

them to fend for themselves. The British were so incensed over this humiliating defeat and abandonment of their servicemembers on the field that the British Parliament passed a resolution censuring Mr. Biden, a first in our nation's history.

Our allies lost faith in their ability to count on us.

In addition, our military leaders, led by the strange General Milley, who is obsessed with homosexuality in the military and flying gay pride flags at every opportunity, informed Congress that we did not need to keep Bagram Air Base before the civilians were evacuated. His bungling led to a disaster with 13 of our servicemembers unnecessarily killed trying to control an airport that we had no control over and had many weak points compared to Bagram Air Base. His decision cost the lives of his troops.

On top of this disastrous incompetence, General Milley and Secretary Austin abandoned over \$80 billion in our top-notch military equipment and allowed it to fall into the hands of the very military we had been opposing. Milley and Austin failed to create a plan to retrieve, scuttle or destroy our valuable equipment. Helicopters, airplanes, drones, missiles, automatic weapons, MRAPS, Humvees, ammunition, mortars and howitzers were all lost to the enemy even though our leaders knew where the equipment was yet did nothing to stop the acquisition by the Taliban.

This is gross incompetence and dereliction of duty. Both the very weirdly obsessed General Milley and Secretary Austin should have resigned in shame for the humiliation they brought to this country. But they have not. Therefore, we need to remove them. I will vote to impeach both Milley and Austin and remove the stain they have left on our military and our people.

I include in the RECORD a letter from Arizona Representative Walt Blackman. His letter needs to be read and shared and I join him in his conclusions.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: I proudly served 21 years in the United States Army. Several times during my service I was on deployment to other countries. I was responsible for military equipment valued at millions of dollars.

I was trained as a private whose job was imperative to track, secure and dispose of military equipment in accordance with military regulation. While I was stationed at Fort Hood there was a time when our military installation was on complete lockdown because a soldier had misplaced a set of night vision goggles. Securing and tracking military equipment, especially sensitive items is a practice that is constantly drilled into all soldiers.

According to UCMJ any servicemember of the United States Armed Forces who either willfully or by neglect sells, damages, destroys, disposes of, or otherwise mismanages U.S. military property may face charges under Article 108 of the UCMJ.

The Commander in Chief Joe Biden and the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin have placed America as well as multiple other countries in a vulnerable situation by not properly handling military property. This has allowed very sensitive military equipment owned by the United States of America to fall into the hands of terroristic enemies. The Commander in Chief Joe Biden as well as the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin should be held accountable and in the same manner of the law as any other soldier would under Article 108 of the UCMJ.

I am requesting you impeach Joe Biden and court-martial the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and General Mark Milley under Article 108 of the UCMJ.

Respectfully,

WALTER BLACKMAN,
Chairman, Criminal Justice Reform
Judiciary
Public Safety and Military Affairs
Commissioner; Education Commission of
the States Member, Legislative District 6
Phoenix, Arizona.

HONORING U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE
CHIEF VICKI CHRISTIANSEN FOR
40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen for 40 years of service to the protection and management of our nation's forests.

Chief Christiansen began her career in forest service with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources before joining the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service eleven years ago. She recently retired as Forest Service Chief where she oversaw operations of more than 30,000 employees nationwide.

Chief Christiansen's career accomplishments demonstrate her strong leadership skills and steadfast commitment to preserving and improving our nation's environmental well-being. She began her distinguished career as a wild land firefighter with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources before advancing to become Washington State Forester, Arizona State Forester, Forest Service Deputy Director for Fire and Aviation Management, and Forest Service Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry.

Appointed Forest Service Chief in 2018, Christiansen administered positive change while successfully managing intense episodes of crisis. She is revered by her colleagues for improving workplace safety, productivity, and culture as well as her resilient and calculated responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, economic distress suffered by the agency, and disruptive natural occurrences such as wildfires and hurricanes. Furthermore, her collaboration with State and local actors played an instrumental role in improving community engagement in forestry protection nationwide. Through hard work and leadership that sparked long-lasting change, Chief Christiansen's legacy will serve as a model for future Forest Service Chiefs to emulate.

I would like to extend my most heartfelt appreciation to Chief Christiansen for her years of exemplary service to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and multiple state forest service agencies. I know I speak for our entire community in wishing her and her family continued success and happiness as she moves into retirement.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen for her 40 years of service in forest protection and management.

