

1998 as the Associate to UNL Chancellor James Moeser.

Michelle Waite has been an impactful and transformative leader during her tenure for our university and her work has changed the lives of people all over our state. She has worked for three different chancellors as their principal advisor, helping guide the University in its relationships with many different external constituencies, including federal, state, and local agencies. In that capacity, she has been responsible for the strategic management of the University's legislative agenda, and she has worked as the primary representative tasked with interfacing with our unique single house legislature, affectionately known by many as the Unicameral. I am also appreciative of the advice she has provided my team in the years since I first took office.

Considering that we just celebrated Veterans Day, I also want to highlight Michelle's outstanding contributions for our military and veteran community. As the school where General of the Armies John J. Pershing served as the Commandant of Cadets, the University of Nebraska—Lincoln has a proud and long military tradition that has produced countless men and women charged with leading our Armed Forces. During her tenure, Michelle Waite has been responsible for supervising the campus ROTC units and she has been liaison with all branches of the military, as well as with our veteran community. As a military parent, Michelle carries that unique perspective shared by countless military families and this has helped further inform her leadership over the course of many years.

From her efforts towards the adoption of academic regalia denoting military service to helming the Veterans Tribute to memorialize our veterans in the heart of campus, Michelle's impact on the campus military community will be long enduring. Michelle played a critical role in helping the University adopt a resident tuition program for non-resident service members and she has been a leader in the effort to provide enhanced benefits for disabled service members and their families. Under her guidance, UNL established the Military and Veteran Success Center in 2015 which has become a valuable resource providing professional, educational, and personal services for our entire student veteran population.

Nebraska's Memorial Stadium was built in honor of those Nebraskans who fought in the war to end all wars and originally the stadium displayed plaques recognizing those Nebraskans who paid the ultimate price. In order to ensure their memory never fades, Michelle led the effort to create replacements for the long-lost original plaques. Now, those new plaques honoring those Nebraskans who fought and died in World War I greet all visitors who enter this special monument for freedom. She also helped pave the way for veterans to be recognized during football games, with a video tribute for one veteran during the second quarter of every home game and she was the driving force behind the POW/MIA Chair now on display in Memorial Stadium. Finally, Michelle topped off her career by spearheading the multimillion-dollar Veterans Tribute monument dedicated on September 11th of this year in the heart of campus.

Whether it is working with the military or serving as an advisor to collegiate organizations like UNL's Innocents Society, Michelle

Waite has had a positive impact on students, faculty, and citizens from every corner of our state. I thank Michelle for her faithful service and leadership for all of Nebraska and I congratulate her and her family on a well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING LISA KAPLAN,
NATOMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lisa Kaplan as she retires as a member of the Natomas Unified School District Board of Trustees. Since she was first elected in 2002, Lisa has been an invaluable member of our community, especially as schools faced unprecedented challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, I ask my colleagues to stand with me to honor her legacy.

Lisa grew up in a small town in Oregon and regularly offered help to those in need throughout her life. Lisa's long history of volunteer work includes assisting in the children's ward at UC Davis Medical Center while attending law school as well as helping in local Natomas schools while working in the state legislature. Since 2010, ACC continues to operate Sacramento County's Meals on Wheels program. Not only do they provide meal delivery, but they have partnered with local restaurants and food trucks throughout the years to make diverse meals more accessible to seniors in our community, serving 2,000 homebound seniors and older adults each week.

During Lisa's tenure, Natomas Unified School District showed an increase in test scores that significantly narrowed the achievement gap, passed four school bonds to upgrade existing facilities and provide new tools for 21st century learning, and obtained the highest graduation rates in the county.

Madam Speaker, today we honor Lisa Kaplan for her commitment and dedication to the students of Natomas Unified School District.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DONALD O. ALLEN, SR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, friends and family are gathering to celebrate the life of Donald O. Allen, Sr. Born in Washington, D.C. in 1950, he made Buffalo his home after attending East High School, Bryant Stratton Business School, and SUNY Empire College. He began his 27-year career in public service in 1978 as the Assistant Director of the Summer Youth Program in the city of Buffalo. He also took on the role of Minority Recruiter, Human Resources Planner, and Senior Deputy Commissioner in 1978.

