

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING FEMALE LEADERS
WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS
HONORING AS CHRISTIAN
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and highlight the work of some extraordinary female leaders in our country who are being honored by She Leads America as "Christian Women of Distinction."

For my constituents back in Michigan, I try and lead by example through my faith and commitment to public service. But many times, people don't look to Washington for their role models. Fortunately, it does not take long to find others guided by their strong moral compass, faith, and commitment to selfless public service. Today, I honor some of these women, who through their tireless dedication, have shattered glass ceilings and touched the lives of countless individuals around the world. For my part, I remain committed to defending religious freedom here in Congress to ensure each of these women, and all of my constituents, never have to compromise their religious beliefs in order to conform to whatever the trending culture is at the moment.

One of these women, Nancy "Honeytree" Miller, is a global ambassador for Christian Music. Raised in a family of classical musicians, she recorded her first album in 1973. Known as the "First Lady of Jesus Music," she was one of the pioneers of Christian contemporary music. Over her 49-year career, she has recorded 17 albums in 3 different languages. After her "Jesus Music" era, Nancy became an ordained minister and developed a specialized ministry to singles, while continuing to write and record. She ministered in prisons for a time alongside Prison Fellowship. After marriage and family, she developed an international focus, ministering in several countries and recording albums in Spanish and Urdu. Not only has she been an enduring presence to her generation, but she continues to inspire young Christian artists in Pakistan and Latin America.

Madam Speaker, I hope these women, such as Nancy, know full well the impact they have had on countless lives. These women are trailblazers, and the example they have set will be followed by people of my district, and many other Americans, for years to come. I thank each of them for their passion and commitment. This honor is well-deserved.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Hispanic Heritage

Month to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Latino and Hispanic Americans in Central Washington, and around the United States.

Hispanic Heritage Month is about recognizing the history of our Hispanic neighbors, and honoring the hardships endured to create a better life for future generations. In Central Washington, our Hispanic neighbors strengthen our communities through their strong family values, cultural diversity, and incredibly hard work ethics. Our region could not prosper without the Hispanic farmers, police officers, teachers, and soldiers who support our society.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring our Hispanic American friends, families, and neighbors and in recognizing National Hispanic Heritage Month.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF
FORMER SENIOR CONSTITUENT
SERVICES ADVOCATE LAURA
RUDE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and recognize the work of Laura Rude, my former Senior Constituent Services Advocate in Rock Island, Illinois.

Laura has given nine years of dedicated service to the communities that make up Illinois' 17th Congressional District. She oversees our Congressional Record program, where she writes and edits submissions, and has nearly doubled our output per year during our final term in Congress. Laura has also written over 3,000 congratulations letters to constituents on my behalf. During her time in our office, Laura successfully closed over 2,500 cases, encompassing every single type of casework and working with every federal agency. She is truly a jack of all trades.

Laura, who received her Master's Degree in Social Work from Illinois State University, is truly the "do-it-all" caseworker. She is profoundly kind and understanding when assisting constituents, and has handled every type of miscellaneous case that others would consider out-of-the-box or difficult. One of her most memorable cases was assisting Laura Thomsen, who contacted our office because she was approved for Social Security Disability Insurance in November 2021, and had waited past the 120-day wait period to receive her benefits. Laura swiftly contacted the Social Security Administration on Ms. Thomsen's behalf and kept her updated on the case. Finally, on July 14, 2022, the Social Security Administration released the \$71,317.81 in backpay that was owed to Ms. Thomsen. This is a lifechanging amount of money for anyone, let alone someone who was unable to work due to a disability. Without a doubt, Laura has made a significant difference in the lives of countless constituents.

It is because of kind and dedicated leaders such as my former Senior Constituent Services Advocate, Laura Rude, that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally celebrate the exceptional work of Laura Rude.

HONORING ZACH LEKSE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Zach Lekse, an Investigations Sergeant with the Martinez Police Department. I have named Mr. Lekse as a Public Safety Hero of the Year for Contra Costa County in California's 5th District as a result of his extraordinary selflessness, dedication, and service to others.

Mr. Lekse began his career in law enforcement shortly after graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 2001. For nearly ten years, he served with the Pleasant Hill Police Department as a detective, defense tactics instructor, and SWAT team member before joining the Martinez Police Department in 2014. There he began as a Police Officer before becoming a Narcotics Task Force Officer, Patrol Sergeant, and most recently, an Investigations Sergeant.

During a suspicious vehicle stop in early 2019, Mr. Lekse discovered a small amount of methamphetamine and learned from the driver that a mid-level dealer was living and operating near the Martinez Police Department. Noting that the dealer was on probation, Mr. Lekse coordinated a search that resulted in the seizure of 1/4 pound of methamphetamine, a loaded handgun, and \$5,000 in cash. Continuing with his investigation, Mr. Lekse connected the dealer to the Guzmán family cartel of Mexico and ascertained key information about their operation.

Over the course of several months, Mr. Lekse worked with the FBI to lead a massive multi-agency effort resulting in multiple drug seizures and 12 indictments. In total, numerous firearms, approximately 100 pounds of methamphetamine, heroin, illicit mushrooms, \$23,000 in cash, and \$80,000 of assets were seized. Through his determination, leadership, and investigative prowess, Mr. Lekse successfully coordinated a complex investigation into a drug trafficking organization that largely evaded justice for 7 years.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Lekse for his persistence and investigative skill. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW
BOYON AND NATIONAL ECZEMA
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my constituent, Matthew Boyon, and his family. Matthew is currently a student at Londonderry High School and has suffered from eczema his whole life. In honor of Matthew and the more than thirty-one million Americans with eczema, I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize October as National Eczema Awareness Month.

