

REMEMBERING CONNER KURAHASHI

HON. TED LIEU
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Mr. Conner Kurahashi, who passed away on January 22, 2022. A beloved member of California's 33rd Congressional District, he was known for his exemplary leadership skills, devotion to civic engagement, and commitment to community service.

Conner was born on October 7, 1999, in Torrance, CA to Brian Kurahashi and Gay Koga. From a young age, Conner had a sense of compassion and supported others in their times of need. As an elementary and middle school student, he volunteered his time to help set up school assemblies, and he served as student body president in his senior year at West High School. As student body president, he ably represented his classmates at Torrance City Council and Torrance Unified School District Board meetings.

Always thinking of others and planning ahead, Conner was committed to documenting the activities of his high school classmates; he had stashed photos and videos for their 10-year high school reunion. Even after graduation, he continued to document his sister's achievements on the girls' basketball team and the school's track and field meets. Conner had a hand in many campus activities: fund-raising, taking photos, painting signs, and volunteering with the Kiwanis International organization. He was also a multi-sport athlete, playing volleyball and basketball, as well as running track and cross-country.

As a student at California Polytechnic University, Pomona, Conner helped plan basketball games and tournaments, dances, overnight ski trips, leadership conferences, and community service events with his fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi. He also served as Chief Communications Officer for the Nikkei Student Union. Conner was to graduate this spring with a bachelor's degree in urban and regional planning.

To friends and family, Conner will be remembered for his love of cooking, gardening, and even building a personal computer from scratch. Conner also loved basketball from an early age, playing for community youth teams and coaching them as he got older.

Conner is survived by his parents, Brian and Gay; sister, Bailey; and grandmother, Kazuko Kurahashi. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our thoughts and condolences to the Kurahashi family as they try to deal with this tragic loss. May Conner's memory live on in all those he touched through his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE NATHAN WENDEL GRAY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nathan Gray, who lost his battle with childhood cancer on January 6, 2022.

In his eight years of life, Nathan's courage, positivity, and bright smile inspired many, raised awareness for childhood cancer, and banded a community together, inspiring others to do good.

Nathan was born on July 16, 2013 to Jeffrey and Patricia Gray, and he was the beloved brother of ten year old Jeffrey and six year old Natalie. When Nathan was two years old, he was diagnosed with Wilms tumor, a rare form of kidney cancer. He fought cancer with the bravery of a superhero, enduring 221 doses of chemotherapy, 26 surgeries, 33 days of radiation, an oral inhibitor, and more than 100 blood platelet transfusions. Despite the challenges of his illness, Nathan attended St. Nicholas-St. Mary's School and enjoyed swimming, playing video games, and riding his bike.

Nathan's bravery and joy garnered local attention in August 2016 when the Facebook page "Nathan the Super Hero" was started by his family to document his battle with cancer. Thousands of people have followed the page, sharing words of encouragement, celebrating the joyful moments, and offering comfort and support during the challenging ones. Nathan quickly became a local celebrity, inspiring members of the community with his infectious smile and relentless courage. The community rallied around Nathan, cheering him on and making him feel special. In February 2020, the Wilkes-Barre Area Wolfpack named him honorary team captain before they played their inaugural home game at Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium. In August 2020, Wilkes-Barre police and fire department vehicles paraded past his home while well-wishers delivered gifts, and, in December 2021, carolers visited Nathan to spread some Christmas cheer. Just last month, the Wilkes-Barre council unanimously voted to rename the Barney Farms Park in Nathan's honor.

Nathan's family's willingness to be open and share their son's experiences with Wilms tumor helped shed important light on the issue of childhood cancer and the need for more aggressive research and increased funding for prevention and cures—so that children like Nathan do not have to suffer.

I am honored to recognize the life and legacy of this brave young man. Nathan's memory will live on with his beloved family and friends and the large community that he inspired with his determination and positivity.

HONORING THE HONORABLE SHIRLEY ANITA ST. HILL CHISHOLM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a trailblazer, icon, educator, and social activist, The Honorable Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm.

