

after her father witnessed the brutal lynching of two young black boys. Annie recalls her father telling her and her siblings of his expectation that they strive to make the world a better place, a lesson that has remained with her throughout her lifetime. It was this desire to make a positive change in her community that likely led to her graduation from Ball State Teachers College in hopes of returning to teach in Hammond.

Unfortunately, Annie's desire to improve her community by educating the city's children would not come without opposition. Despite being five years after the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* of Topeka ruling of the Supreme Court to end segregation in schools, Ms. Burns-Hicks's application for a teaching position was rejected without consideration, as she was told the city was "not ready for a colored teacher." Undeterred, and remembering her father's inspirational words encouraging her to be a force of change, Annie pressed on through the courts and won, thus allowing her to become the first African American teacher in the city of Hammond in 1960 and paving the way for the many future teachers who would follow in her footsteps. During her tenure, Ms. Burns-Hicks co-authored the first full-day kindergarten program in the city, a contribution that truly enhanced the educational opportunities for the community's young children.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Annie Burns-Hicks. Ms. Burns-Hicks broke barriers as Hammond's first African American teacher, and in doing so, has been a true inspiration and a source of tremendous pride to her community. Throughout her more than forty years of teaching, she touched countless lives. It is fitting that the school now bears her name for the generations to come.

#### IN HONOR OF LOUIS BURKOT

### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Louis Burkot as he celebrates 40 years as the founding artistic director of Opera North in Lebanon, NH.

Among his accomplishments, Louis has conducted the Dartmouth College Glee Club and more than 700 Opera North Resident Artists from around the world. His expertise in vocal and choral music has contributed significantly to the Upper Valley community and beyond. Louis' knowledge of vocal and operatic music has been invaluable for many young singers, many of whom have gone on to major careers around the world.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Louis for his many years of service, and for being a part of what makes the Granite State so great. I am honored to recognize and congratulate Louis on 40 years of incredible work, and I wish him many more.

#### VIRGINIA THEATRE, CHAMPAIGN, IL 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Virginia Theatre in Champaign, Illinois, which celebrated 100 years of business on December 28, 2021.

In 1921, Charles "C.C." Pyle made the decision to build a major entertainment venue in downtown Champaign, an area that had been known as a cultural hotspot. He initially had a vision of a 12-story hotel with a large theatre space, but that quickly changed. The final building resulted in a stand-alone, multipurpose performing arts center.

In January of 2000, the Champaign Park District made countless efforts to prevent this landmark from demolition. Once they assumed control of the theatre, it went on to grow into a \$10 million restoration project to bring the theatre back to life.

Through the years, the Virginia Theatre has been the "place to be" for friends, families, and colleagues in the community. The Theatre hosts local productions, concerts, movies, live theatrical plays, stand-up comedy events, and many more.

Congratulations to the Virginia Theatre on their 100th anniversary, and I wish them all the best in the years to come.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PRIVATE OLIVER CROMWELL

### HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Private Oliver Cromwell, one of the most decorated Black soldiers who served in the American Revolutionary War.

Private Cromwell was born in 1753 in Mansfield Township, New Jersey, and in 1776 he enlisted in the 2nd New Jersey Regiment. He crossed the Delaware River with General George Washington and went on to fight for American independence in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Monmouth, Short Hills, and Yorktown. At the conclusion of the war, Cromwell received the Badge of Merit for six years of faithful service to the Army and was honorably discharged by General Washington in 1783.

Following his service, Cromwell fathered 15 children in Burlington Country and loved to share stories of his time as a "Drummer in the Revolution" with his family and the community. Cromwell passed away at 101 years old in 1853, and he is buried in Burlington at the Broad Street Methodist Church cemetery. Oliver Cromwell risked everything fighting for freedom in a country that did not recognize his own right to freedom. For these sacrifices, Oliver Cromwell should be eternally remembered for his contributions toward America's independence. Burlington County is grateful for Private Cromwell's dedication, sacrifice, patriotism, and honorable personal conduct.