When he assumed these positions, he became an indispensable pillar within the Buffalo community, and he would remain as such for

the rest of his life. His efforts will continue to be felt by countless members of the community for many years to come. After retiring from his career in public service in 2005, he continued to serve the community for an additional 16 years by joining the Erie County Sheriff's Department. Furthermore, as a Zone Leader and City Democratic Chairman for the Erie County Democratic Committee, Donald had 4 terms to make his voice heard as a political leader.

In his spare time, he never missed an opportunity to engage with the community. And due to this commitment, he was honored at several points in his life for his service on the Buffalo Youth Board, at the Pratt-Willert Revitalization Corporation, and as the Buffalo Handicapped Chairman.

Married for 23 years to his loving wife, Lynette, there is an abundance of their children, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren that can continue their legacy and honor their memory. Donald Allen, Sr. will forever be a cherished community leader. While the place he holds in everyone's hearts can never be replaced, his dedication to others will continue to serve as an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BARBARA WILLIAMS JENKINS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a devoted librarian, avid researcher, and dedicated preservationist, as well as a longtime friend. Dr. Barbara Williams Jenkins transitioned from this life on October 27, 2022, in Sumter, South Carolina. Her work to preserve African American history in the state of South Carolina will have profound implications for generations to come.

Dr. Barbara Williams Jenkins was born on August 17, 1934, in Union, South Carolina to the late Ernest Nesbit Williams and Johncie Sartor Williams. She graduated from Wilkinson High School in Orangeburg, South Carolina in 1951. She attended Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, and graduated in 1955 with her bachelor's degree in English Literature and minors in Library Science and French.

Dr. Jenkins then went on to get her Master of Science in Library Science at the University of Illinois in 1956. She later continued her studies at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, Atlanta University, and Clemson University, and received her Ph.D. in Library and Information Services from Rutgers University in 1980.

I knew Dr. Jenkins well through her transformational work in the state. She inherited her love of learning from her parents, who were both graduates of Claflin University. Despite facing adversity as a young Black woman in academia, she was unflinching in her pursuit of academic excellence.

Dr. Jenkins spent the first 40 years of her career at my alma mater, South Carolina State University, where she was a staunch advocate for the library science program and a mentor to many. She started as their Reserve and Circulation Librarian in 1956, and soon

transitioned to Reference and Documents Librarian. In 1962, she was elevated to the position of Library Director. She served in that position for 25 years. She concluded her tenure at South Carolina State University in 1997 after serving for 10 years as Dean of Library and Information Services.

Throughout her time there, she played a crucial part in the creation and oversight of the South Carolina State College Historical Collection and the South Carolina State College Historic District, and memorialized many significant historical structures and sites in Orangeburg. She became the first African American President of the South Carolina Library Association in 1986.

After her retirement from South Carolina State University, she went on to be a founding—member of the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission. Throughout the next 30 years, she would be a leader in the effort to document underrepresented sites in the state's archives related to African American History, adding an incredible 300 markers throughout her time with the Commission. Earlier this year, the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission released the “Green Book of South Carolina”, which featured sites originally documented by Dr. Jenkins. Even after her retirement from the Commission, she remained involved in training and mentoring the next generation of librarians and historians to carry these efforts forward.

She was acknowledged as a giant both on campus and in the field of historical preservation, and she earned many awards and accolades for her work. These included the Land-Grant Director's Association Award (1978), “Boss of the Year” (1980) from the Orangeburg Chapter of Professional Secretaries, the President's Award from the South Carolina Library Association (1987), the South Carolina State College Distinguished Service Award (1991), the University's First President's Service Award (1997), the SOLINET Board of Directors Service Award (1992) and the University's first Emeritus Award (2000). In 2019, she was also awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor in the state.

Throughout her life, Dr. Jenkins was an active member of several civil and social organizations. Some of the historical and library boards of which she was a part include the African American Heritage Council, the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, the South Carolina Library Association, and the South Carolina Archives and History Commission. She was also a lifelong member of the NAACP, a member of The Links, and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, for which she previously served as the Regional Director for the South Atlantic Region.

Dr. Jenkins, a woman of faith, was a long-time member of Williams Chapel AME Church. She was married to my high school baseball and football coach, the late Robert “Bobby” Alvah Jenkins. They raised two children, Ronald Robert and Pamela Ruth, and shared several grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Barbara Williams Jenkins. She dedicated her nearly 70-year long career to ensuring African American history was woven into the fabric of our state's history. She will be sorely missed and ought to be well-remembered.

