazer in speaking out against the injustices facing African-American servicemembers, risking court martial. Following his honorable discharge from service in 1946, he studied at Harvard University and completed his doctorate in economics in 1949, studying with some of the most renowned scholars at that time, including John Kenneth Galbraith.

As an economist, Dr. Myers focused on inequalities and the effects of segregation on African-American businesses and families. That interest led him into government service, and he worked as a research economist for the Bureau of Labor Statistics while teaching at his alma mater of Morgan State. Recognizing his leadership abilities and his deep commitment to education, Bowie State University selected him as its fourth president in 1968. During his tenure, which lasted until 1977, Dr. Myers reshaped Maryland's oldest HBCU and laid the groundwork for its success, preparing graduates to seize the opportunities of our twenty-first century economy. While pioneering the launch of computer science programs and new educational practices, he worked to secure funding for new buildings to replace those that were crumbling and dilapidated, and he supported students who had protested against unfair budgets that disadvantaged historically African-American campuses in Maryland and nationwide.

In 1977, Dr. Myers stepped down as President of Bowie State University but continued his passionate commitment to HBCUs. He became President of the National Association for