

Award; the Harold "Lefty" Encarnacion Community Service Award; the Dr. Ophelia Devore Young Unsung Hero Honors; Mundo Hispanic Atlanta Distinguish Person of the Year; The Panamanian Association of Columbus, Georgia Mother of the Year; William H. Spencer High School Generosity in Service; Spenserian Service Award; Davis Broadcasting Women of Excellence Award; Columbus Georgia Chapter of J.U.G.S. Women of Action Honoree; and she was a 2022 inductee into the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame.

Councilor Woodson has used her time on the Columbus City Council for good. She would always ask the questions that others were afraid to ask. During her time in office, she truly served as a voice to the voiceless and gave hope to the hopeless.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Councilor Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson has paid her rent and she has paid it well.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and Me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second District in congratulating and commending Councilor Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson for her years of service to our country, state, and the Columbus City Council. May God continue to "order the steps" of her life as she embarks on her next journey.

#### RECOGNIZING TRACY SHANE CHUMBLEY

#### HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2022*

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2022 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Tracy Shane Chumbley, Damage Controlman Second Class, United States Navy, of Dallas, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Chumbley enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1989 as a Damage Controlman, seeing sea service during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, and helped provide relief efforts during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, for which he was awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal. His decorations, in addition to the Humanitarian Service Medal, include the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

The selflessness Mr. Chumbley demonstrated in the U.S. Navy continues with his service to the community. He is a firefighter with the Garland Fire Department and works closely with the Dallas chapter of the Court Appointed Special Advocates Association (CASA), which pairs community volunteers with abused and neglected children to help judges make the best decision when finding a new caring and safe home for those children.

Mr. Chumbley's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Navy and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

#### HONORING NED REYNOLDS

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2022*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the wonderful life of Ned Reynolds, a resident of Springfield, Missouri, legendary broadcaster and a great friend to many including myself. For each of the 22 years I conducted the Missouri State all Sports Auction Ned was one of my two set up men that would introduce each item being auctioned along with another area Sports casting Legend Art Hains.

St. Louis loved Jack Buck. Kansas City embraced Len Dawson. Springfield and the Ozarks proudly claim Ned Reynolds.

People in the Ozarks have been watching and listening to Ned Reynolds on KY3 and on the radio for more than 50 years. They have heard the phrases "get that off the screen" when one of the local favorites lost a game and "bon jour and good sports" at the end of many newscasts. Anyone who has met Ned will say sports is in his blood.

While many people in the Ozarks consider Ned a Missouri native, he grew up in Haddonfield, N.J. Ned is the middle child of three boys. His older brother is a retired professor at Rutgers University and his younger brother is retired from the U.S. Steel Corporation and heads the fundraising efforts for Theo's Work, an orphanage for underprivileged children in Haiti. Ned has a daughter, Stephanie, who is married to Darrell Hasse. He also has two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

His father was a high school principal and provided educational direction. His mother, a concert pianist, developed his love of Classical music. After graduating from Haddonfield Memorial High School, Ned attended Temple University in Philadelphia. With the strong suggestion from his father, Ned studied English rather than journalism. His father felt that a basic overall education would be more beneficial to career enhancement than journalism.

Ned has been doing sports since he was a kid. He was an announcer for little league games, high school sports reporting for local newspapers and emceed many local sporting events. In high school, he worked part-time at WKDN in Camden, NJ. Ned made his first television appearance on NBC's Today show when he was only 15. He won a special guest appearance by sending a demo tape of his sports commentary of course.

After graduation from Temple University, Ned joined the Navy. He applied to get into the armed forces radio, but was placed into the medical corps as a land-based surgical technician. After 4 years serving our country, and with his father's blessing to go into broadcasting, Ned came to KY3 in 1967. He has said that he drove into the parking lot at KY3 and never left. With his very early start in radio during high school, college, and in the service, Ned assumed his broadcasting career would be in radio. However, as is the nature of the broadcasting profession, a change was on the horizon. Working at KY3 is the only TV job that Ned has ever had. When asked why he switched from radio to television, he said: "KY3 had an opening and I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time." Ned officially retired from KY3 in 2014.

Ned's retirement didn't last long. He currently hosts a daily morning sports talk show on Springfield's Jock 96.9 and you can still see his sports commentary every Monday night on KY3 Sports. Ned continues to be the play-by-play announcer for the Double-A Springfield Cardinals games on KY3 and The Ozarks CW.