The daughter of immigrants, "Fighting Shirley" (as she became known) was the second African American in the New York Legislature (1964), the first African American woman to serve in the U.S. Congress (1968), and the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for the Presidency of the United States from one of the two major political parties (1972). During her impressive tenure in

Congress, she introduced over 50 pieces of legislation and was a staunch advocate for education, expanding minimum wage standards, racial and gender equality, combating poverty, and ending the Vietnam War. She also co-founded the National Women's Political Caucus (1971) and became the first Black woman and the second woman to ever serve on the House Rules Committee. After she retired from Congress in 1983, she went on to teach at Mount Holyoke College and later lecture in Palm Coast, Florida.

Shirley Chisholm is known quite often for the quotes, "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair." She was a formidable woman who fought against the odds (sexism and racial discrimination) during her career, inspired the future generation of leaders, and paved the way for others looking to pursue a career in politics and/or public service.

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 Congressional District and the distinguished members of the Congressional Black Caucus, in paying tribute to the life and legacy of The Honorable Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm.

JAMIE CONNELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jamie Connell of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for her service to our country and wish her well on her retirement.

For more than 37 years, Jamie has served the constituents of the State of Colorado and other states with her public service. With most of the BLM public lands concentrated in Colorado's Western Slope, Jamie oversaw more than 8.3 million acres of public land and 27 million acres of federal mineral estate in Colorado, ranging from alpine tundra, colorful canyons and sagebrush steppe to mountains rising more than 14,000 feet above sea level. During her time in Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Wyoming, Oregon, Washington, and the District of Columbia, she tirelessly worked to improve and many areas of natural resource management. In her role, she has worked constructively with officials in the legislative and judicial branches of federal and state government as well as with industry and non-profit partners.

Jamie's hard work and dedication has been tremendous. I wish Jamie all the best in retirement and send gratitude for her service to our community, the State of Colorado, and the United States of America.

HONORING MAGGIE WADE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Maggie Wade.

Maggie has remained at the same station where she was first hired as a senior at Mississippi College. She is the 89th member of her extended family to attend Jackson State University. She is the oldest of seven children. Maggie was planning to go to law school; she wanted to be a corporate attorney. She never intended to be in television because everything that she learned was preparing her for a law career.

Maggie landed an interview with Randy Bell at Miss 103/WDJX. She was hired for the position as a weekend News Anchor/Radio Announcer. She was also in school full time at Mississippi College. While working at WDJX/Miss 103, a weekend weather opening became available at WLBT. She was introduced to Woodie Assaf at WLBT and went through the interview process for the position.

She received the job at WLBT, and this has been her employment since then. She fell in love with the media and the power of the media to bring change. Maggie gives all glory to God and speaks about how God had this planned for her. The first assignment for Maggie was at the University of Mississippi Medical Center inside the Children's Hospital. She was in love with the children and the support from her colleague.

Maggie's favorite quote is from Maya Angelou, "People may forget what you did, they may forget what you said, but they'll never forget how you made them feel." She uses this quote because when you can do a story, when you can cover an event, no matter what that event is, and it touches the heart of people, you've done a good job.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of Ms. Maggie Wade.

RECOGNIZING THE BAKERSFIELD BLACK AMERICAN HISTORY PARADE COMMITTEE

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bakersfield Black American History Parade Committee on their 17th year organizing and facilitating this annual event.

The Bakersfield Black American History Parade was founded in 2005 by Gloria Patterson. The parade boosts local awareness and highlights the rich heritage and valuable contributions of African Americans. It provides a culturally inspired and community-wide celebration of the African American heritage. Local businesses and organizations interact with parade attendees and introduce them to resources available throughout Kern County and California. The committee also works with the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation and Black History 365 to help familiarize the community with services and resources.

In addition, the Bakersfield Black American History Parade Committee is committed to supporting educational institutions that raise awareness of the valuable contributions of the African American community.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Bakersfield Black American History Parade Committee and their service to the Bakersfield community.

