

HONORING DAVE LENTELL AS  
IOWAN OF THE WEEK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2022*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dave Lentell as Iowan of the Week. Dave is the Lead Lender Relations Specialist at the Small Business Administration (SBA) Iowa District office. Dave lives in Waukee, and through his almost 29 years with the Iowa SBA he held countless conversations connecting with small business owners throughout Iowa and across the 3rd District. I'm glad to take this opportunity to recognize Dave for his dedicated public service for Iowa's small businesses over the course of his career.

Dave first joined the Iowa SBA in 1993 for an internship while studying at Drake University. Quickly after starting his work, the Great Flood of 1993 happened, and Dave stepped up and took an outsized role in facilitating disaster relief information. Dave was offered full-time work after graduating college and has remained with the Iowa SBA since then. Over that period, Dave has helped other businesses and homeowners through periodic disaster events—while also offering technical support and advice to businesses seeking to break-through. Dave most appreciates the ability to connect with business owners and lenders to identify paths forward for Iowa's small business economy—which includes over 273,000 small businesses.

Since COVID-19 began, Dave has once again stepped up as he did in 1993—but in this case, the pandemic affected every small business in Iowa. With SBA charged to administer disaster relief programs such as Economic Impact Disaster Loans (EIDL) and the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Dave's engagement with the business and lending community increased. Through collaboration with businesses directly, and associated organizations and groups, Dave worked hard to ensure that information was distributed throughout the Iowa community and has earned the respect of his SBA colleagues, who nominated him to my office for recognition.

While we all seek a general return to normalcy, Dave relates that business models have changed during the pandemic—and in many cases that change is here to stay. While the role of SBA may see changes in the future, Dave's service over the past 28 years has certainly been welcome help for our District. I am glad to honor Dave Lentell as Iowan of the Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 170TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF OXFORD

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2022*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 170th Anniversary of the City of Oxford.

A part of Alabama's Third Congressional District, Oxford, is located in Calhoun County.

The Muscogee Creek Nation called Choccolocco Valley home for 12,000 years. In 1540, Hernando DeSoto crossed the region on behalf of Spain in search of riches. France claimed the lands in 1699 after successfully establishing settlements at Mobile, New Orleans and Biloxi. Even though France controlled the area that would later become Oxford, it was still inhabited by the Creek Nation. England gained possession after the signing of the Treaty of Paris at the end of the Seven Years War. In 1789, the entire northern portion of Alabama was owned by Georgia. The lands were given to the federal government in 1802 as part of the Mississippi Territory.

Alabama was admitted to the Union on December 14, 1819. Benton County was incorporated on December 18, 1832, and included present-day Calhoun, Cleburne and portions of Cherokee and Talladega Counties. At the time of incorporation, the only incorporated towns in Benton County were Jacksonville and White Plains. In the early 1830s, the Snow and Simmons families were two of the first European descent families to settle among the Creek natives. Snow owned the land south of present-day Choccolocco Street, and Simmons owned the land north. An early legend recalls the area south was called "Skace Grease" and the area north "Lick Skillet." Local folklore says a traveler was passing through and needed a place for rest and food. As he was visiting, he was directed to "lick the skillet" because they were "skace of grease."

Oxford was established on February 7, 1852, the bill proposed by Representative Matthew Allen of Benton County. The limits of the town included one square mile from the center at the male academy on Second Street. Elisha S. Simmons, Edmund P. Gains, John A. Turnipseed, Stephen C. Williams, and Woodson Seay were authorized to run on a ballot for the election of three council members and an intendant (mayor). It was decided that on the first Saturday of each March, annual municipal elections would be held for offices of council and mayor.

On February 21, 1860, Oxford was chartered for the second time due to redrawing of boundary lines and the changing of the name of Benton County to Calhoun County. The limits of the town included a half-mile in each direction from the railroad culvert at Spring Street. Elections were to be held on the first Monday of each March annually. In this incorporation, the law called for the election of seven councilmembers and an intendant. The councilmembers and intendant were given the power to elect a marshal, clerk and treasurer. Those who have served as mayor of Oxford, respectively, include Elisha S. Simmons, Dr. Stephen C. Williams, Samuel C. Kelly, James S. Kelly, Edgar H. Hanna, Charles T. Hilton, William J. Borden, John B. McCain, Dr. Thomas C. Hill, Robert P. Thomason, William H. Griffin, John N. Gunnels, Thomas A. Howle, Maj. William A. Orr, George W. Eichelberger, William C. Gray, Dreadzil P. Haynes, Asa C. Allen, William R. Norton, Davis C. Cooper, Robert R. Pope, Dr. Thomas B. Howle, Carl D. Pace, Hemphill G. Whiteside, Alvis A. Hamric, Bester A. Adams, Earl R. Martin, Therman E. Whitmore, Leon Smith, and Alton Craft.

