

and faith. Through her humble beginnings, Dr. Martin said she learned from her surroundings, “the farm . . . and the road . . . and the community,” and believes, “you didn’t have to have letters behind your name to be educated.”

Through various chapters of learning, Dr. Martin has never stalled in her intellectual journey. She graduated from Columbia State Community College in 1975 with a degree in data processing. A year later, she received a Master of Science in Computer Information Systems from Middle Tennessee State University. She then received a doctorate of Higher Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Martin not only earned her degrees from these institutions, but also chose to give back. From 1979 to 2003, she worked in the Computer Science department at Columbia State Community College. Since 2003, Dr. Martin has worked in a promoted role as an Assistant to the President, specializing in Access and Diversity.

Dr. Martin has also served her community well. She served on the Columbia City Council for over 30 years and is finishing her last term as the Vice Mayor of Columbia, where she is the first African American female to hold that position. Dr. Martin also serves on the Board of Directors for Columbia Power & Water, Blood Assurance, and Public Entity Partners. She serves non-profit organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club of South-Central Tennessee, Columbia Miracle League, Maury County NAACP, and many more.

Dr. Martin continues to be involved at New Smyrna Cumberland Presbyterian Church as a teacher, missionary, clerk, elder, and choir member.

Dr. Martin is a pillar of the community who is dedicated to leaving it a better place than she found it. Her life shows how passion and commitment can create a causal chain that benefits whole cities, counties, and, indeed, the state. I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging this great American’s unwavering devotion towards education, her community, and her faith.

HONORING SENATOR SHEVRIN JONES

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Senator Shevrin Jones for his stellar and philanthropic contributions to the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project.

Frederick Douglass once said, “it is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” I thank Shevrin Jones so much for believing in our mission of interrupting the school to prison pipeline and to guiding our young boys along a cheerfully charted path and sending them to college. He is investing in the children of our community, and they will be the benefactors of his investment for generations to come. He will always be a part of us, and we will always be a part of him. I thank him for all that he does on behalf of our children.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Senator Shevrin Jones, a 2023 Role Model Wall Man with a generous philanthropic spirit

and I ask my colleagues from the 117th Congress to join me in honoring this special circle of brotherhood.

SUPPORTING THE JOYCE/CARSON AMENDMENT TO THE KENNETH MEISEL PUBLIC SERVANTS CLAIMANT FAIRNESS ACT OF 2022, SECTION 5302 OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT, FY2023

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3050, the Kenneth Meisel Public Servants Claimant Fairness Act of 2022, and the Joyce/Carson amendment, included as Section 5305 of this year’s National Defense Authorization Act. Our bipartisan amendment added the language of our bill, the Kenneth Meisel Public Servants’ Claimant Fairness Act. This important change will increase the time, from 30 days to 60 days, that federal employees have to provide supporting documentation to the Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs to support their occupational illness, traumatic injury, or death claim. I am proud that this language was included in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2023, which has passed both the House and Senate, and is now awaiting President Biden’s signature.

I would like to also recognize Kenneth Meisel, for whom this bill was named. Kenneth Meisel was an air marshal stationed in Minneapolis. He unfortunately passed away too soon as a result of COVID-19. This bill will ensure that spouses, like Julie Meisel who are left behind, have ample time to complete basic forms required to obtain government benefits. This bill not only honors Ken, but all public servants who are injured in the line of duty. This bill bears the name of a hero who served this country for his entire adult life, and who steadfastly remained on watch while others sheltered at home.

This is very important because public servants like firefighters, and those who work in construction and manufacturing, have a much higher rate of cancer than the general public, and this amendment to the Federal Employees Compensation Act will reduce an unnecessary burden on public servants to access benefits they are entitled to claim.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to submit for the RECORD Mr. Meisel’s obituary as published in the Star Tribune:

Ever since he was 18 years old, Kenneth Meisel was driven to protect and serve.

First he was a U.S. Army paratrooper, then a police officer in Oklahoma and finally a senior federal air marshal stationed in Minneapolis.

With his wife, Julie, he cared for rescue horses on a 20-acre ranch in Princeton, Minn., and looked forward to retiring in two years and being a full-time grandpa, his children said.

But on Sept. 9, Meisel called his son Ryan of Baraboo, Wis., to tell him he was having trouble breathing and was going to the hospital. It was the last time they spoke. Meisel died Sept. 24 of COVID-19. He was 55.

