

Madam Speaker, the whirlwind of Shorebreeze Runnymede will be remembered as a woman who made a difference. We are grateful that she was in leadership when a crisis hit her community and that she will remain an active resident as we edge our way into more normal times ahead.

HONORING MRS. KATHY J.
THOMAS

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my district staffers, Mrs. Kathy J. Thomas. I met Kathy in 2019 and quickly brought her on staff as a Constituent Liaison in my Gulfport district office. During her tenure, Kathy has assisted nearly 3,000 constituents through casework with compassion and dedication.

Kathy grew up in West Virginia in the small town of Follansbee. In 1988, she graduated from Brooke High School, and shortly thereafter, she married her high school sweetheart, Mark. After their wedding, she and her new husband moved to Biloxi, MS, where he served in the United States Navy Seabees and Master Chief to Command Master Chief. Her grandfather, Kale E. Wells, served in the United States Navy during WWII. Kale would have been proud of her decision to marry Mark as he rose through the ranks to retire after serving 30 years as a Master Chief.

Kathy and her husband raised two beautiful, intelligent daughters, Taylor and Riley. Taylor graduated from Mississippi State and the University of South Alabama and works as a Labor and Delivery Nurse at USA Children's and Women's Hospital in Mobile, AL. Riley graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi and recently started a job at the DuBard School for Language Disorders in Hattiesburg, MS.

Kathy attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, earning an associate degree. Kathy volunteered for years as an ombudsman as her husband served and deployed with the United States Navy Seabees. While raising her daughters, she worked as a preschool teacher and assistant teacher. Her passion and dedication to helping others led her to work as a Congressional Liaison making a difference in the daily lives of the constituents of South Mississippi.

Kathy has been a valued, loyal, dedicated, and compassionate asset to my staff and me. I am grateful for her positivity and can-do attitude over the years. It is my honor to express my gratitude to Mrs. Kathy Thomas for her service to Mississippi and my constituents.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE
RICHARD A. SHIRLEY

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with profound sadness to remember and

honor the life of Richard A. Shirley of Anderson who passed away on December 8th at the age of 68. Before his unexpected passing, Richard served as the Clerk of the Court in Anderson County.

In 1978, Richard began his career in public service by being elected to the Anderson City Council, becoming the youngest person ever to be elected to the council. In 1998, Richard was elected Mayor of Anderson and faithfully served as mayor for 8 years. During his tenure as mayor, he played an important role in revitalizing the Anderson Soiree festival and making Anderson the prosperous place it is today. Richard was also a successful local community banker for over 30 years and proud graduate of T.L. Hanna High School and Presbyterian College.

Richard was a proud husband, father, son, and friend and he will be immensely missed by the community of Anderson. Richard will be remembered for his constant smile, witty humor, and his love of God and country. I am reminded of the verse Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Richard had a servant's heart and was always there to help people with a smile and those in need. His profound impact on the Anderson community will be felt for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to serve the Third District of South Carolina and to honor my dear friend, Richard Shirley. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this time.

TRIBUTE ON THE BIRTH OF
HENRY LEE DRAGANO

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Garrett and Cecelia Dragano, of Aiken, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby son. Henry Lee Dragano was born on December 5, 2022, at 7:56 p.m., weighing 8 pounds and 7 ounces. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Garrett, Cecelia, and Henry all the best.

RECOGNIZING BILL WILD

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, today I want to acknowledge the legacy and dedication of William "Bill" Wild for his more than 20 years of public service to our communities.

Mayor Wild is Westland's longest-serving mayor. A Westland native and graduate of John Glenn High School, Mayor Wild took pride in giving back to the community that raised him. He was especially proud of his accomplishments in helping improve infrastruc-

ture, including an overhaul of Westland's municipal center, building a vibrant shopping district, and bringing a citywide recycling program to Westland.

Mayor Wild's commitment and many years of services has been exceptional and outstanding. The 13th District, Wayne County and the Westland community extend their gratitude to Mayor Bill Wild for his many contributions to the growth and prosperity of Westland. It has been an honor to be one of his many partners serving Westland neighborhoods.

