

have always known Dick to be a consummate professional with an exacting attention to detail and a passion for ensuring the success of America's space program. When I took over as the Ranking Democrat on the Committee, my first action was to name Dick the Chief of Staff. In the ensuing 12 years as my Chief of Staff, Dick guided the Committee staff through many successes, culminating in the passage this year of the CHIPS and Science Act, the largest and most comprehensive legislation in the Committee's history.

After three decades of service, I am happy that Dick will have some well-deserved time for rest and relaxation. I know he will appreciate having more time to spend with his beloved wife, Grace and his two children Pearl and John. But I also know that Dick is not one to hold still for too long, and I'm sure he will have success in any of his future endeavors.

We often speak of the dedicated staff who make this institution such a wonderful place in which to work. Dick Obermann is just such a person. His decades of public service have made this institution a better place. His efforts as a space policy professional were instrumental in ensuring the many successes of our nation's space program. But most of all, his sound counsel and friendship have made my time in Congress all the better. I thank Dick for his many years of dedicated and loyal service.

#### HONORING PHILIP DAVIS

#### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today, as the first Bahamian American elected to Congress, to honor and welcome Philip Davis the newly elected Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the Bahamas.

Philip Edward "Brave" Davis was born on June 7, 1951, in Nassau, Bahamas, the oldest of eight children born to Dorothy and Brave Edward Davis. Mr. Davis received his primary education at the Old Bight All Age School on Cat Island while living with his grandparents. After returning to Nassau, he went on to receive an education at the Eastern Junior & Senior Schools, and at St. John's College in New Providence.

Prime Minister Davis is perhaps best known now as a politician, serving as Leader of the Progressive Liberal Party, and Member of Parliament for Cat Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador. However, he entered politics late in life. Professionally, he is known both locally and internationally as an acclaimed Corporate and Human Rights lawyer, a highly distinguished legal educator, a passionate sportsperson, a sponsor of many sporting activities, and a Toastmaster.

After a brief stint in banking, he articulated as a Law Clerk in the Law Chambers of Wallace Whitfield & Barnwell. His appointment as Queen's Counsel, the highest possible honor which is conferred on those practicing law in the English legal system anywhere in the world, came in recognition of both his highly successful legal practice, but also his contribution to legal education. A leading litigation lawyer, Philip "Brave" Davis has an impressive record in the Courts of Appeal, with perhaps more appearances before the UK Privy Council than any other Bahamian lawyer.

A former Member of the Council of Legal Education for CARICOM, he has made an unprecedented contribution to legal education in the Caribbean region. Mr. Davis twice served as Vice-President of the Bar Council before becoming President of the Bahamas Bar Association in 1995. Since 2002, he has been Managing Partner of the law firm which bears his name: Davis & Co.

In 1970 Mr. Davis became a Member of Toastmaster Club 1600, a nonprofit organization established to develop leadership skills through listening, thinking, and speaking. He served as its President in 1979, and as Division Governor of Toastmasters for The Bahamas in 1989. A keen sportsman interested in baseball, softball, swimming, and athletics. Mr. Davis served as Vice-President of the Bahamas Swim Federation from 1986 to 1990 and was President of the Sea Bees Swim Club from 1980 to 1990.

Mr. Davis has the love and support of his caring wife, Ann-Marie Davis. They have six children who have inherited their father's passion for sports, hard work and patriotism, which led them to represent the Bahamas at the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA) Games.

During the last administration of the Progressive Liberal Party, from 2012 to 2017, Mr. Davis ran a super-ministry, the Ministry of Works. His portfolio covered everything relating to the physical infrastructure of The Bahamas, as well as oversight of Bahamasair, BEC, and the Water & Sewerage Corporation. Since May 2017, he has been Leader of the Progressive Liberal Party. On September 16th, he was elected the fifth Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, where he also serves as Minister of Finance.

#### HONORING GORDON KINNE

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gordon Kinne.

Gordon is a lifelong Missourian, having been born in Hamilton, Mo. on August 23, 1952, and raised on his family's farm. He graduated from Hamilton High School in 1970 and then came to Springfield to attend what is now Missouri State University—an institution with which he has enjoyed a lifelong relationship. Gordon to this day continues his connection with Missouri State. He's served as chair of the their Foundation's Board of Trustees. He also has been a board member and past president of the Missouri State University Alumni Association, and past co-chairman of the Bears Fund, as well as an active supporter of Bears athletic programs. He earned his bachelor's degree before entering the field of insurance.