At a memorial service this month, his daughter Amanda Moldenhauer of Ramsey

spoke of a man with the heart of a cowboy and the soul of an Amish rancher—all within “the shell of a true American hero badass,” she said.

Meisel grew up in Sauk City, Wis., and entered the Army in 1984.

He served in Iraq and Afghanistan, but Ryan, born while his dad was in the military, suspected there were other hot spots, too, given the elder Meisel also served in a NATO rapid deployment force based in Italy. As a kid, Ryan would point at a map and ask his dad if he’d been here or there.

“He’d say, ‘I can’t tell you that,’” Ryan said.

Meisel later was a police officer in Shawnee, Okla., and began work as a federal air marshal in Dallas in 2002. As of 2019, he had flown more than 5 million miles, the Transportation Security Administration said.

In 2009, Meisel transferred to the Minneapolis field office and, along with Julie, fulfilled the dream of owning a ranch. The couple cared not only for horses, but also for goats, pigs, cats and chickens—you name it, said son Eric Lewis of Elk River. But Kenneth Meisel drew the line at a capybara.

At work, Meisel did all he could to “stop the bad guys,” but even then was kind and soft-spoken, Ryan said. At the ranch, he was a cowboy down to the Stetson hat. Just as memorable were his bear hugs, his children said.

During that last phone call, Ryan said he couldn’t tell if his dad was worried. But his dad did tell him he was proud of him, and gave a directive: “Take care of my grandson and my daughter-in-law.”

Other survivors include daughters Abigail Carnahan of Elk River and Jacquelyn Glaros of Plymouth; brothers Mike Fleck of Spooner, Wis., Kevin Meisel of Virginia Beach, Va., Kurt Meisel of Reedsburg, Wis., and Karl Meisel of Colorado Springs; sister Ashley Meisel of Baraboo; and five grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE OLD ASTORIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ARTS DISTRICT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Old Astoria Neighborhood Association (OANA) in support of their efforts to create a dedicated arts district located along the waterfront in Astoria, New York. OANA, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization founded in 2014 by President Richard Khuzami, has displayed a long-lasting commitment to the community and promotes quality of life, economic growth, and culture throughout Astoria.

The Astoria Waterfront Arts District (AWAD) proposed by OANA would stretch from Astoria Boulevard south to Rainey Park along the waterfront, housing hundreds of graffiti artists, abstract painters, sculptors, muralists, and many more who contribute to the landscape of the community. The district would be the second arts district established in Astoria following the creation of the Kaufman Arts District in 2014. It would aim to showcase artwork by many of the world’s most highly recognized artists and sculptors in addition to hundreds of works by community artists. The district would encompass many cultural institutions in Western Queens, among which are the Socrates

Sculpture Park, the Noguchi Museum, and the Welling Court Mural Project.

Socrates Sculpture Park, established in 1986 by the artist Mark di Suvero with other artists and community members, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting artists in the production and presentation of contemporary public art. The park serves as both an internationally renowned outdoor exhibition space and studio program as well as a neighborhood park that offers a wide variety of free community events, programs, and services. Socrates Sculpture Park offers an extensive roster of inclusive public and educational programming for individuals of all ages, supporting life-long learning through an engagement with all and the natural landscape of the Park.

The Noguchi Museum, founded in 1985 by category-defying artist Isamu Noguchi and chartered as The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum, was the first museum in the United States to be established, designed, and installed by a living artist to show their own work. Located in Long Island City, Queens, the Museum itself is widely viewed as among the artist's greatest achievements. The Museum today remains a place for the exploration of individual artistic endeavor and creative collaboration through exposure to Noguchi's wide-ranging practice. Through an active exhibition and public programming schedule, coupled with ongoing education, preservation, and research projects, the Museum continues to illuminate the enduring influence of Noguchi in dialogue with contemporary culture.

The Welling Court Mural Project began in 2009 when the organization Ad Hoc Art was invited by the community of Welling Court to add to the aesthetics of their neighborhood. The first project debuted in May 2010 with over 44 murals, fitting for the diverse and lively inhabitants. Each year since, spectacular crews of legendary and groundbreaking artists have come together to transform the neighborhood into a creative celebration and public art experience. Now featuring over 150 murals painted by artists from all corners of the globe, the Welling Court Mural Project is regarded as one of the leading collections of contemporary graffiti and street art.

OANA is a firm believer that the art presented by these cultural institutions not only unifies the local community, but also attracts individuals from different parts of the world who travel to Astoria to observe and expand on the district's works. The location is easily accessible to all New Yorkers thanks to the centrally located Astoria Ferry Landing. Additionally, the AWAD is located close to the New York City Housing Authority Astoria Houses campus and would connect residents with more artistic programming.