Please join me as we recognize Mayor Bill Wild's many contributions to the families of the Westland and 13th Congressional District as we wish him well.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
ANNE OLIVA AS SHE ENDS HER
TERM OF SERVICE ON THE
MILLBRAE CITY COUNCIL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend and colleague Millbrae Mayor Anne Oliva as she steps down from the city council at the end of her present term, and after serving nine years on the council. She has distinguished herself by doing outstanding work while in elective office.

Anne has lived in Millbrae for more than 20 years. She was appointed to the Millbrae City Council in 2013 to fill a vacancy and was elected to a full four year term in November of that year. Her top priorities at the time were building economic strength and sustainability, protecting private property rights, and ensuring public safety. Millbrae was emerging from the housing recession and its downtown business district was suffering. Hotel occupancy taxes, a major source of city revenue, were significantly depressed. The city's budget had been cut repeatedly and difficult decisions lay ahead.

In subsequent years, Anne and her colleagues made tough choices. They contracted for police services from the San Mateo County Sheriff's office, a decision that was discussed at great length due to the affection that the people of Millbrae had for their own department. Economic growth came with controversy. Millbrae is a major transportation hub with a combined BART and Caltrain station serving thousands of daily commuters. The council approved a large development on the BART parking lot, delivering hundreds of units of needed housing, a new hotel and accompanying tax revenue, offices, and retail to serve all. Anne supported the development as part of her promise to build the economic strength of the city and the sustainability of its budget.

Her experience as a real estate agent and broker has informed her public service. She served on the Board of Directors of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, including on its legislative committee and as President. She also served on similar legislative committees for the California Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. When the County of San Mateo sought assistance from property owners and managers to find apartments for persons holding

federal housing vouchers, Anne worked with my office and San Mateo County to identify willing owners and managers. She and her brother also manage hundreds of apartment units and homes. They encourage property owners to accept federal housing vouchers and many do, thus helping low-income households throughout San Mateo County.

At least part of her dedication to ending homelessness arises from personal experience. Anne once noted that, "One of the most impactful and tough experiences in my life was the night my husband Jose and I received a call that we will never forget. We learned that our son, who suffers addiction and mental health issues, was living on the street. We are blessed that he is fine now and doing much better. But my family's story is all too typical. I refuse to accept the status quo on homelessness. We cannot continue to let people live and die on our streets."

Over her 20+ years as a resident, Anne has been a volunteer for the PTA, the Mills High School Athletics Booster Club, and the Italian-American Women's Guild. She is a local coordinator for the Coats for Kids program, and in 2010 she was awarded the Community Service Award by the realtor's association. She also fundraises for the San Mateo County Historical Association.

We thank her husband Jose, daughter Francesca, and two sons Joey and Marco, for allowing Anne time to serve the public. Her presence will now be more predictable, and they have the satisfaction of knowing that Anne's occasional absences were needed to build a better Millbrae for everyone. Most importantly for Anne, she will now have time to spend with her two new grandchildren, Carolina and Isabella, born October 10, 2022. It may be a step down from public service to leave a city council, but it's a step up in service to humanity to become a grandmother. Anne is very fortunate to have received a promotion at this point in her life.

It is now time to say farewell to Anne Oliva as she leaves public life, but thankfully she isn't moving away. Her ever-present smile and can-do attitude will be evident in her community, and her willingness to volunteer will endure. When local businesses seek an advocate, they will always have Anne as an ally. Importantly, she will continue to work her magic in the real estate market, providing housing to those who need it, opportunities for those who seek the American Dream, and fair returns to owners. The wind and fog that occasionally sweep through Millbrae will continue to have their rival in Anne's energy, and the optimism about the future that she exudes will be remembered as a major force for good during the nine years that she served Millbrae, a community that she loves.

HONORING VEER SAWHNEY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Veer Sawhney, my intern who has completed his Winter 2022 semester serving the people of Florida's 24th Congressional District. Veer has proven to be a very capable young man and shows great promise for his future endeavors.

Veer has assisted my office in various areas, including education policy, communications, and constituent engagement. He has shown a great understanding of the legislative process and has demonstrated his ability to adapt to the political arena. Veer has presented an excellent work ethic and willingness to learn.