In 1984, Kinne founded the third party administrator and full-service employee benefits brokerage firm MedPay, Inc., a company for which he still owns and serves as its president today. With nearly 50 employees, MedPay is one of the largest independently owned third party administrators in Missouri, partnering with a diverse mix of employers from both the private and public sector for both fully-insured and self-insured benefit plans. Its clients in-

clude large regional employers, small businesses, municipalities, school districts and institutions of higher education. He is past President for the Board of Directors of the national association of third-party administrators, the Society of Professional Benefit Administrators, which works to build best practices for the self-insured industry, and serves as a resource to the various federal departments that regulate the employee benefits industry.

In addition, Kinne has served a number of Springfield business and civic organizations, including serving as chairman of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, chairman of the Springfield Business Development Corporation, the Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau and currently serves on the Springfield Good Government Committee. Gordon received the prestigious Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce 2019 Springfieldian award which is given each year to an individual who exemplifies outstanding community service and dedication to improving the quality of life for Springfield and its citizens.

Gordon also serves as Missouri's National Committeeman to the Republican National Committee and is a former chairman of the 7th District Congressional Republican Committee. Gordon has a great passion for politics giving of his time and financially contributing to various political candidates.

Kinne has a strong passion for helping charitable organizations. He has offered his time and energy to a number of organizations in the Springfield area, including the Ozark Empire Fair, the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, the Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks, Lake Country Soccer and the Council of Churches of the Ozarks. He also financially supports numerous other local charities.

Gordon is a lifelong Christian and faithful member and supporter of Schweitzer Church in Springfield.

Gordon and his wife, Laura have been married 41 years and reside in Springfield, Missouri. Their oldest son, Marshall, and his wife, Winter, also live in Springfield with their son, Walker, and granddaughter Kate. Gordon's younger son, Mason, and his wife, Jamie, reside in Chandler, AZ.

Madam Speaker, it is clear that Gordon Kinne has dedicated his adult life to his community and many causes dear to his heart. I commend his work and wish him all the best.

#### RECOGNIZING THE EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP OF ADMIRAL BENJAMIN NICHOLSON

#### HON. MICHAEL F. Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Admiral Benjamin Nicholson for his outstanding leadership as Commander of Joint Region Marianas. In June of 2021, Admiral Nicholson was sworn in as Commander of Joint Region Marianas tasked with fortifying American freedom and democracy in his work to achieve Indo-Pacific Command objectives while strengthening Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia. With unwavering focus

on the mission of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Admiral Nicholson goes above and beyond the call of duty with his attention to the communities he serves, actively engaging local leadership and stakeholders to ensure the welfare of the general public.

Admiral Nicholson's commitment to our Armed Services military began in the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering in 1993. He continued to build his foundation earning his master's degree in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School and a master's degree in National Security from the Naval War College. His background spans numerous command positions and numerous deployments around the world during his seagoing career.

Admiral Nicholson has further served in combat tours in Helmand, Afghanistan, and the Provincial Reconstruction Team and Forward Operating Base in Farah, Afghanistan. He also served in numerous ashore joint and staff billets including executive assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Assistant Deputy Director Middle East Directorate in the Joint Staff; Special Operations Support Team to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and head of the professional development section in the Chief of Naval Operations staff. His military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), Combat Action Ribbon, and various campaign and unit awards. He is also a 2015 recipient of the FBI's Director's Award.

As a first on Guam, Admiral Nicholson led unclassified briefings to multiple local leadership stakeholders on threats facing the island and region, engaging local Mayors, Senators, and Administration officials with unparalleled transparency that has served to build awareness of, confidence in, and partnership with the objectives of the Department of Defense.

The need to defend the territory of Guam from potential military threats is not limited to military establishments under Admiral Nicholson's leadership. Recent efforts to secure missile defense systems for the territory are taking a 360-degree focus to protect the entirety of the island, civilian and military alike, reassuring front-line Americans that they are protected, and reinforcing our safety and suitability to our critical visitor industry.

The food security and supply chain resilience for the region is strengthened in his work with our office to explore the feasibility of leasing Department of Defense lands for cattle grazing operations, further serving to advance local economic growth and diversification in a community that currently relies on over 90 percent of imported products.

With the island in the midst of a housing crisis due to labor shortages, material costs, and the tyranny of distance relative to American job and resource markets, Admiral Nicholson takes a mindful and creative approach in encouraging greater housing inventory to mitigate the civilian housing market impact of substantial military personnel relocation, and the subsequent growth of military housing needs.