Diversity is the banner of the cultural institutions that define the AWAD. Art is presented in differentiating forms by individuals who interpret the world through distinct feelings, opinions, views, and perceptions. As the local population expands, the neighborhood is experiencing a demographic shift towards greater multiculturalism and ethnic diversity. This shift exposes new generations and cultures to the creative inspirations of different groups and opens a dialogue to build the future of art in New York City.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Old Astoria Neighbor-

hood Association for its dedication to arts and culture throughout Astoria. The Astoria Waterfront Arts District's incorporation into the neighborhood, in consultation with and subject to approval by municipal government entities, would strengthen Astoria's already vibrant culture, support local artists, and be a welcome addition to the artistic community, both throughout the city and our country.

HOMETOWN HERO—DON GRAVES

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an American hero and community leader in North Texas.

Don Graves is a World War II veteran and one of the few remaining men who witnessed the famous scene of the American flag planted on Iwo Jima.

Don endured the horrors of war that February morning 77 years ago, literally shedding blood, sweat, and tears in service to the country he loves. I can only imagine what emotions were raised upon seeing the stars and stripes of our flag being raised above that volcanic island.

Capturing that infamous image in his heart and mind, Don has since taken it to teach and inspire the next generation of Americans. Whether it is sharing his story with students, performing flag ceremonies at local schools, or singing the national anthem in front of 40,000 fans at Texas Rangers games, Don has gone above and beyond to ensure our community in North Texas never forgets the sacrifices of the Greatest Generation.

On behalf of our entire community, I would like to thank Don Graves for his bravery in the face of evil and his continued service to North Texas. I am excited to see how your inspiring life transforms our community.

HONORING DWIGHT JACKSON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dwight Jackson for his stellar and philanthropic contributions to the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project.

Frederick Douglass once said, "it is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." I thank him so much for believing in our mission of interrupting the school to prison pipeline and to guiding our young boys along a cheerfully charted path and sending them to college. He is investing in the children of our community, and they will be the benefactors of his investment for generations to come. He will always be a part of us, and we will always be a part of him. I thank him for all that he does on behalf of our children.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Dwight Jackson, a 2023 Role Model Wall Man with a generous philanthropic spirit and I ask my colleagues from the 117th Congress to join me in honoring this special circle of brotherhood.

HONORING W. MICHAEL BYRNE

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the memory of W. Michael Byrne, who passed away in the Dominican Republic on October 16 at the age of 99.

Mike Byrne was born in Minot, North Dakota, in 1923. At age 3, his family moved to Port Huron, Michigan, where at age 8 he began working various jobs to help his family during the Great Depression. Drafted into the Army Air Corps in 1943, Mike served as a bombardier/navigator during World War II, rising to the rank of Second Lieutenant.

After the war, Mike was recruited by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation for its small appliance division. His Westinghouse career started in Mansfield, Ohio, where he met the woman who would become his wife of 64 years, Lois.

Mike quickly rose through the ranks at Westinghouse, ultimately becoming national marketing manager, where he oversaw the company's sales and marketing work.

In 1966, Mike started his own company, Michael Byrne Manufacturing, which became a leader in the field of tunneling and augering equipment. His outstanding work led to his induction into the North Central Ohio Industrial Museum as a Champion of Industry.

Mike's dedication to volunteerism and civic duty was a model to all. He served as the first president of the Saint Peter's High School Booster Club and as a member of the Saint Peter's Board of Education. His passion for service to others continued after he and Lois moved to the Dominican Republic, where they helped fund the construction of a primary school in Puerto Plata. They also worked with CitiHope International to create a program to import and distribute much-needed medicine and medical supplies to the poor.

Madam Speaker, Mike is survived by 8 children, 19 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I offer them my condolences as they remember Mike's extraordinary life and his lifelong devotion to helping those in need.

RECOGNIZING THE TEMPLE THEATRE

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Temple Theater in Hanford, California.

Built in 1922, the Temple Theater was originally constructed for \$3,500 with the intent to serve as a school for the Chinese community in Hanford. Know originally as the Chinese Center for Knowledge, local children from Hanford's Chinese district would attend additional schooling here to learn about Chinese history, language, and culture. The school would exist from 1922 until the late 1940s.

In 1963, Audrey Leibold and other members of the community formed the Kings Players—