

focusing on job creation and economic growth. This is the first time that an African American has had the top role in championing the county's effort to market itself as a world class business destination. Mr. Finney has led the organization since 2017. The Miami-Dade Beacon Council serves as the official economic development organization for Miami-Dade County. The not-for-profit public-private partnership focuses on job creation and economic growth. Since 1985, the organization has assisted more than 1,200 businesses that have created more than 74,000 jobs and added more than \$6.7 billion in new capital investments. It accomplishes this by marketing Miami-Dade as a world-class business location, growing local companies and entrepreneurs and shaping the local economy's future. The Council engages local, national, and international audiences when facilitating business growth and expansion.

Prior to his current role, Mr. Finney served as president and chief executive officer for Community Ventures Resources Inc. in Ann Arbor, Michigan, served as senior adviser for economic growth for the State of Michigan's Governor Rick Snyder and as president and chief executive officer of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Finney is a member of the boards of directors of the Miami Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, Saginaw Valley State University Foundation, and the Florida Memorial University's Social Justice Institute Advisory Board.

He received his Bachelor of Business Administration from Saginaw Valley State University and an MA in human resources from Central Michigan University.

#### FLOOD LEVEL OBSERVATION, OPERATIONS AND DECISION SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2022*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan, bicameral FLOODS Act led by Senator Wicker. Flooding is the most common natural hazard in the United States, resulting in the greatest number of lives lost and property damaged. We passed the tenth anniversary of Superstorm Sandy about one month ago. That storm was a harbinger of the future as we have seen many storms with record-breaking extreme precipitation that has led to flooding events, from Hurricane Harvey in my home state of Texas, to the more recent Hurricane Ida. The need to better prepare our communities for potential catastrophic flooding is now more crucial than ever.

The FLOODS Act directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a National Integrated Flood Information System that will inform and provide timely decision-making in the face of flooding events and coordinate and integrate flood research at NOAA. The bill would also designate a service coordination hydrologist at each National

Weather Service River Forecast Center, and it requires NOAA to leverage existing work through intra-agency and external partnerships to improve impact decision support systems, as well as regularly update Atlas 14 precipitation frequency estimates.

It cannot be overstated how urgent the need for this basic work is for informing products such as updated FEMA flood maps used in flood insurance determinations, designing infrastructure in flood prone areas, and for planning evacuations. I want to thank Representative SHERRILL for her leadership on this legislation and on the issue of addressing the causes and impacts of flooding on Americans across the country.

I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

HONORING NANCY ALLEN

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an individual who has made significant contributions to our justice system, championing the rights of victims; has served as an educator, inspiring thousands of college students; and has created and shared stories as a bestselling author.

My district includes Springfield, Missouri, the home of Nancy Allen, a former Assistant Prosecutor, Assistant Attorney General, Senior Instructor at Missouri State University (Go Bears) and the district's first New York Times bestselling author. I am honored today to recognize the lifelong accomplishments of Nancy Allen, who comes from a long history of Missouri educators and attorneys in a family that is committed to serving the community. She also comes from just 2 doors down from my childhood home. You see Nancy and I were neighborhood kids together growing up in the 1960s.

Nancy is a natural advocate. In 1973, at the age of 16, she appeared before the Springfield School Board to make the case for instituting a girls' competitive sports program in Springfield Public Schools. The Board voted in favor of her proposal that night, and that year, the schools extended athletic opportunities to girls for the first time in SPS history.

She graduated from Missouri State University with an English Education degree in 1978 and received her Law Degree from the University of Missouri in 1980. She was a trailblazer for women in the legal profession, returning to Springfield in 1981 to practice law in Southwest Missouri. Nancy joined the Greene County Prosecutor's Office as the only woman on staff and tried over 30 jury trials.

After marrying Randall Allen and starting a family, she became an Assistant Attorney General for our great state, serving for 9 years as a champion for victims of consumer fraud.

In 2005, Nancy became an instructor at Missouri State University, teaching law classes in the College of Business. With over 900 students per year, she received awards for teaching and garnered the highest student evaluations. Though she retired in 2020, her relationships with former students remain strong. In 2021, she served as the officiant of 2 former students' wedding and performed the ceremony.