Veer is a proud first-generation Indian-American from Leonia, New Jersey. A student at American University, Veer is working to receive his bachelors in Political Science and his master's in Public Policy with a concentration in education policy and policy, management, and leadership.

Veer is using his time at American University to gain practical skills which he plans to use in his future endeavors. His passion will drive him to work in education policy, where he plans to develop policies to improve our nation's education system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Veer Sawhney for his hard work and accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DAREK NEWBY ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DELAUR

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, I rise as Chair of the Appropriations Committee, and on behalf of the Members of the Committee, and its staff, to pay tribute to Darek Lane Newby as he retires following 25 years of service to the House of Representatives.

Hailing from North Carolina, Darek began his career with Congressman David Price as a Legislative Assistant before serving as the Congressman's Appropriations and Budget Committee associate staffer, Legislative Director, and Acting and Deputy Chief of Staff. In these roles, he advised the Congressman on issues and legislation related to the federal budget, homeland security, health care, and the environment.

In 2009, Darek came home to the Appropriations Committee, initially joining the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, of which he took over as Clerk in 2011. Since 2013, he has been serving as the Homeland Security Subcommittee Clerk. He provides other Members and me with vital counsel and expertly leads staff in developing the Subcommittee's bill.

During his time with the Appropriations Committee, Darek has proven time and time again to be a fair negotiator whose superb leadership and compassion have made our nation and the world safer and more humane. His career was never shy of managing crises, but he led with dedication and poise through any conflict that came his way. Darek's profound technical knowledge, coupled with his diligence and poise, has been critical in reducing refugee and asylum application backlogs, bolstering maritime security, strengthening our cyber infrastructure, respecting the dignity of immigrants, and supporting disaster relief.

I am excited for what the future holds for Darek and wish him, his wife Patty, and their children Ben and Sam all the best. As Darek stalls a new beginning, the Appropriations

Committee and our Nation will miss him, are indebted to his service, and are forever grateful for his hard work. Congratulations on a remarkable career.

HONORING THE LATE BOBBY SILVERSTEIN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, on November 17 of this year, we lost a dedicated public servant and crucial advocate for disability rights: Bobby Silverstein. He served in the House of Representatives as counsel to the Education and Labor Committee's Select Education Subcommittee and later in the Senate as staff director and chief counsel for the Disability Policy Subcommittee of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources. I worked with him most closely when I was the lead House sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act and he was working as Senator Tom Harkin's chief aide. In that role, he helped craft the ADA and fought tirelessly to secure its enactment. Like so many others, I admired Bobby's intellect, strong character, and commitment to public service. I believe that my friends Katy and Ralph Neas articulated that admiration we all feel for Bobby perfectly in their remarks at his funeral service, and in honor of Bobby, I include in the RECORD their speeches.

[Nov. 22, 2022]

REMARKS FOR BOBBY SILVERSTEIN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

(By Katy Neas)

In 1987, Bobby was my boss. When I left the Hill in 1991, he was my friend, and somewhere along the way over these 35 years, he and Lynne became family.

There are three things you need to know about Bobby.

No one was better prepared. Yes, he really did have a binder for everything.

No one wanted to get to "YES" more than Bobby.

No one was more genuine, thoughtful, loving, respectful, and patient, and he was fun.

I worked for Bobby on the original Americans with Disabilities Act. One of his many gifts was his devotion to bringing people together—the disability community, the business community, Republicans and Democrats. He had endless patience and wanted to learn from each individual's perspective so that the ADA could be the strongest LAW possible. One of the best parts of this time was a certain individual from the Leadership Conference, Ralph Neas, who was in our office almost daily to coordinate with Bobby. Ralph and I were married in November of 1988 and spent the next 20 months engulfed in the ADA.

During those months, I had many conversations with Lynne, asking her about "Bobby time"—meaning, what time did Bobby come into the office. Her typical response was "don't ask." What most people didn't know is that he would be in the office around 3:00 a.m. every day so that he could leave by 6:00 p.m. to have dinner with Lynne and the boys. That was his schedule for months.

Bobby at his "Bobby-est" when in conversation with Senator Orrin Hatch. There were amendments that sought to discriminate against people with HIV that Senator