If Ned isn't on the radio or television, he is doing philanthropy work in the community. He gives endless hours to numerous organizations. Ned has served on the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame board; spokesman for the United Way of the Ozarks and the boards of Springfield Symphony, Springfield Ballet, ARC of the Ozarks and he MC's the annual Honor Flight of the Ozarks banquets. He can still be frequently seen on public service announcements airing on KY3 promoting several local charities and their events.

His sports reporting and dedication to the community have not gone unnoticed. Ned was honored to be selected as a Torch Barrier for the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri for the Atlanta Games. At the end of his leg of the race, he handed the torch to Ozzie Smith of the St. Louis Cardinals. In 2001 Ned was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame and received the Champion Award in 2002 from the Ambassadors of Community Health Award. In 2014 he was inducted into the Mid-America Emmy's Silver Circle and in 2019 he was inducted into The Missouri Broadcaster's Hall of Fame. He was even the first person with their own bobble head in the inaugural season of the Springfield Cardinals.

Much has happened since his Today Show appearance—and in Ned's own words . . . "it has been a wonderful ride."

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have Ned Reynolds as a friend and I join his family, friends and the entire broadcasting community in honoring his lifetime of accomplishments and service to the Missouri Ozarks.

#### RECOGNIZING CHAPTER 154 VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

#### HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2022*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 154.

It has come to my attention that this chapter has been graciously hosting monthly luncheons at Oakmont Sterling Senior Community in my district. The love and appreciation they show to the veteran residents of this senior community, and the surrounding area, is so valuable to enriching the lives of our senior veterans.

This chapter of heroes selflessly honors and cherishes those who have served our country. I am so proud of their patriotism and continued service to our veteran community. I thank them for the joy they bring to senior veterans.

HONORING THE CONTINUED SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT LOGAN O'SHEA

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2022*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Lieutenant Logan O'Shea, United States Navy, during his service as a legislative fellow in my Washington, DC office this year. Throughout 2022, Logan has played a critical role in supporting my work on the House Armed Services Committee and representing the proud Navy community in Eastern Connecticut.

As Chairman of the House Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, which has the solemn, critical duty of overseeing much of our nation's Navy, Marine Corps, and various Air Force programs and policies. Year in, and year out, the Department of Defense's legislative fellowship program brings highly talented junior officers to Capitol Hill that provide invaluable benefits to Members of the House and Senate to the defense committees. Officers, like Logan, bring real-world experience from their time in the classroom at the various academies and experiences from their time serving on active duty. This year, as our subcommittee once again considered our approach to critical shipbuilding programs, shipbuilding industrial base development, and Navy and Marine Corps readiness through the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act, Logan provided exquisite judgement in navigating the landscape of crafting such a large and critical piece of legislation.

Logan has also seized initiative in a variety of areas beyond naval affairs that benefit Eastern Connecticut. He worked tirelessly to provide insight in our Navy's planned shipbuilding programs, communicated with leadership at Naval Submarine New London to improve the quality of life on base, and drafted policy to examine how we can better improve the lives of our Navy civilian workers on various installations. He also served as the staff lead for the Friends of Australia Caucus and the AUKUS Working Group, both of which I serve as co-chair, ensuring that the ties between our countries remain as strong as ever. This is of special importance as our two nations continue to develop key priorities in support of the AUKUS security agreement to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific. Logan's work to coordinate with the Executive Branch, other Members of Congress, and the Australian and British Embassies has facilitated new partnerships in support of our shared principles. In particular, he participated in drafting H.R. 8073, a bill establishing a joint training pipeline between the U.S. Navy and the Royal Australian Navy to enable the AUKUS effort to create a nuclear-powered submarine force. This bill was later adopted as part of the Fiscal Year 2023 NDAA.

Logan's work ethic, diligence, intelligence, and first-hand experience as a Nuclear Surface Warfare Officer made an immediate benefit and memorable impact on my office and subcommittee staff. After traveling across the world with tenures on the USS *Carney* (DDG 64) and USS *Nimitz* (CVN 68), I am thankful for his family's tremendous sacrifice to our nation and for landing in Washington for the cur-

rent phase of their life. Though Logan's presence will be deeply missed by both my personal staff and Seapower staff, I know full-well that he will make his presence known as he heads to the Surface Warfare Officer Department Head Course at Naval Station Newport in Rhode Island.