While teaching at Missouri State University, Nancy picked up the pen and began her career as a novelist, a goal she pursued with tremendous determination. In 2014, *The Code of the Hills* was released, the first legal thriller in her 4-book Ozarks Mystery Series published by Harper Collins. The series, which examines social issues as well as crimes against women and children, has been optioned by a major network.

During this period of publishing success, she also became a co-author with James Patterson. Their first collaboration, *Juror #3*, became an instant #1 New York Times bestseller in 2018. Their next book, *The Jailhouse Lawyer*, became a #2 New York Times bestseller. Their next novel will be released in 2024.

In addition, she teamed up with a film production company to author the Anonymous Justice series for Grand Central Publishing. *Renegade* came out in 2022, and *Payback* will be released in 2023.

Nancy Allen's career illustrates a commitment to service, and also provides a true example of how hard work and determination can propel a talented constituent from my District into the New York City publishing spotlight.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Nancy Allen for her many contributions to our District and Nation.

HONORING DR. RUDOLPH MOISE

**HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Rudolph Moise as he expands his practice to include Comprehensive Medical Aesthetics in Miami, Florida.

Dr. Moise was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. As a tenacious 17-year old, he migrated to the United States, and he received a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine before obtaining a federal medical grant to train for four years at a Miami clinic that served Haitian refugees. Dr. Moise's thirst for knowledge coupled with his passion for service inspired to continue this great work.

In 1985, he began his private practice in a small storefront in North Miami, which eventually became Comprehensive Health Center, his current medical practice. His passion for learning and dedication to his community led him to earn a law degree and MBA. Dr. Moise never practiced law, but the knowledge he gained assists him to navigate the legal aspect of medicine. His desire to give back to America led him to become a flight surgeon in the Air Force Reserve where he served for 21 years and earned the rank of Colonel, the highest ranking American of Haitian descent to hold such a position.

As a native of Haiti, he is an advocate for improving the welfare of his country. In 2003, he was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to serve on the Governor's Haiti Advisory Group as part of an effort to advance the economic development and resources in Haiti. Dr. Moise has received numerous leadership accolades over the years, including being named a top finalist for "Best Physician of the Year" by the

South Florida Business Journal. Among his other notable service awards is the 2012 Dorothy Shula Outstanding Volunteerism Award from the United Way of Miami Dade County, as well as the MCCJ Humanitarian of the Year Award. He formerly served as the president of the Dade County Medical Association and chairman of the Jackson Health Foundation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Rudolph Moise as he develops his practice to consist of Comprehensive Medical Aesthetics.

#### HONORING BRIAN J. HYLAND

#### HON. JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Brian J. Hyland. Brian was an extraordinary, talented, kind, and interesting man and these traits allowed him to touch so many lives in so many different ways.

Brian was a dedicated public servant and worked tirelessly to help his constituents. Appointed to the Chemung County Legislature in 2011, Brian used his decades of business management and life experience, and his unending charm to go above and beyond for his community. There was no job too big or too small for Brian.

Brian was also a teacher and mentor at Tioga Tae Kwon Do, in Waverly, New York, where he used more than sixty years in martial arts to teach hundreds of students how to be the best versions of themselves. He was a businessman, a leader in the community, and above all else, a family man. Brian was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, son, son-in-law, and brother.

His wife Suzanne, was the love of his life, he took immense pride in his six children, he cared deeply for his sister Patricia, and he helped all those around him to succeed.

Brian will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

#### HONORING NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP ON THEIR TRI-CENTENNIAL

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an incredible municipality within my district on the tri-centennial of its incorporation.

Northampton Township, Bucks County was originally settled by English colonists who came with William Penn on his voyage to Pennsylvania. On December 11, 1722, a petition and a map were presented to the Quarter Sessions Court in Bristol, Pennsylvania to establish a new township on lands lying "between Southampton Township and other lands and Neshaminy Creek." The petition was signed by 21 petitioners. The court took this petition under advisement and on December 14, 1722, in under 5 days, the petition was approved and Northampton Township was born.