Nine generations of his descendants have resided in Burlington County, some of whom still reside in the 3rd District today and continue to honor their familial legacy through community engagement, service, and historic preservation. I am grateful for Private Cromwell's descendants' continued contributions to our community and am proud to be honoring the life and legacy of their ancestor on this day.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MARVIN YELLOWHAIR

### HON. TOM O'HALLERAN

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Marvin Yellowhair, a beloved Navajo community leader who passed away in March.

Throughout Marvin's life, he made immense contributions to numerous fields, and is remembered as a devoted son, brother, father, husband, uncle, nephew, grandfather, coach, author, musician, actor, storyteller, runner, carpenter, politician, Council Delegate, and School Board Member.

After graduating from Rough Rock High School and attending Mesa Community College, Dine College, Northern Arizona University, and the University of New Mexico, he dedicated his life to the advancement of Navajo language, culture, and history developing bilingual and bicultural curriculum materials and publishing several books of his own.

He continued his efforts developing Navajo language materials and books throughout his career, translating for notable artists, authors, and craftsmen. Among many accomplishments, he was the voice actor for Darth Vader from the Navajo version of the movie *Star Wars*, and worked with Oxford University out of New York to develop an English and Navajo picture dictionary and Rosetta Stone audio recordings to support the teaching and learning of the Navajo language.

Throughout 30 years at Rough Rock Community School, as both a teacher of Navajo language, and a beloved basketball, football, and baseball coach, Marvin was well-known by colleagues and students for his passion for Navajo culture and history, and his gift for storytelling and leadership.

A devoted advocate for Navajo self-determination in education and strong supporter of Navajo Nation veterans, his legacy in the Rough Rock and Black Mesa communities will live on for generations to come.

The Navajo Nation and the state of Arizona have lost a great leader. My wife and I are keeping his many loved ones, friends, students, and colleagues in our hearts as they mourn his passing.

#### WHAT CAN JWB DO FOR CD 13?

### HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous accomplishments of the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

For 75 years, this organization has dedicated itself to the betterment of Pinellas County's future, which lies in the hands of our community's children.

The Juvenile Welfare Board works with our county's children from an early age to ensure that both they, and their parents, caregivers, and family members receive a solid foundation on which to build their education. The Board's School Readiness program prepares children for their critical kindergarten education, which is crucial for their future success in the classroom. The JWB supports our county's youth throughout their education, with the programs they fund driving them to meet not only important developmental milestones but promoting behaviors and attitudes necessary for learning and engagement.

Beyond the classroom, the JWB works tirelessly to strengthen the communities from which our future leaders grow. Focusing on the mental health of our children is one of the Board's primary goals, making sure any type of mental illness is diagnosed and treated before it becomes an impediment for their future success. They also work to stop preventable deaths within the county, combating unsafe sleep practices for infants, child drowning, and head trauma, so that no family must deal with the tremendous loss of a child.

The JWB's mission also includes providing relief for the families of Pinellas County when they need it. From rental and food assistance, eviction prevention services, and helping with affordable childcare, the JWB ensures that any family that needs a helping hand is given one.

The Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County is a powerful example of the power we can have on our communities if we simply dare to try. Their efforts deserve veneration in this Congress, not only in appreciation of their efforts, but as an example of the power of community.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ALS RESEARCH AT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**HON. NEAL P. DUNN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, as the son of a veteran, father of a veteran, and a veteran myself, I rise in support of important work being done at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regarding research and development of treatments for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and other neurodegenerative diseases.

This work is combining the capabilities of National Polytrauma Centers, like the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida, with the expertise of the private sector to give hope to veterans who are battling these illnesses, everywhere.

Veterans are 60 percent more likely to be diagnosed with ALS compared to the general population.

More research needs to be done to understand the connection, which goes back at least 100 years, between military service and ALS, as well as to ensure we are able to achieve the best possible outcomes for our veterans.

I applaud the VA for continuing to make this a priority and look forward to seeing the potential of these partnerships.