CELEBRATING THE BLACK
THEATRE TROUPE'S 50TH SEASON

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate The Black Theatre Troupe's 50th season. Founded in 1970 by civil rights activist Helen K. Mason, this Phoenix troupe is one of the oldest continuously operating Black theater companies in the United States. Despite having to push back their 50th anniversary season by a year due to COVID-19, the show will go on as The Black Theatre Troupe returns to the stage this month.

The Black Theatre Troupe was born of the need to create a space for Black voices to be heard in the Southwest. Today, it has grown into a nationally recognized, award-winning theater company that continues to tackle issues of racism, prejudice, and discrimination. Fifty years later, The Black Theatre Troupe remains a vital platform for illuminating the Black experience and culture, provides unique opportunities for multiethnic and underserved artists to train and perform, and educates and entertains a diverse audience.

Throughout its history, The Black Theatre Troupe has faced many challenges—lack of funding, a fire that destroyed its stage, and even a global health pandemic—but thanks to the tenacity and enthusiasm of its members and supporters, the Troupe has continued to grow and thrive. I'd like to congratulate The Black Theatre Troupe on 50 seasons and wish them all the best for 50 more.

IN HONOR OF THE 2021 LITTLE
LEAGUE WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS,
THE TAYLOR NORTH LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Taylor North Little League Team, the winners of the 2021 Little League World Series. This team's tremendous accomplishment is worthy of commendation.

After defeating their opponents at the district, state, and Great Lakes Regional championship, the Taylor North team was not yet done. On August 29, 2021., they won 5–2 against Ohio's Hamilton West Side team at Lamade Stadium in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Throughout the championship they defeated seven state champions and came out on top with a record of 19–1. In a season that was as challenging as it was rewarding, the team's tireless dedication to baseball and commitment to teamwork paid off when they became world champions at just twelve years old. These players proved that with hard work and confidence in your teammates, there is no obstacle that is too big to overcome.

No Michigan Little League team has won the World Series since 1959. This team put Michigan Little League back on the map after 62 years. They brought their win back home to Taylor, Michigan to be met with a fitting homecoming victory parade complete with cheering

fans, a marching band, and ending with a glittering fireworks show.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the Taylor North Little League Team: Chauncey Adkins, Noah Boren, Lucas Farner, Job Furkas, Kale Harris, Max LeForest, Jaxon Shufeldt, Jackson Surma, Cameron Thorning, Gavin Ulin, and Ethan Van Belle—along with Coach Guido Ulin and Manager Rick Thorning. Please join me in congratulating this team on their fantastic win and in wishing them the best of luck in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
MATTHEW J. MCCARTHY

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding life and legacy of Matthew J. McCarthy, age 35, who passed away far too soon on Friday, August 13, 2021. A talented and respected trumpet player, composer, arranger, and educator, Matt touched the lives of countless individuals and left a lasting impression on the central Florida music community.

Matt was a professional trumpet player, specializing in modern and improvised music. He had experience playing all styles of music, including jazz, big band, orchestral, chamber music, rock, ska, pop, commercial, salsa, and more. He worked with musicians and performance groups that included the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Sam Rivers RivBea Orchestra, Cirque Du Soleil's La Nouba, Junkierush, the Outer Toons, the Supervillans, Mad Sexual Genius, the Orlando Jazz Orchestra, the Harry James Orchestra, various bands of Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, the Smithsonian Jazz Orchestra, and countless other local groups and celebrities. Matt also spent a lot of time performing with the one and only Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, playing lead trumpet. It was with this group, he toured all over the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and on countless international cruises.

A prolific composer and arranger, specializing in custom arrangements and charts, Matt had experience in transcription, copywork, and orchestration for groups of all sizes. His library included hundreds of arrangements for jazz chamber groups, big bands, large orchestras, latin ensembles, and original compositions for a variety of groups. Frequently premiering new works, his arrangements became highly sought after, especially for competitive marching bands.

Matt began his career in music at the University of Central Florida, where he studied trumpet, composition, and jazz studies, graduating with a dual-specialty Bachelor of Music degree in 2007. During that time, he began working as a freelance trumpet player and arranger. This eventually led to a long career with the bands of Walt Disney World. Additionally, Matt started subbing in the trumpet section for the Sam Rivers RivBea Orchestra, which began a life-long interest in experimental and avant-garde music.