Madam Speaker, as has also been the case for each of his predecessors that my office has had the opportunity to host, I have benefited greatly from Logan's training and background. This recurring process that the fellowship program fosters, strengthens civilian-military understanding for future leaders of the greatest military in the world, which I believe is a necessary component of a strong democracy. Our nation is best served at sea and here onshore by officers and leaders of the highest caliber like Logan. He embodies such qualities and has a promising career ahead in continued service to our Nation, and we owe him such gratitude. To that end, I ask that the House join me in wishing LT Logan O'Shea, his spouse Megan, and their dog Murphy, the best of luck in their next life chapter, particularly as they welcome their first born into the world.

HONORING LEONARD PITTS, JR.

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2022*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th District of the great State of Florida, I rise today to honor Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist, journalist, and novelist, Leonard Pitts, Jr. Mr. Pitts is the recipient of the 2022 5000 Role Models of Excellence Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom and Justice Award.

A native of Southern California, Pitts entered the University of Southern California at 15 through a special honors program and graduated summa cum laude with a degree in English at age 19.

Upon graduation, he worked as a freelance music reviewer for a broad range of publications. He wrote scripts for the award-winning documentary films *King: From Atlanta to the Mountaintop* (1986), *Who We Are* (1988), and *Young Black Men: A Lost Generation* (1990). He served as a staff writer for the music countdown show *American Top 40* and its legendary host, Casey Kasem, from 1989 to 1991. In 1991, he was hired as a music critic by the Miami Herald and began writing commentary in 1995.

He is perhaps best known for his twice-weekly syndicated columns that tackle the race, politics, and culture. He won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in Commentary "for his fresh, vibrant columns that spoke, with both passion and compassion, to ordinary people on often divisive issues."

Other awards include first place for commentary in division four in the American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors' Ninth Annual Writing Awards competition; three National Association of Black Journalists' Awards of Excellence; and NABJ's 2008 Journalist of the Year. He is a five-time recipient of the Atlantic City Press Club's National Headliners Award and a seven-time recipient of the Society of Professional Journalists' Green Eye-

shade Award. In 2001, he received the American Society of Newspaper Editors prestigious Award for Commentary Writing and was named Feature of the Year in the column writing division by Editor and Publisher magazine. In 2002, the National Society of Newspaper Columnists awarded Pitts its inaugural Columnist of the Year award; in 2016, it named him to its Hall of Fame. In 2002 and in 2009, GLAAD Media awarded Pitts the Outstanding Newspaper Columnist award. In 2017, he was awarded the Missouri Honor Medal and has received four honorary doctorates. The father of five is the author of four novels and has also written nonfiction books.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Leonard Pitts, Jr.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MURAT GOKCIGDEM

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2022*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my longtime Chief of Staff, Mr. Murat Gokcigdem. He is leaving the Hill this month after 29 years of service to the House of Representatives.

Prior to coming to my office, Mr. Gokcigdem attended West Virginia University in Charleston, earning his bachelor's and his master's degree in International Public Policy. He then began his career as a Hill staffer working for Congressmen Jim Moody and Tom Barrett. He worked his way from Special Assistant to Legislative Director before joining my staff. He has since served in my Washington, DC office for over 21 years. He began as my Legislative Director in 2001 and quickly demonstrated a deep understanding of the legislative process and inner workings of Capitol Hill. His success in that role led me to promote him to Chief of Staff, where he has long advised me on all communications, legislative, and administrative issues and managed my DC and district office staff.

Murat has been a constant companion for those 21 years, probably more so than he ever imagined. I would not have made it this long in this job without his counsel. I call him at all hours of the day and night, make seemingly impossible requests, and rely on him in part for every aspect of my Congressional operation.

Murat has also served as a resource for Legislative Directors, Chiefs of Staff, and schedulers from all over the Hill, particularly for those serving the Congressional Black Caucus and the Texas delegation. They know that if they have a question, Murat has an answer.

Murat's presence in my office has greatly improved my capacity to serve the constituents of TX-30 and supported the professional development of those who have worked for me.

I want to thank him and his family, his wife Elin and his children Ela and Elif, for his service, his counsel, and most importantly, his friendship over the years.