

Yoshiko Dart and I were speaking about Bobby the other day, and reflecting on his strength and vision, love and discipline. And his beautiful smile. True to the core of his humanity, you could believe him, and trust that what he said and what he did were always in-sync.

I am certain that Bobby's life work will continue to grow. The decades he worked on the Hill in support of the bipartisan passage of more than 20 bills. The work he has been doing for the past 15 years with Powers, Pyles, Sutter, and Verville, and the hundreds—if not thousands of people—he has trained and mentored to understand how to effectively implement those laws. All of this will continue to bear fruit.

Lynne, Mark, Evan, the entire Silverstein family and friends, we thank you for having shared Bobby's life so lovingly with our community. It is our responsibility to carry forth his work as we continue to fight for equality. To lead with humility, to listen, to encourage the growth of our movement, to mentor, and to attribute some of the progress we have made to the vision, fortitude, and integrity of Bobby Silverstein.

How many of us in this room can say that we have led a life as rich as Bobby's?

We will miss you Bobby—and always find solace and encouragement in remembering your warm smile.

#### WISHING MS. ELEANORE JOHNSON A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2022*

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to wish Ms. Eleanore Johnson a happy 100th birthday. While reaching 100 years is an impressive accomplishment, I am here to honor Ms. Johnson not only for her centennial birthday, but also for the life she has lived and the service she has given to others.

Ms. Johnson was married to her husband, Howard, a World War II pilot, for 48 years. Together, they raised four daughters and now have seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Ms. Johnson began her career as a secretary and later worked as a teacher and librarian's assistant. She also dedicated time to being a stay-at-home mom while her children were young.

In her retirement, Ms. Johnson has remained dedicated to serving her community. She has volunteered at Rankin General Hospital and Peachtree Retirement Center, and she has been a committed Christian her entire life. Additionally, she has served as a Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School Director, and church librarian, among other roles. Ms. Johnson also has a keen interest in politics and stays informed on national, state, and local matters as a lifelong Republican.

It is my honor to recognize Ms. Eleanore Johnson for her many accomplishments and her dedication to Mississippi and the United States. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring Eleanore Johnson.

#### HONORING RAEDEEN BIGELOW AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

#### HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2022*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker. I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Raedeen Bigelow, who leads the MATURA Neighborhood Center in Greenfield, as our Iowan of the Week.

In September of 1974, Raedeen found herself working a brand-new job after graduating high school. She wasn't exactly sure where her career path would take her, but she was finding her footing working with Head Start, the preschool program provided by MATURA Action Corporation. Raedeen was at Head Start for two years when she saw the MATURA Outreach Center in Greenfield was looking for an aide. She applied in May of 1976, and since then, she has worked tirelessly at the Greenfield Neighborhood Center to help those in need of assistance.

MATURA is a non-profit community action agency that partners with communities in southwest Iowa to provide a multitude of comprehensive programs for individuals and families seeking assistance. It's dedicated staff provides crisis assistance to Iowans in need of food and help with utilities and rent, but services go far beyond that, MATURA also offers access to its Head Start comprehensive preschool program, thrift stores, education for pregnant women, assistance with programs like WIC breast feeding peer counseling and Healthy and Well Kids of Iowa, and workforce training for youth, dislocated workers, and long-term unemployed individuals. Each year MATURA provides these types of critical services to more than 10,000 individuals and 3,700 families across Adams, Adair, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union Counties, where some of the state's most rural areas are located.

This September, Raedeen will be celebrating 48 years at the Greenfield Neighborhood Center, in that time, she has helped folks get the assistance they need, no matter the challenges. But when the COVID-19 pandemic prevented normal interactions between neighbors and changed business operations nationwide, Raedeen and the rest of the folks at MATURA faced their biggest challenge yet. With their doors closed for the first time, meeting families and others to discuss their needs and offer solutions was difficult. Raedeen's Outreach Center was getting more and more requests for assistance as the pandemic prolonged. People needed general assistance, help with housing, energy needs, maternal health service, and much more.

Knowing there was great demand for their help, each Outreach Center had to figure out what processes worked best for each individual office across its six-county footprint, such as drive-through appointments. Raedeen and her team adjusted as each Outreach Center did things their own way, working tirelessly to accommodate each person and family and get them connected with the help they needed at such a crucial time.