Matt furthered his musical career in 2013 by attending graduate school at the University of South Florida, where he graduated with a

Master of Music in jazz composition in 2015. There he studied with Chuck Owen and Jack Wilkins. During his tenure at USF, Matt performed as lead trumpet player for Jazz Ensemble I, served as director of Jazz Ensemble II, and taught various courses in the Jazz Studies Department. Matt frequently appeared with the USF Jazz Faculty Ensemble and toured Italy with the USF Jazztet in the summer of 2015, performing at the Umbria Jazz Festival in Perugia, Italy. While studying composition, Matt was awarded the Owen Prize for Jazz Composition for his tune, "Hans the Hunter."

Matt McCarthy leaves behind a legacy of kindness, imagination, and musical excellence. Matt's positive and creative outlook on life touched the lives of so many and made our community a better place. I am saddened by the loss of such a valuable member of the community and extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACKS

HON. YVETTE HERRELL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks. On that day, 19 al Qaeda terrorists hijacked four aircraft and claimed the lives of 2,974 people, shocking our nation and the world.

The devastation and destruction from that day was heartbreaking, but was swiftly overcome by American resilience following the attacks. Heroic first responders ran towards danger, risking their own lives to rescue victims, and their selfless fortitude will always be remembered. The brave passengers of Flight 93 prevented further tragedy by overwhelming terrorist hijackers; their courage saved countless American lives. Regardless of political party, race, or creed, the 9/11 attacks on our nation remind us of the unifying values that can bring Americans together on the darkest of days.

Today, I want to especially commend the work of the men and women responsible for the new 9/11 Memorial Monument in New Mexico. This community-sponsored Memorial Monument in the Village of Williamsburg was created by hardworking and dedicated New Mexicans to pay solemn tribute to those we lost on 9/11, and the heroes who rose amid the flames. Following the attacks, 42 of New Mexico's finest traveled across the country to assist in search and rescue operations; our country will forever be grateful for all first responders served their fellow Americans.

The tragedy of September 11th echoes to this day. Thousands of first responders, those who worked and lived in lower Manhattan, and crews that came in to clean up the rubble were exposed to toxic particles. By 2018, nearly 10,000 people were diagnosed with 9/11-related cancers. These heroes deserve to have the best of care, and I am thankful that President Trump extended the Victim Compensation Fund through 2092.

September 11th, 2001 will forever be remembered as "Patriot Day," a National Day of

Service and remembrance. I commend all the first responders, volunteers, and countless numbers of men and women who responded to this great tragedy and continue to pray for all families who lost their loved ones.

HONORING GOLD MEDALIST JOHN
BOIE OF MILTON

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Boie. A native of Milton, Wisconsin, John Boie competed for Team USA at the 2020 Paralympics held this year in Tokyo, Japan. John was a member of Team USA's Wheelchair Basketball and helped lead the team to a gold medal victory in a 64–60 win over Japan. John and his teammates secured a gold medal for the United States at the second straight Paralympics for Men's Wheelchair basketball.

During a preliminary game against Iran, John was the heart of Team USA's defensive effort turning 11 first half turnovers into 18 points. The win over Iran contributed to the team's 4–1 record in pool play allowing them to advance to the final knockout round at the 2020 Paralympics Games. The team demonstrated strong chemistry, bolstered by a common thread with five players having ties to UW-Whitewater, including John himself. Together, the team competed in a thrilling gold medal matchup with the United States defeating Japan 64–60 in a come from behind win after trailing during the third quarter. In addition to scoring four points for Team USA, John's strong defensive effort throughout the game helped the United States secure victory.

John's love for sports began at a young age. Despite suffering from an incomplete spinal cord injury after an accident involving a tractor, John continued to demonstrate a love for the game of basketball. John was introduced to wheelchair basketball after attending a wheelchair basketball summer camp at UW-Whitewater when he was eleven years old. John would go on to attend UW-Whitewater where he would become a three-time collegiate wheelchair basketball champion. John would go on to win a silver medal during the 2018 World Championships.

John represented the United States and Southeast Wisconsin with honor. He made both his country and community proud with his composure, talents, and determination. While this is his first gold medal, John's passion for success suggests that it won't be his last. I know Southeast Wisconsin will be backing him 100 percent in his future endeavors.

John's perseverance through adversity helped lead to this historic success. I was proud to watch John represent Wisconsin and the United States on the world stage. On behalf of Wisconsin's First Congressional District, I would like to congratulate John on his tremendous accomplishment and wish him the best of luck.