The Oxford Police Department was established at the time of the first incorporation. However, the earliest police force only included one town marshal. The first recorded

marshal for Oxford was Francis M. Gardner, who served in the early 1880s. The Oxford Fire Department was organized on May 18, 1884, as a volunteer department. Major William A. Orr served as the first chief.

In 1904, the citizens of Oxford were convinced that the town needed a permanent city hall for the purposes of conducting municipal business. In September of that year, it was decided city hall would be located in a building on Main Street and the fire department would share the building. An armory was established adjacent to the building for the Calhoun Rifles. The calaboose was located several yards south on Spring Street.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Oxford a happy 170th anniversary.

BIOECONOMY RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2022*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I want to commend the authors of the America COMPETES Act of 2022 for including \$52 billion to incentivize private-sector investments and continued American leadership in semiconductor manufacturing to help address supply chain disruptions and ensure that more semiconductors are produced here at home.

Within my central Florida district is the NeoCity technology campus which is recognized as an emerging microelectronics and advanced manufacturing hub, that has already made synergies with institutions of higher education across Florida and key partnerships with the U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Department of Commerce. NeoCity is home to BRIDG, a not-for-profit, public-private partnership specializing in domestic semiconductor research, development, and manufacturing. Imec, a world-renowned international research and development organization active in semiconductor design and architecture. SUSS MicroTec, a leading supplier of equipment and process solutions for the semiconductor industry. And SkyWater Technology, the only U.S. owned and operated pure play trusted foundry, that works on leading-edge advanced packaging technology. They all work in collaboration out of the Center for Neovation, one of the most state-of-the-art advanced manufacturing facilities in the western hemisphere. As envisioned by this important legislation, the facilities, and experts at BRIDG, imec, SUSS MicroTec, and SkyWaterTechnology offer immediate capability to accelerate U.S. production of critical semiconductor chips, strengthen the domestic supply chain so chips are made in America, and turbocharge our research capacity. Equally as important, the NeoCity Academy, a public STEM magnet high school, is training the leaders of tomorrow's science and technology workforce.

I am proud of the work being undertaken in my district to support domestic semiconductor manufacturing technology development as they work to address the supply chain. I look forward to working with the Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce on implementation of the American Competes Act and the CHIPS for America Fund.

I appreciate the inclusion of three amendments for consideration in the final passage of the COMPETES Act:

**CHIPS Funding to Non-Profits:** Adds non-profits to the definition of “covered entities” to expand the semiconductor incentive program to include nonprofit entities. This clarifies that non-profit entities like the 501(c) facilities in NeoCity are also eligible for funding under the semiconductor incentive program.

**AI JOBS Amendment (H.R. 6553):** Directs the Department of Labor to create a report analyzing the future of artificial intelligence and its impact on the American Workforce. Specifically, the report would collect data to analyze which industries are protected to have the most growth through artificial intelligence, and the demographics which may experience expanded career opportunities and those most vulnerable to job displacement. This is an inclusion of the standalone bill H.R. 6553, the AI JOBS Act.

**Blockchain & Crypto Specialist w/in OSTP:** Requires the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish a blockchain and cryptocurrencies advisory specialist position within the Office to advise the President on matters related to blockchain and cryptocurrencies. OSTP advises the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the scientific, engineering, and technological aspects of the economy, national security, homeland security, health, foreign relations, and the environment. It is critical to create such a position within OSTP to ensure there is a policy expert capable of advising the President and others within the Executive Office on these issues of growing national importance.

The Restoring Resilient Reefs Act (RRRA) reauthorizes the Coral Reef Conservation Act (CRCA), which expired nearly fifteen years ago. It maintains the NOAA Coral Reef program, while also introducing overdue improvements to coral management and restoration efforts and giving innovative new tools to partners who are closest to this crisis: states, territories, tribes, communities, and universities.

#### KEY PROVISIONS.

A 5-year authorization with an explicit focus on restoration activities where natural disasters and human activities have degraded reef ecosystems. This program is currently funded at \$33M for 2021 but without further direction by Congress.

Creates a block grant program where states and territories can receive federal “matching funds” for the prior year’s coral expenditures, provided they have an action plan in place, which will incentivize increased state and local investment of in coral reef management capacity.