Today, Raedeen and the Greenfield Outreach Center are stepping up to help those in their community as our economy struggles with the burden of inflation. Rural communities

are facing increased challenges as costs rise. Raedeen's work and expertise is critical while the Outreach Center yet again adjusts to meet high demand. She is now focused on connecting folks with resources like food pantries, of which the Greenfield Outreach Center has its own that's used across the area. She engages the community regularly so neighbors know when the Center is open and what services are being offered, including handing out backpacks at the beginning of August.

Assistance in rural communities can often be overlooked, and it's people like Raedeen who make these services accessible for those who need it most and during times of crisis. Raedeen is as dedicated as ever, and she's excited to soon pass the 50-year anniversary of her time at MATURA. Madam Speaker, because of her perseverance, passion, and nearly 50 years of dedicated service to her community. I am honored to recognize Raedeen Bigelow as this week's Iowan of the Week.

#### RECOGNIZING CHARLES MICHAEL "MIKE" FUTRELL

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2022*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize one of the most extraordinary city managers I have ever known. My friend and colleague Charles Michael "Mike" Futrell leaves his position as city manager of South San Francisco, my hometown, after nine years of exemplary service. Mike has proven over and over again that he is one of the most productive, most creative, and most professional community leaders in the region. He superbly led this city of 67,000 people with a budget of over \$400 million and set it on a path to success.

Most residents of cities don't realize how much impact a city manager has on every aspect of their lives. Mike led 900 full and part-time personnel across all departments: police, fire, emergency medical services, emergency management, public works, parks and recreation, library, human resources, finance, communications, and economic and community development. He greatly improved South San Francisco's finances earning the city its first ever AAA bond rating. During his tenure, the city yielded budget surpluses every year, and he delivered record budget reserves.

To appreciate how much Mike brought to the table when he started his job as city manager, it helps to know his background. Mike earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Louisiana State University, a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts. Amherst, and a JD from Louisiana State University Paul M. Herbert Law School. He was a Ph.D. scholar in Management of Complex Systems at the University of California, Merced, and he received a Learn, Engage, Accelerate, Disrupt (L.E.A.D.) Certification in Corporate Innovation from Stanford.

Mike did not confine his accomplishments to academics. He also served in public office and held other senior administrative positions in both the public and private sectors. He was an elected member of the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council, an elected member of the

Louisiana House of Representatives, a state director for a U.S. Senator, the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Baton Rouge, a U.S. Navy Captain at the U.S. Pacific Command, and an Executive Vice President for Hawaii Gas. As you can surmise from this impressive background, there isn't any situation or problem Mike can't tackle.

Among the most visible changes in South San Francisco during his tenure are the increase in the construction of housing units and the revitalization of the downtown, both priorities for Mike. More than 4,500 new residential units will be built in the next five years, a significant effort to address the crushing housing shortage in the Bay Area. Press reports indicate that, under his leadership, the city's biotechnology employers are expected to more than double their square footage, from 12 million to 25 million square feet, within the next few years.

Madam Speaker, South San Francisco is a remarkable community, and Mike contributed greatly to its success. He will now take his talents to Riverside, California, where he will also be closer to his children. We wish Mike and his wife, Susan Freeman, our very best for a successful future in their new home. Both will be missed, but fondly remembered, in the years ahead.

LIFE INSEPARABLE FROM ART:  
HONORING GRETA CHAPIN MCGILL

**HON. KWEISI MFUME**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2022*

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary artist who has mastered the talent and skill of expression. Ms. Greta Chapin McGill translates her emotions and experiences as an African American woman flawlessly to canvas, and all who have had the pleasure to view her work are left in awe of its beauty.

Ms. Chapin McGill grew up in Washington, DC, and associates her time riding the bus around the city with blossoming a feeling of independence within herself that has run parallel during her brave journey as an artist. During this time, Greta's father took her to Constitution Hall, where he asked her to close her eyes, and "see" the music. The ability for art to pull us out of reality, and encapsulate us in harmony with emotion and surrealness, is what surrounded Greta as she "saw" the music herself. Greta's own art is a reflection of this experience, unlocking every emotion and story she can elicit from canvas and color.

