

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

& Universities have participated in the annual parade. In fact, 2022 was the first time ever that the largest HBCU bands in the country, Florida's own Bethune Cookman University and Florida A&M University marched together.

Mr. Harris' return to Tampa proved invaluable to our community and the ideals of education and service instilled in him. It was where he chose to fulfill the calling for the next chapter for his family and continue a life of service. Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation and Tampa Bay community, I am proud to recognize the service and leadership of Mr. Howard A. Harris III.

RITA LAWRENCE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rita Lawrence for receiving the 2021 Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Chamber Champion Award.

The Chamber Champion Award is given to an organization or individual who has gone above and beyond in their support of the Arvada Chamber and who has served as a leader and champion promoting the good work and priorities of the Chamber.

Rita serves in many roles at the Chamber, including on its Board of Directors and Executive Committee, the Networking KAPS Council, Annual Dinner Action Team and more. Rita has a long tenure as a member of the Chamber joining in 2011 and jumping right in as a leader and active volunteer. Rita serves as a role model and impressive community leader. Her work has benefited the Chamber and the business community as a whole.

Again, congratulations to Rita Lawrence for this honor and I thank her for her contribution to our community.

TRIBUTE TO THE KIWANIS CLUB OF BURBANK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2022

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Burbank, California.

The Kiwanis Club of Burbank, founded in 1922, is the first and oldest service club in Burbank. The mission of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide is to improve the world one child and one community at a time, and to that end, the Burbank club has been faithful to that mission and their steadfast commitment to Burbank's children. Their initial service project was paving the dirt road in front of Burbank High School. The club sponsored one of the first Key Clubs at the high school in 1926, and since the 1920's, the club has sponsored a Boy Scouts of America troop.

As an all-volunteer organization, the Kiwanis Club of Burbank serves the youth of our community with a vast array of programs, projects, youth groups and events; and through these many programs and projects, strive to teach children leadership skills, good citizenship and

fostering the spirit of service. Projects include many music, drama and art projects in the Burbank Unified School District, the Youth Leadership Conference, Relay for Life, Burbank Singing Star Contest, YMCA Youth in Government, and Kiwanis Cares about Children, which helps disaster-stricken families in the Burbank area. The club also provides youth scholarships and teacher recognition, sponsors K-KIDS at the Boys and Girls Club, serves meals to seniors, holds food drives for food pantries, hosts innovative fundraisers such as the Kiwanis Family Fun Day Golf Ball Drop, and supports numerous non-profit organizations such as the Burbank Temporary Aid Center, Burbank Kids Community Dental Clinic, and the Burbank YMCA.

For one hundred years, through world wars and the current worldwide pandemic, Kiwanis Club of Burbank members have continuously provided outstanding service to the community, and particularly the children of Burbank, California.

I consider it a great privilege to recognize the Kiwanis Club of Burbank and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the club upon its centennial anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF RARE DISEASE DAY AND THE RARE DISEASE DIVERSITY COALITION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2022

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rare Disease Day to stand with the courageous women and men who have been diagnosed with rare diseases and honor those who have lost their battle to these terrible illnesses.

An estimated 1 in 10 Americans are afflicted with rare diseases, and people of color suffer disproportionately from these illnesses. Despite their great overall number, rare disease patients are the "orphans" of the healthcare systems, often denied diagnosis, treatment, and the benefits of research. Due to the low prevalence of each disease, medical expertise is rare, knowledge is scarce, care offerings inadequate, and research limited.

We applaud the advocates, medical professionals, and caregivers who dedicate their lives to providing resources to those diagnosed with rare diseases. One such advocate is the Rare Disease Diversity Coalition, an organization born out of a commitment to help address the extraordinary challenges faced by rare disease patients of color and a dedication to serve as a catalyst for progress. The RDDC's depth and breadth of expertise come from the diversity of the over 50 coalition members and affiliates; which include the Asian-Pacific Islander American Health Forum, EveryLife Foundation, Health Equity Collaborative, MANA, A National Latina Organization, National Black Nurses Association, National Hispanic Medical Association, National Medical Association, Patient Advocate Foundation, and the Black Women's Health Imperative. This coalition can help society seize the momentum for change on racial inequities and drive progress on the continuing struggles regarding health equity and rare diseases. Last fall, the RDDC hosted the RARE Health Equity

Summit Fall in partnership with Global Genes. This Summit brought together stakeholders from the rare disease community to discuss persistent gaps in diagnostic challenges for historically underserved and underrepresented patient communities and to align strategies to address health inequities of the rare disease community.

It is up to us to continue fighting for cures and ensure that every American, especially those of color, has access to the quality care they need. Still, our Nation has a long way to go before rare diseases no longer threaten American lives and devastate communities of color.

As we observe Rare Disease Day, I ask my colleagues in Congress to stand with me in support of real and significant progress with rare diseases; to unite in supporting treatments and breakthroughs with rare diseases; to ensure that more people have access to quality, affordable health care; and to lifting the inequitable health burden that falls on communities of color. We must commit to ending rare diseases and improving the lives of all those affected by these illnesses.

JOHN SELLARS RETIREMENT

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2022

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and storied career of John Sellars, Executive Director of the History Museum on the Square.

A native of Springfield, Missouri, John has always held a special place in his heart for the Ozarks. Even when his job took him away from his hometown, he remained loyal to the community. He originally volunteered at the History Museum on the Square when it first opened in 1976, and he continued to help until he moved in 1989. He was working at Coca-Cola at the time, but later moved onto Canada Dry. He eventually got a job with Pepsi and retired from there as a Regional Manager in 2004. Work had moved him all over the country, but in retirement, he came back to Springfield, and almost immediately returned to the History Museum on the Square. He joined the board of directors, before being elected board president, and eventually became the Executive Director of the museum in 2005.

The History Museum on the Square is a natural fit for John. He has a true love of history, and especially the history of Springfield. He passionately shares this history through his work at the museum. Not only that, but John has also been involved in several other charities throughout his life, constantly finding ways to give back to his community.

Madam Speaker, John Sellars has lived an incredible life, and since retiring from Pepsi, has spent his time giving back to his community. I wish him and his family all the best as he retires from the History Museum on the Square.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all