

Corps Logistics Base in Albany, Georgia over the last 70 years and those who currently serve today for their outstanding valor and patriotic service.

#### HONORING JAMES HONG

#### HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Hong, a venerable actor with one of the most prolific acting careers in Hollywood history. I was fortunate enough to meet with Mr. Hong in advance of his induction to the Hollywood Walk of Fame where he will receive his very own star commemorating his outstanding career. For nearly seven decades, Mr. Hong has been gracing our screens with his legendary performances, amassing over 672 credits since the outset of his career. At 92 years old, Mr. Hong has no intentions of slowing down.

Mr. Hong was born in 1929 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to parents who immigrated from China. His father owned a local herb store, one of only two stores within the city's Chinatown. It was within these walls that Mr. Hong's passion for the arts was cemented when, on weekends, local Chinese workers gathered at his father's store and watched as a young Mr. Hong put on performances for them.

While dreams of being an entertainer remained strong as ever, Mr. Hong's parents urged him to become an engineer, so he enrolled at the University of Minnesota to study civil engineering. But his studies were interrupted when he was drafted to the Korean War. While at training at Camp McClellan in Alabama, Mr. Hong did some impressions for his fellow soldiers and quickly caught the attention of the Camp's General. Mr. Hong was ordered to remain at the base to provide entertainment to the troops and coordinate public relations with the community, preventing him from being deployed to Korea during the war.

After his service, Mr. Hong completed his civil engineering degree at the University of Southern California and worked for the County of Los Angeles in road repair. Then in 1954, Mr. Hong appeared on Groucho Marx's radio show, "You Bet Your Life," where he did impressions, including of Groucho himself. His appearance was so popular that the radio show received the second largest amount of fan mail for any episode. This appearance kickstarted Mr. Hong's incredible career in Hollywood and was one of the first of what would become hundreds and hundreds of credits, including "Chinatown," "Blade Runner," "Bonanza," "Big Trouble in Little China," "Soldier of Fortune," "Mulan," "Seinfeld," "The Big Bang Theory" and so many more.

Unfortunately, Mr. Hong often faced discrimination on set, and many of the roles he was given were stereotypical, demeaning portrayals of Chinese people. Faced with the difficult choice of playing a character that was written in a racist manner or not working at all, Mr. Hong ultimately decided to continue his acting career, but worked tirelessly to bring complexity to roles that so frequently lacked humanity.

Taking his own experiences of discrimination, Mr. Hong set out to make the entertain-

ment industry more accessible and humane, and to help expose Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) actors to opportunities. When given a script for the 1962 film "The Confessions of an Opium Eater," Mr. Hong was taken aback by the stereotypical, negative depictions of Asian characters. So, he organized a group to approach the director to argue that a rewrite of the script was needed to make its AAPI characters more human. Even though the director ultimately refused a rewrite, Mr. Hong remained committed to advocating for better, more just representation.

These experiences eventually inspired Mr. Hong and fellow actor Mako Iwamatsu to form an acting troop for Asian American actors, which eventually turned into the renowned theater group, East West Players. Since its creation, East West Players has played an instrumental role in showcasing productions formulated, designed and executed by AAPI creators. On top of that, East West Players fostered a space for AAPI artists to express themselves freely and form a community. Mr. Hong's dedication to shedding light on the abilities and accomplishments of AAPI artists is clear from the group's alumni which include names like George Takei, John Cho, Daniel Dae Kim, Randall Park and countless others.

As one of the most accomplished actors in Hollywood history, James Hong has entertained and brought joy to innumerable viewers across the country and world. Not only has Mr. Hong committed his entire professional life to entertainment but has likewise dedicated himself to uplifting the abilities and careers of AAPI actors and has therefore paved the way for future generations of performers to come. It can be said with certainty that Mr. Hong has made an immeasurable, positive impact in the performing arts. It is my distinct honor to commemorate his career and life.

#### MIKE HUGGINS AND LENKA JUCHELKOVA

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mike Huggins and Lenka Juchelkova for receiving the 2021 Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

The Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Entrepreneur of the Year recognizes an individual or team for their commitment, investment, and innovation as a business owner in Arvada.