They named it Northampton after the county town of Northamptonshire, England.

I believe it is fitting that Congress recognize this milestone as testament to the men and women who recognized the value of self-governance 54 years before our Nation declared independence from an oppressive government. I am extremely grateful for the example and the impact that Northampton Township has had on our community for the past 300 years, and I look forward to the amazing achievements to come in the next 300 years.

#### HONORING CLIF SMART OF MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Clif Smart, the president of Missouri State University.

Clifton "Clif" M. Smart III has served as the 11th President of Missouri State University since June 27, 2011.

Under Smart's leadership, the university has: set new records in numbers of graduates, graduate employment rates, and overall enrollment; enhanced diversity of faculty, staff, and students; maintained affordability for students; significantly upgraded campus facilities; developed new bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs; achieved a Silver STARS rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education; and set records in state appropriations, private gifts, and grant funding.

On top of his work at Missouri State, Smart has served as the President of the Council on Public Higher Education in Missouri, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors, the Mercy Health Springfield Communities Board of Directors, the Board of Directors for the Hawthorn Foundation, and the Board of Directors for Missouri Partnership. He has also served on boards and committees for the Missouri Department of Higher Education, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, CoxHealth, Arc of the Ozarks, Springfield Innovations, Inc., Isabel's House, First Baptist Church, and numerous other professional and community organizations.

Smart has lived in Springfield, Missouri for more than two decades. Before his presidency, Smart served as the university's general counsel. Before coming to Missouri State University, Smart had a private legal practice in Springfield.

Smart and his wife, Gail, have two sons, Murray, who along with his wife, Amy, both graduated in 2012 from Southwest Baptist University and live in Rogers, Arkansas with their daughters Addy, Emery and Miriam and sons Parker and Leeland; and Jim, who recently graduated from Lewis and Clark Law School.

Madam Speaker, since being named Missouri State University's President in 2011, Clif Smart has dedicated himself not only to the university, but also to the Springfield community. I wish him all the best in his continued efforts.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF JULIA BERNATH

#### HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the retirement of Fulton County Board President Julia Bernath. A board member since 2000, Julia has served Fulton County Schools with distinction for over 2 decades.

Julia is serving her fifth term representing Fulton County School Board District 7. Though she became Board President in 2020, she was no stranger to the role. From 2007 to 2009, she served as school board president and then as vice president from 2009 to 2010 and once again in 2019. In addition to her service on the school board, Julie has served on the Fulton County Schools Employees' Pension Fund Pension Board as both Chair and Vice Chair, and she has also represented the school board on the Fulton Education Foundation's Board of Directors. Outside of her work with Fulton County Schools, she is a deeply engaged member of our community as an active member and past president of the Georgia School Boards Association, a past Vice Chair of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, and a staff member for the Center for Reform of School Systems. Julia is a past chair of the Sandy Springs Education Force and currently serves on the Board of Directors. She is also an Advisory Committee member of the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education.

Through a global pandemic, Julia navigated unprecedented challenges during her most recent tenure as Board President and worked tirelessly in service to the students of Fulton County Schools. It has been my honor to work with Julia in partnership as we strived to provide every opportunity to our community's young people. On behalf of my office and the United States House of Representatives, I want to thank Julia for her decades of service and offer my congratulations on the occasion of her retirement.

#### HONORING THE VICTIMS OF CLUB Q NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2022*

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues, Congressman ED PERLMUTTER, Congressman JASON CROW, Congressman JOE NEGUSE, and Congressman DAVID CICILLINE, to honor the victims of the tragic shooting that took place at the Club Q Nightclub in Colorado Springs, Colorado on November 19, 2022.

It has been nearly 1 month since the horrific events that unfolded when a shooter, armed with a semiautomatic assault weapon and high-capacity magazine, entered the popular LGBTQ+ nightclub and opened fire, killing 5 people and injuring at least 22 more.

It was the latest in a growing number of violent attacks targeting the LGBTQ+ community throughout the country, and it led the Department of Homeland Security to issue a new