Intergovernmental partnerships are key for water infrastructure upgrades, pollution mitigation efforts and regrowing reefs,

Allows for the formation of a public-private partnerships for coral management, called “Coral Stewardship Partnerships.”

Public-Private partnerships are critical for sharing researching.

Authorizes the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, to ensure states, territories, and other stakeholders continue to have a voice in U.S coral reef management. Public feedback is essential.

Establishes of a single streamlined set of guidelines for “action plans” to implement the national strategy, with maximum flexibility

given to state and local authorities. These action plans will focus restoration efforts more effectively.

Allows for emergency grants and emergency funds for coral disasters. This will assist with Hurricanes, typhoons, tsunamis, as well as oil spills and other major pollution events.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BERT AARON

#### HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2022*

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bertram Donald Aaron. Known by friends and loved ones as Bert, Mr. Aaron was a staple in the Hampton Roads area and leaves a long-lasting impact on our community.

Born in 1922 in Newport News, Bert was the eldest son of Harry and Lillian Aaron. He attained the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army in the Pacific theater during World War II. Following the war, Bert worked as an Aeronautical Research Scientist at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, now NASA. He then worked as an engineer for the U.S. Army Signal Corps where he received the Commanders Medal for his service to national defense.

Named Daily Press Citizen of the Year for his support of local charities and the Virginia Symphony, Bert’s lasting contributions to our community are a testament to his enduring passion for the performing arts. He worked tirelessly to maintain the Greater Williamsburg Virginia Symphony Society, serving on the Board of the Symphony for 25 years and chairing the Williamsburg Area Arts Commission. Additionally, Bert was a fierce advocate for breast cancer research, organizing and chairing the first Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation Symposium on state-of-the-art medicine for breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.

I am grateful for Bert’s philanthropic spirit and his outstanding contributions to our community. It saddens me to hear of Bert’s passing, and I send my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF EDGAR STUART CAHN

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2022*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the life of Dr. Edgar Stuart Cahn, who passed away at 86 years of age on January 23, 2022, in Bethesda, Maryland.

Edgar Stuart Cahn was born on March 23, 1935, and was raised in an activist household in New York. While earning his undergraduate degree at Swarthmore College, Edgar met and fell in love with fellow student Jean Camper, forming a partnership that would eventually spur substantial social, political and legal change for the benefit of our country’s most vulnerable. They married in New York, because, at the time, interracial marriage was illegal in Jean’s home state of Maryland.

Edgar and Jean both attended Yale Law School, where I met them as a fellow student. Following graduation, they moved to the District of Columbia in 1963, with Jean working as a legal advisor at the Department of State and Edgar as Special Assistant to and speechwriter for Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. They would later work together in the Office of Economic Opportunity, where they, along with Sargent Shriver, established a first-of-its-kind federally funded program that provided legal aid to low-income Americans. This groundbreaking initiative, the predecessor to the Legal Services Corporation, is widely acknowledged as setting a blueprint for legal services and catalyzing what was then the burgeoning field of public interest law.

Edgar next undertook a two-year campaign organizing Native American leaders in an effort that led to the end of the official federal policy of terminating Native American tribes, and, with his book *Our Brother’s Keeper: The Indian in White America*, a classic indictment of America’s treatment of Native Americans, to enactment of Public Law 93–638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

Edgar and Jean founded the Antioch School of Law, the predecessor to the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. He served as a member of the UDC law faculty until near the end of his life.

Edgar was a visionary in strategies to alleviate poverty, a pioneer in clinical legal education and a dear friend. He led with an unwavering focus to help the most vulnerable among us. He was equally beloved for his kindness, and he will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, again, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life and legacy of Dr. Edgar Stuart Cahn.

### RECOGNIZING TRICIA STEVER BLATTLER

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2022*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Tricia Stever Blattler on her 15th anniversary with the Tulare County Farm Bureau and for her service to the Tulare, agriculture community.

Mrs. Blattler is an Exeter native and grew up on farms owned by the Pinkham family. She attended Exeter High School and participated in Mock Trial, 4–H, and FFA. After graduating high school, she went on to receive degrees in Agriculture Science and secondary teaching credentials from California Polytechnic State University. She received scholarships from the Tulare County and California Farm Bureaus.

In her first year with the Tulare County Farm Bureau, she was awarded a “Top 5” 40 under 40 Rising Stars business leader award by the Tulare Economic Development Corporation and Visalia Chamber of Commerce. She is a graduate of the distinguished California Ag Leadership Class 34 and the Dale Carnegie Public Speaking Institute. In addition to her role as Executive Director at the Tulare County Farm Bureau, Mrs. Blattler has served on the boards and advisory committees of the