**HONORING CHIEF RAINER J. NAVARRO**

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Rainer J. Navarro in celebration of his outstanding career in the Santa Rosa Police Department.

Chief Navarro was born in Lynwood, California, in 1969 to Rainer and Cecilia Navarro. He served in the United States Navy from 1987 to 1989. After his time in the Navy, he attended Santa Rosa Junior College and earned an associate of arts degree in 1991. He later earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration from Sonoma State University in 1996 and a master's degree in law enforcement and public safety from the University of San Diego in 2018.

Chief Navarro began his career in the Santa Rosa Police Department in 1992 as a patrol officer. In 2006, he was promoted to Sergeant and six years later, was again promoted. As a Lieutenant, he oversaw the Traffic and Special Events Bureau and served as Watch Commander. Chief Navarro made Captain in 2015 and supervised both the Special Services Division and Field Services Division. After over 25 years of service, the city named him Chief of the Santa Rosa Police Department in 2019.

Chief Navarro's personal values focus on his faith, family, and service. He volunteers with Special Olympics, Shop with a Cop, Roseland Unified School District, and Rosewood Gospel Mission. Chief Navarro also has served on the Santa Rosa Violence Prevention Partnership Policy Team, California Police Chiefs Association, CHOPS Teen Club Board of Directors, Social Advocates for Youth Board of Directors, and the Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council.

Chief Navarro has been a dedicated member of the Santa Rosa Bible Church. He married his high school sweetheart, Diedre, in 1989 and they have been happily married for 33 years. Together, they have two children, Trent and Alexa, and two grandchildren, Caspian and Griffin.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Chief Navarro has dedicated his life to serving the people of Santa Rosa through his career in law enforcement. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR CHARLOTTE WILCOX**

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Charlotte Wilcox, the Mayor of the City of Highland Village, Texas. Mayor Wilcox is retiring following her seven-year long tenure in mayoral office, and almost two decades of

public service in Highland Village city government.

Mayor Wilcox and her family moved to Highland Village in 1995. In 2006, she was appointed to the city's Zoning and Development Commission, before being elected to Place 3 of the Highland Village City Council three years later. She served in this position until her fellow councilmembers appointed her to mayoral office in 2015 following the retirement of her predecessor. In May 2015, she was elected as Mayor, and due to term limitations, will conclude her service on the Highland Village City Council in May 2022.

Throughout her service in her public office, Mayor Wilcox has worked tirelessly for the economic and physical well-being of her constituency. She has been instrumental in ensuring funding for vital improvements to Highland Village's highway infrastructure, as well as the establishment of half a dozen parks and recreational facilities throughout the city. Thanks to Mayor Wilcox's efforts, many trails, parks, roads, and walkways have been constructed and expanded to maximize her city's quality of life.

Furthermore, Mayor Wilcox oversaw the opening of many new businesses and the remodeling of many older ones to strengthen and expand the City's tax base. Under her fiscal leadership, the city achieved a AAA Bond Rating.

Mayor Wilcox, in addition to overseeing the City's impressive record of financial stability and economic development, has also served as a strong advocate for Highland Village's highly esteemed city staff. Under her administration, the Council approved two new paid holidays and secured a competitive benefits package for city employees.

As Mayor Wilcox concludes her estimable tenure as Mayor, I join the residents and businesses of Highland Village in applauding her dedication to city improvement, governmental transparency, and community involvement. She has truly been a valuable contributor to our North Texas community, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER ON GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

**HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2022*

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the participation of the El Paso Juvenile Justice Center in this year's Global Youth Service Day.

The El Paso Juvenile Center has dedicated the month of April 2022 to engage and educate local youth to speak out against violence in our El Paso community. Through events with stakeholders, leaders, and community members, our young people are creating solutions on how to prevent hate crimes and violence using art. They are concluding the month with paying tribute at the El Paso Healing Garden to the 23 victims who lost their life and the 22 injured victims of the horrific Walmart shooting of 2019.

I praise the work that the Juvenile Justice Center is doing to help our young people