Admiral Nicholson regularly and openly engages to address Veteran, Gold Star Family, and military dependent needs for access to

amenities located within military facilities, deftly navigating the complexities of a community seeking greater access to military support in balance with the needs of mission viability.

Poignantly, Admiral Nicholson continues to be an avid partner in addressing critical healthcare needs throughout the island and region, providing guidance and solutions as the territory navigates the largest investment in its history to establish a modern healthcare facility to meet modern day healthcare needs throughout Micronesia and beyond.

The service to the country in the work of Admiral Nicholson is nothing short of exemplary, not only in his ability to effectively lead and manage the military front lines of America in the Indo-Pacific, but to do so in a manner that reflects unprecedented mindfulness of the holistic value in building, maintaining, and reinforcing community confidence and support critical to mission success.

Madam Speaker, the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy are well served and represented by the command talent of Admiral Benjamin Nicholson who is a builder of allies, communities, and constituencies. I extend my gratitude to the Admiral for his invaluable service to our Nation and I commend him for his commitment to community engagement, civilian well-being, and his mission as Commander of Joint Region Marianas.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CHRISTOPHER HALL

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Christopher (Chris) Hall and his service to Virginia's First District and the Nation.

Chris earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science & Government from Hampden-Sydney College. During his time there, he was a member of their baseball team and the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. After graduating from Hampden-Sydney College, he earned his Juris Doctor from Elon University School of Law. As a law student, he served as a Law Clerk on the 15th Judicial Circuit Court.

After graduating from law school, Chris served as a Law Clerk for LobbyIt and as Legislative Counsel for the Keelen Group, LLC.

Chris joined my office as a Legislative Assistant in December 2018, eventually working his way up to become my Senior Counsel. He contributed tremendously to my work on the House Committee on Natural Resources, expanding broadband to underserved communities, improving transportation infrastructure, and more. His work has been invaluable.

I would like to thank Chris for his contributions and dedicated service over the last four years. He has been a key member of my legislative team and staff, and I wish him all the best as he continues his journey here in the Capitol as the Legislative Director for Congressman Thomas Kean.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Chris Hall for his service to Virginia's First District and the Nation. May God bless Chris as he continues his career in public service.

HONORING ROBERT LOW

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Low, the founder of Prime, Inc.

Robert Low founded Prime, Inc. in Urbana, Missouri in 1970 and in 1980 moved its corporate headquarters to Springfield, Missouri. Today, Prime, Inc. is a leader in Refrigerated, Flatbed, Tanker, Floral, and Intermodal transportation with fifteen locations throughout the United States. Prime, Inc. is the largest refrigerated trucking company in North America.

Prime transports a variety of goods throughout the contiguous United States, Canada and Mexico. With a fleet of 7,816 tractors, 10,726 refrigerated trailers, 1,284 flatbed trailers, 620 tank trailers, and 2,041 Intermodal trailers, Prime's gross revenues were \$2.4 billion with an 85.7 percent operating ratio in the fiscal year of 2021. Prime has approximately 12,000 driver and non-driver associates and has been recognized as one of the Top 20 Best Fleets to Drive For by Carrier's Edge/TCA for 8 years straight.

Robert has been Vice President At-Large, an Executive Committee member and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Trucking Association. He is also a past Chairman of the Truckload Carriers Association as well as a member of the Board of Directors. In 2000 he received the prestigious "Missourian" Award. This honor is given to citizens of the State of Missouri that have outstanding achievements in the fields of business, government or the arts. He was a finalist for the National Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and recipient of the Springfield Business Journal Lifetime Achievement Award. Robert has also served on the Board of Directors of Bethel University in McKenzie, Tennessee.

Robert and his wife, Lawana, also own the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center in Springfield, Missouri as well as the Palace Casino Resort and the Preserve Golf Club in Biloxi, Mississippi. The Lows reside on a 330-acre horse farm called Primatara that is in North Springfield, Missouri where they raise thoroughbred racehorses. Two, of which, have made it to the Kentucky Derby in recent years.

Madam Speaker, since 1970, Robert Low has successfully managed a trucking company with operations all across North America, and that is no easy feat. I wish to congratulate him on all of his success, and wish him all the best.

HONORING MICHAEL FINNEY

#### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael A. Finney, the first Black President & CEO of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council. He is newly inducted into 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project and is the recipient of the 2022 5000 Role Models of Excellence Martin L. King, Jr. Breaking the Glass Ceiling Award.

Mr. Finney guides the official economic development partnership for Miami-Dade County