Inspired by her father's encouragement that anything is possible if you believe in it, Greta began to fully pursue art. She studied painting and art history at Howard University and The Corcoran School of Fine Art, and her exceptional ability has since taken her across the globe to exhibits in Italy, France, and Switzerland. Greta has allowed her craft to take the

lead in her life, as she believes one's own art is a living, breathing canvas that evolves over time through one's experiences and perspectives gained.

Greta cites feminism as having a profound impact on her work, drawing on women's ability to openly and clearly address their emotions, spirituality, and strength. Her creative process arises from the fundamental understanding and belief that it is the artist's job to tell the story of their time, so she must always be observant on what's going on around her and what is changing. As evidenced in her work, Greta employs color in such powerful and responsive ways that anyone who observes her work is astonished by the "abstractly real" aesthetic prevalent in her pieces.

However, despite such explosive and free works of color and design, Greta still affirms that in her art there remain underlying messages she keeps from the observer. The allure of an artistic piece's mystery adds to the impressive intricacy of Greta's portfolio. She believes there is a deeper meaning behind an artist's ability to maintain the privacy and intimacy of their art. Considering, that as a woman of African Ancestry, Greta's ancestors did not have control of their lives, there is a power she feels as a Black artist able to control her story and how much she discloses through art.

Ms. Chapin McGill is someone who should not only be celebrated for her art, but for her character, determination, and influence. Greta is the embodiment of perseverance. She proclaims that you must have the backbone to change facets of your life when they warrant change, and that things in peoples' lives happen for a reason. She is a firm believer that the universe will hand you what you want if you have the courage to ask for it, and when the universe presents an opportunity, you must say yes.

To Ms. Greta Chapin McGill, the promise to create is a commitment she has given to fully. Greta at her core is still that young girl standing in Constitution Hall who "saw" the music and could not live without art. Madam Speaker, today I am honored to commemorate Greta Chapin McGill's devotion to advancing the arts and depicting the experiences of all Americans through that art.

HONORING COUNCILMEMBER TOM  
SCHWEDHELM

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Schwedhelm of Santa Rosa, California in honor of his retirement and eight years as a council member and mayor.

Mr. Schwedhelm moved to Santa Rosa, California in 1981. He received an Associate degree in the Administration of Justice from

Santa Rosa Junior College's Police Academy, a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management from St. Mary's College, and a Master's degree in Organizational Development from Sonoma State University.

In 1983, Mr. Schwedhelm joined the Santa Rosa Police Department beginning a three-decade career as a police officer in Santa Rosa. He also served as an adjunct faculty member for Santa Rosa Junior College from 1985 to 2002. In 2009, Mr. Schwedhelm was named Chief of Police for the City of Santa Rosa and was the first chief to be hired from among the department's ranks in over 70 years. He oversaw the department until his retirement in 2013.

Mr. Schwedhelm's service did not end there. In 2014, Mr. Schwedhelm was elected to the City Council and has now served two terms. He helped lead the city through some of its darkest days. In 2017, the Tubbs Fire destroyed 1,400 homes, most of which were in his neighborhood of Coffey Park, and took at least 22 lives. Mr. Schwedhelm was appointed mayor in 2018. During his tenure, Mr. Schwedhelm worked tirelessly to represent fire survivors and support Santa Rosa's recovery from the Tubbs Fire. In addition, he led his city through massive evacuations caused by the 2019 Kincade Fire, the first years of the COVID-19 pandemic, social unrest following the murder of George Floyd, and the 2020 Glass Fire which destroyed 334 homes in Santa Rosa and wider Sonoma County.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Schwedhelm for his selfless service and commitment to the people of Santa Rosa. His leadership steered Santa Rosa through numerous crises and accelerated his city's recovery in their wake. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING RANDY WALKER

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2022*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize Randy Walker, Garden City, Michigan's longest-serving mayor.

Randy Walker held the office of mayor from 2008 until 2022. Prior to that he served a term on city council. Mayor Walker is a lifelong resident of Garden City. He has always been passionate about serving the community that raised him. Over the years, Mayor Walker has given his time to many service-oriented organizations, including the Kiwanis Club. His love for the community runs deep and it shined through in the initiatives he undertook and supported as our public official.

Please join me in thanking Mayor Randy Walker for his 15 years of service to the people of Garden City in Michigan's 13th District Strong. The 13th Congressional District wishes him well in his retirement and thanks him for his partnership and service to our district.