Mike and Lenka own and operate the Arvada Tavern and the Glo Car Wash in Arvada along with several other businesses in the Denver metro area. Their businesses define what is great about this community: reliable, consistent, great customer service with a focus on giving back to the community they call home. This husband-and-wife team work tirelessly to provide high-quality service to the community and good-paying jobs and positive work culture for their employees. Mike and Lenka support not only their employees and customers but the business community as a whole.

Congratulations to Mike Huggins and Lenka Juchelkova for this honor and I thank them for their contribution to our community.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LILLIE E. PERKINS

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with a deep sadness and immense gratitude that I stand to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to remember Mrs. Lillie E. Perkins, a New Haven institution in our education community. I have often spoke of our nation's need for talented, creative educators ready to help our children learn and grow. Lillie was not only that kind of educator, but she was also that kind of community leader. She inspired your students and colleagues alike and will be deeply missed by all of those fortunate enough to have known her.

At the tender age of 7 Lillie knew that she was "born to teach." In pursuit of this dream, she earned her bachelor's degree at Fayetteville State University before moving to Connecticut with her husband, James, and earning her master's degree from the University of Connecticut and an Administrative Sixth Year Certificate from Southern Connecticut State University. She and James raised their daughters, Tiara and Sharon, and Lillie began her thirty-six-year career with the New Haven Public School system. Lillie was an extraordinarily gifted teacher with a passion and compassion that was felt by the students in her classroom as well as kids across the community.

In addition to her work in the classroom, Lillie's invaluable contributions to young people and the community have left an indelible mark. Early in her career she recognized the need for young people to have the opportunity to express themselves in a positive way after school hours. Whether with the Dr. Martin Luther King Choir, the Helene Grant School Choir, or the remarkable Unity Boys Choir, she found ways for these young people from across Greater New Haven to come together and achieve extraordinary accomplishments for which they can be very proud. I have had the opportunity to hear the angelic voices of the Unity Boys Choir and have seen first-hand the light in their eyes that comes with the excitement and adoration of the crowds they are entertaining. Lillie touched their lives in a very special way—not only allowing them to share their musical talents with others but teaching them the importance of and satisfaction in giving back to the community.

Lillie's engagement in the community also extended beyond her service to the school system. She volunteered her time and energies to a number of other programs community initiatives including the Mayor's Youth Service Program, the Toys/Teas/Toys Closets program at Yale Children's Hospital, the 1995 Special Olympic World Games in Connecticut, the Kids Protection Network Program, Christian Community Action's Food program, and the New Haven Board of Young Adult Police Commissioners. Lillie was also an active member of Bible Gospel Church as well as the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and served as a community assistant for senior citizens. The myriad of awards and commendations she received over the lifetime are a testament to the difference she made in the community and the lives of others.

With her passing, New Haven has lost a much cherished and invaluable member of our

community. Lillie E. Perkins left an indelible mark, not only on the community she called home but on the hearts of the thousands whose lives she touched. It is my honor to rise today to pay tribute to the life of Lillie E. Perkins and extend my deepest condolences to her daughters, Tiara and Sharon, as well as her extended network of family, friends, and colleagues. As much as she will be missed, it is heartening to know that the legacy of service and compassion she leaves will continue to inspire generations to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. ZACK BUTLER  
AS THE SANTA ROSA COUNTY  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Zack Butler as the Santa Rosa County Teacher of the Year. For several years, Mr. Butler has served Santa Rosa County schools with talent, passion, and an unwavering commitment to good education.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the Nation. It is recognized that the teaching profession is one of the most difficult yet rewarding professions in existence. Mr. Butler has performed his teaching duties exceptionally, while also going above and beyond to be an asset to his school district.

Mr. Butler's gifts and talents are used for far more than simply educating his students. Mr. Butler goes above and beyond to truly teach life lessons as well as traditional education, to students who have more difficulty learning than others; he tailors his lessons and educational style to fit each individual child. I commend him for his steadfast willingness to serve those that matter most—the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of his admirable contributions to our community, I am truly proud to have Mr. Butler as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mr. Zack Butler for his many accomplishments, and his commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation, and collaboration in the Santa Rosa County School District. I thank him for his service and wish him all the best for his continued success.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
BATTALION CHIEF STEVE WORDEN

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Battalion Chief Steve Worden of the Dearborn Fire Department on the occasion of his retirement. His honorable years of service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Battalion Chief Worden began his career at the Dearborn Fire Department in April 1997, beginning as a Firefighter 1. In 2002, he was

promoted to Firefighter 2 and then to the role of Fire Engineer in 2006. Due to his excellence in service, he was named Lieutenant in 2006 and then Captain in 2012. He was promoted to his current role as Battalion Chief in May 2019. Known for his selflessness, he was named Firefighter of the Year by the Service Optimist Club in 2012, Department Firefighter of the Year in 2012, and Firefighter of The Year by the Michigan American Legion in 2014. He is also the recipient of numerous awards, including the Gino Polidori Community Service Award and the John D. Dingell Medal of Freedom Memorial Commendation.