HONORING DR. DUDLEY FLOOD

HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and career of Dr. Dudley Flood, a recipient of North Carolina's highest civilian award, The North Carolina Award for Public Service, for his trailblazing leadership in desegregating our state's public schools.

Born in Winton, North Carolina and a graduate of North Carolina Central University, Dr. Flood began his career as an educator teaching grade school and eventually became a principal.

Following his teaching tenure, Dr. Flood joined the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, where he made a significant impact during his 21 years of dedicated service.

In the years following the landmark 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, Dr. Flood and the late Gene Causby were tasked with facilitating the desegregation of schools in all 100 counties of North Carolina.

In 1969, Dr. Flood and Mr. Causby began to travel across the state to help desegregate North Carolina school systems. Beyond the assistance they provided in navigating this challenging process, it was the visual of these two men—one black, one white—working closely together that made a powerful impression on teachers and students alike.

Through his honorable work, Dr. Flood became a state hero and North Carolina became a model for school desegregation.

By working to ensure that North Carolina is a place where all students can learn irrespective of race, Dr. Flood helped to bring together starkly divided communities and effectively ushered in a new era for public education in our state.

Dr. Flood retired from public instruction in 1990. Since then, he has served as Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of School Administrators, taught as a visiting professor at multiple North Carolina colleges and universities, and continued to be an active community member.

Now 90 years old, Dr. Flood has led an incredible career as a champion for equitable education. Today his achievements can be seen in schools statewide, as children of all races are able to learn and play together and support each other's academic success.

As we begin celebrating Black History Month, I am honored to share his extraordinary legacy with this body. He enhanced the lives of hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians through his many achievements.

The people of our state are forever grateful for the remarkable life and lasting legacy of Dr. Flood.

POST OFFICE RENAMING THE "LYNN C. WOOLSEY POST OFFICE BUILDING"

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I am proud to support a bill to honor my friend

and fellow Californian, former Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, by designating the historic downtown post office in Petaluma the "Lynn Woolsey Post Office Building."

Congresswoman Woolsey is remembered in Congress as an unabashed advocate for a fairer, more equitable society. As the self-described "first former welfare mom to serve in Congress," she was part of a historic wave of female leadership in Congress, blazing a trail for women for generations to come.

Congresswoman Woolsey served on the House Budget Committee, the Government Operations Committee, and the Education and Labor Committee, which helped cement her role as an effective leader in advancing education and welfare reform and ending gender discrimination. She was also a powerful leader in women's rights and equality. In fact, she played a critical role in the establishment of Women's History Month, an important tradition to honor the extraordinary women who paved the way for many of us today.

As co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, Congresswoman Woolsey tirelessly fought to strengthen social safety net programs in an effort to elevate the voices of those most vulnerable.

Furthermore, Congresswoman Woolsey was, and still is, a courageous advocate for peace who opposed the Iraq War from the beginning, and who was once arrested at a demonstration in Washington, D.C., along with the late Congressman John Lewis, to call attention to the genocide in Darfur.

Congresswoman Woolsey has been, and continues to be, a progressive champion and I am incredibly pleased to honor her two-decade-long career of good public service by voting for the passage of this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMBATING IMPLICIT BIAS IN EDUCATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the Combating Implicit Bias in Education Act. This bill would create a \$30 million grant program for schools to train teachers, principals and other personnel on implicit bias with respect to actual or perceived race, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, ethnicity and socio-economic status.

In 2019, a report by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that students of color with disabilities received far more severe and frequent punishment than their white counterparts.

In 2017, the Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality released a report finding that people think of Black girls as more adult-like and less innocent compared to their white peers. This bias has been linked to harsher treatment of Black girls in schools. Students experiencing implicit bias and even outright discrimination face far greater expulsion and suspension rates, fueling the school-to-prison pipeline and widening the student achievement gap.

This bill aims to reduce the impact of implicit bias on school discipline and academic