RECOGNIZING JOHN B.
BILLINGSLEY, JR.

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John B. Billingsley, Jr., Founder and CEO of the recently launched JBB Advanced Technologies headquartered in the 24th Congressional District, which I proudly represent. Prior to launching JBB Advanced Technologies, Billingsley founded Tri Global Energy 13 years ago and built the Dallas-based company into one of America's top five renewable energy developers before its recent sale.

John has been widely recognized as a pioneer and industry leader for his vision and contributions to the development of renewable energy in Texas and the U.S., including by D CEO Magazine. Recently Billingsley was the recipient of its 2022 Renewable Energy Impact Award. In 2021, D CEO Magazine named Billingsley as their Renewable Energy Executive of the Year as a part of their annual Energy Awards. The awards honor excellence and innovation in oil and gas from North Texas to the Permian Basin and for only the second time, this award included the category of renewable energy. In addition to the designation for the Annual Energy Awards, D CEO magazine also named John Billingsley to its Dallas 500 list. The list features the Dallas/Fort Worth region's most influential leaders in more than fifty different industry categories.

Billingsley, a West Texas native and Texas Tech University graduate, has founded and operated more than 20 businesses in industries as diverse as accounting and banking to agriculture, real estate, and manufacturing. He founded Tri Global Energy based on a business model of involving local landowners and communities in wind power projects and led the company through more than a decade of growth and expansion. The story of Tri Global Energy is told in his 2020 book, Texas Wind Force. I wish him the best of luck in his newest venture JBB Advanced Technologies which delivers more profitable, environmentally friendly digital technologies by developing renewable energy sources to power blockchain and artificial intelligence-based innovations.

I want to express my appreciation and best wishes to John Billingsley upon his impressive recognitions by D CEO magazine. The great state of Texas was built by visionary leaders and entrepreneurs like Billingsley, and we are proud that he has chosen the 24th Congressional District as his company's headquarters.

HONORING VETERAN WILLIAM E.
HELMAN FOR A LIFE OF SERVICE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. William E. Helman for his extraordinary service to our country.

Mr. Helman was born in 1923 to Edward and Sara Helman. He attended Ballston Spa Schools and enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 19. In the Army, Mr. Helman served with the Company B, 404th Engineer Combat Battalion as a Combat Engineer and a Jack Hammer Operator.

During his time in the Army, Mr. Helman courageously fought in World War II in the Italian Campaign. He was deployed across Italy to Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, North Apennines and the Po Valley. For his brave service in the war, Mr. Helman was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the Bronze Arrowhead. Additionally, he was awarded both the Good Conduct Medal and the WWII Victory Medal.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Army in October 1945, Mr. Helman worked in the automotive industry. He was a self-employed body and fender man and worked out of many garages in New York State. In 1946, Mr. Helman married Rachel and, together they raised their family of three children.

Throughout his life, Mr. Helman exemplified dedicated service to his country. I am proud to recognize him during the Saratoga County Veterans Association's Honor our Deceased Veterans Ceremony. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to honor the life of Mr. William Helman and thank him for his brave service to our country.

HONORING AL DAVIS

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Adris Albert “Al” Davis Sr. of Fairlawn, Virginia, who passed away on September 13, 2022, at the age of 72. Mr. Davis was a patriot and veteran of the United States Armed Forces.

Mr. Davis was born on December 28, 1949, to Albert and Blanche Davis. He graduated from Bramwell High School in Bramwell, West Virginia. He served in the Marine Corps and the Army Reserve and earned two Purple Hearts in the Vietnam War. In the following years, he found purpose in helping his fellow veterans. He stayed active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1184 in Pulaski and the American Legion Post No. 58 in Dublin.

Mr. Davis was also a man of deep faith, belonging to First Missionary Baptist Church in Fairlawn and serving as an usher and trustee.

Mr. Davis was preceded in death by his wife Constance T. Banks-Davis. He is survived by his significant other Emily Doucette; sons Michael Kelly, Adris “Hootie” Davis Jr., and Andrew Primm; daughters Yonnie Stinson, Maria Davis-Harris (Tony), Somer Davis, Darnisha Primm, and Kendra “Kenny” Wright (Quentin); 16 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. I offer them my condolences on their loss. Mr. Davis was a kind man who never missed an opportunity to serve.