An active member of the Dearborn Community, Battalion Chief Worden has spent countless hours leading the Dearborn Firefighters Burn Drive that supports burned and sick children throughout Southeast Michigan. He was named Chairman of the organization in 2006 and since then has helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for burn centers and other local groups. As a result of his hard work, families have gotten medical equipment, food, and clothing that they truly need. He continues to reside here in Southeast Michigan with his wife and children.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in Battalion Chief Steve Worden for a career of exemplary service to the Dearborn Fire Department. I join with Battalion Chief Worden's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my gratitude to him for his honorable service in protecting our community, and thank him for his role in serving the people of the City of Dearborn for the past three decades.

RECOGNIZING THE BAKERSFIELD  
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bakersfield City School District as they celebrate the grand opening of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School.

Bakersfield City School District was established in 1867 with 17 students. Today, it is the largest elementary school district in California and serves over 30,000 students in the Central Valley.

The Bakersfield City School District is a model of educational excellence, equity, and innovation. They've received several awards for their work, most recently the silver award in the 2022 Magna Awards Program. The school district also received the California Exemplary District Award in 2018, 13 Golden Bells awarded by the California School Boards Association, and seven schools in the district received the California Distinguished Schools Award.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School is the 44th school established in the Bakersfield City School District. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School uses a STEAM-focused educational curriculum. Their teaching methods are not only helping students prepare for industries of the future like engineering, technology, math, art, and science, but they are helping children of all backgrounds access new ways of learning. Thanks to the work being done by the teachers and faculty of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Elementary, the children in our communities will be better prepared to tackle the challenges of the future, develop new technologies, and advance our community forward.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Bakersfield City School District and their important work to provide high-quality education in the Central Valley.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA'S LOCAL  
TRAILBLAZER, HOWARD A. HARRIS  
III, IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2022*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, this Black History Month, I am proud to celebrate local trailblazers, and those who dedicate their time and talent to lifting up their neighbors. I rise today in immense gratitude of Howard A. Harris III, who after a long career that took him throughout the country, came home to his family to enjoy retirement and serve his community by honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Harris was born in Tampa and his parents, Howard Harris, Jr. and Ethel, instilled the importance of education. His father, who also served in the U.S. Army and attended Howard University on the GI Bill, was principal of several elementary schools throughout Hillsborough County, and Mr. Harris remembers as a young child sending his father off at the airport gate to Columbia University in New York City to receive his master's degree. Mr. Harris is the grandson of Marion and Booker T. Washington. He is the father of five sons, Dorian, Brian, Michael, Johnathan and Stephen. Mr. Harris graduated from Jesuit High School and went on to receive his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Howard University. He also received his master's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan.

Mr. Harris worked in the defense, aerospace and automotive industries that took him to Los Angeles, Orlando, Washington, D.C. and Detroit. But he always wanted to return to his family and the hometown he loves to make a positive difference, and he returned to Tampa in 2001. In 2021, he retired from IT Management with Hillsborough County government after 17 years. After serving as president of the local chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Mr. Harris turned his attention to honoring the legacy of one of his lifelong heroes, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. When the opportunity arose to expand Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrations, Mr. Harris jumped at the chance. For decades, City of Tampa and Hillsborough County employees supported an annual local MLK tribute through a scholarship fund and downtown march. Mr. Harris was one of the founders that established the MLK Foundation to build a family-friendly parade that started in 2015, fund scholarships for deserving students and honor community heroes that uphold the legacy of Dr. King. Today, the MLK Foundation hosts one of the largest MLK parades in the southeastern United States and engages with businesses, community organizations and entertainment—over the past few years, numerous bands from Historically Black Colleges