Eczema is an inflammatory skin condition that causes itchiness, dry skin, rashes, scaly patches, blisters and skin infections. There are seven forms of eczema, including the most common and chronic form, atopic dermatitis, and no known cure. Adults and children with eczema are at risk for, and frequently also experience additional comorbid health conditions such as asthma, allergic rhinitis, food allergies, and bacterial, viral and fungal skin infections.

Additionally, adolescents with atopic dermatitis are more likely to report suicidal ideation compared to their nonaffected counterparts and sleep disturbances reported in 67 percent of children with atopic dermatitis. Parents of children with atopic dermatitis are 4 to 8 times more likely to average fewer than 6 hours of sleep per night.

The impacts of living with eczema go beyond just health concerns. More than 66 percent of children with atopic dermatitis report being absent from school more than one day per year as a result of their illness and nearly forty percent of school-aged children and teens diagnosed with atopic dermatitis have experienced bullying due to their disease.

The economic impacts of eczema are also staggering. 5.9 million workdays are lost due to eczema annually and the annual economic burden of eczema, including direct medical costs, indirect costs from lost productivity, and quality of life impacts, is estimated at \$5.3 billion.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank the Boyon family for bringing awareness to this condition and hope my fellow Americans will join me in recognizing National Eczema Awareness Month.

HOMETOWN HERO—ASHLEY CAIN-GRIBBLE

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor our Texas 24 Hometown Hero of the week, Ashley Cain-Gribble, a Carrollton native who represented the United States at this year's Olympics.

Ashley lived out her lifelong dream last month as she took to the ice in the Olympics. Along with her partner, Timothy Leduc—who also calls the DFW area home—they finished in the top 8, the first time an American pair has done so since 1998.

Ashley's heroics on the world stage have inspired us all back home. But her years of training and hard work should serve as a reminder to every American that success is impossible without sacrifice.

Fulfilling her dream did not happen overnight. Since the age of 2, Ashley has been on the ice with one goal in mind: to compete on the world's biggest stage. In the years leading up to the Olympics, Ashley and Timothy trained with her father in Euless, TX—putting in blood, sweat, and tears to accomplish her goal.

Ashley returns to TX—24 a hero. Americans like her are an inspiration not only to the young girls who look up to her, but to the entire country.

I thank Ashley for her hard work and dedication. May they inspire the rest of the country to fulfill their dreams.

RECOGNIZING THE 65TH
ANNIVERSARY OF MCCAIN FOODS

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of McCain Foods' 65th anniversary.

McCain Foods is the largest producer of frozen french fries and appetizers in the world, now with over 65 years of experience working with potato, sweet potato, and onion growers from family farms across the United States—including in Central Washington. Every year, they partner with over 3,500 producers to harvest and locally source 6.8 million tons of potatoes.

With processing plants across the United States, including in my district in Othello, Washington, McCain is a strong industry partner that plays a critical role as a customer of Washington grown potatoes, and a provider of safe, nutritious food for consumers across the globe.

Please join me in recognizing McCain Foods as they celebrate 65 years of dedicated service supporting American farmers and filling Americans' plates.

RECOGNIZING FEMALE LEADERS
WHO SHE LEADS AMERICA IS
HONORING AS CHRISTIAN
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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who through their tireless dedication, have shattered glass ceilings and touched the lives of countless individuals around the world. For my part, I remain committed to defending religious freedom here in Congress to ensure each of these women, and all of my constituents, never have to compromise their religious beliefs in order to conform to whatever the trending culture is at the moment.

One of these women, Lynn Fitch, is the 40th and current Attorney General for the state of Mississippi. At the age of 23, she began her legal career as a Special Assistant Attorney General at the Mississippi Attorney General's Office. She continued her career accumulating more than 35 years of legal experience both in private practice and public service as State Treasurer, Vice President for the National Association of Treasurers, and Chair of the State Financial Officers Foundation. She served on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Attorneys General and is currently serving as Co-Chair of the National Association of Attorneys General Human Trafficking Committee. She was named in TIME's list of the 100 most influential people in the world in 2022 and has also been active in her community, serving as a board member of several charitable organizations.

Madam Speaker, I hope these women, such as Attorney General Fitch, know full well the impact they have had on countless lives. These women are trailblazers, and the example they have set will be followed by people of my district, and many other Americans, for years to come. I thank each of them for their passion and commitment. This honor is well-deserved.

COMMEMORATING THE 5TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF BORICUACTIVATED

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 30, 2022

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, when most people imagine the American democracy at work, they picture this House—or the other chamber—and the work we do as lawmakers.

Or they picture themselves or their neighbors in the voting booth, casting ballots to determine the make-up of government at the local, state, and federal levels.

To me, however, American democracy also takes another form: the ongoing dialogue between citizens and public servants, like us, whom they elect to represent them. It is in these conversations that we truly learn our constituents' hopes and dreams for the future; it is where we learn to make their priorities into our priorities; it is where we truly live up to our founders' ideals that the people should be allowed—and encouraged—to petition their government.

That is true civic engagement. And that premise is at the heart of BoricuActivatEd, a stellar volunteer-run organization that is now proudly celebrating its fifth anniversary. They are leading the way in fostering that active, ongoing dialogue.

The group was created in the wake of Hurricanes Maria and Irma, which struck Puerto Rico with tragic ferocity. The group found immediate success in marshalling the combined