

Hero of the week, Rose Braziel, CEO and founder of Hope 4 Kids.

Rose started Hope 4 Kids with the same values she has carried with her, her entire life: love, respect, and kindness. In doing so, she's provided underprivileged children in North Texas with food, clothes, and an important sense of community.

Rose's goal is to not only ensure kids in her community are properly taken care of today, but to inspire them to be leaders tomorrow. By providing an environment for boys and girls to learn leadership skills, teamwork building, and the importance of volunteering, the next generation of Texas-24 is well-equipped to lead us for years to come.

Rose's journey to develop and inspire future leaders was far from easy. After two strokes and various doctors telling her she wouldn't walk or talk again, Rose has displayed unmatched resiliency and defied all odds to continue her incredible efforts.

Her strength and dedication have helped countless students in need of a mentor and a friend. I thank Rose for always putting the next generation before herself and ensuring they are set up for success.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
WORLD WAR II VETERAN, JOHN
DANIEL HARMON, SR.

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Daniel Harmon, Sr., a 102-year-old World War II veteran from Saluda, South Carolina.

Mr. Harmon was born in 1919 in Saluda County on a small farm. Growing up during the Great Depression, Mr. Harmon learned the value of community, hard work, and being resourceful throughout his life. Mr. Harmon attended Hickory Grove School and was in the first class to graduate from the Hollywood School in 1937.

After finishing school, Mr. Harmon joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and worked several jobs before joining the U.S. Army during WWII. He served a tour of duty with Company B, 363rd Medical Battalion, 63rd Infantry Division as an ambulance driver. His division was among the first to cross the Siegfried Line. Mr. Harmon still remembers many of the battles he endured during his tour, and he is always willing to share his experiences of the Army.

For his service, he received several recognitions including the American Theater Ribbon, the European and Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Two Battle Stars for Rhineland and Central Europe, the Combat Medical Badge, a Bronze Star, and the French Legion of Honor Medal.

After the war, Mr. Harmon returned to his hometown of Saluda where he eventually retired as a Superintendent with Eagle Construction Company. Mr. Harmon and his wife, Grace Gentry spent seventy years married and saw the growth of their family with five children, nine grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren with whom Mr. Harmon has celebrated many birthdays and holidays. He continues to be an active member of his church, Bethany United Methodist Church. Mr. Har-

mon still leads a highly active life, and he has not lost his wit, knowledge, or cheerful outlook. Mr. Harmon recently celebrated his 102nd birthday, making him among the oldest surviving World War II veterans in South Carolina.

The United States is blessed to have the finest troops and veterans in the history of the world, where so many heroes like Mr. Harmon are willing to put on our country's uniform in defense of our freedoms. I am confident that Mr. Harmon's lifetime of service to his country and community will continue to inspire many.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to serve the Third District of South Carolina and to honor those who have dedicated their lives to protecting America's freedoms.

UKRAINE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 496, the Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act, which will oppose religious freedom violations in Ukraine by Russia.

H.R. 496 the Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act directs the President, when determining whether Russia is a country of particular concern for religious freedom under certain federal laws, to consider incidents occurring in the parts of Ukraine controlled by Russia or Russia-affiliated non-state groups.

Ukraine is a religiously rich country with 74 percent of people identifying as Orthodox, 10 percent Greek Catholic and the remainder identifying as Roman Catholic, Jewish and Protestant.

Ukraine has accused Russia of targeting historic monuments and cultural heritage sites. Damaging and destroying at least 59 religious sites across the country since its invasion began.

H.R. 496 will direct the president to consider incidents in the Russian controlled parts of Ukraine found by Congress.

Ukrainian groups targeted by Russia include Muslim Crimean Tatars, the Orthodox Church, the Greek Catholic Church, Protestant Christians, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Religious freedom violations against these groups consist of abductions, torture, imprisonment, property confiscation, vandalism, and banning of peaceful religious gatherings.

Russia is utilizing religious extremism to silence and arrest Ukrainians, including closing religious institutions that don't conform. Religious freedom violations have been key in Russia dismantling Ukrainian civil society.

Congress' findings state that international humanitarian law requires Russia to protect religious freedom in occupied territories. This includes illegal entities, such as Russia's illegal occupation of the Crimea Region.

In opposing violations of religious freedom, it is imperative that we consider the extreme religious injustices and restrictions Russia placed on the territories they have invaded in Ukraine.

Freedom to practice religion should be a protected right for every person, worldwide.

This bill will ensure the President considers these severe violations in Ukraine by Russia when determining Russia's threat to religious freedom.

I urge all members to join me in voting for H.R. 496, the Ukraine Religious Support Act.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE HARD
WORK AND INNOVATIVE THINK-
ING OF TEACHERS AND STAFF
AT MARY E. ROBERTS ELEMEN-
TARY SCHOOL

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the hard work and innovative thinking of teachers and staff at Mary E. Roberts Elementary School of Moorestown, New Jersey for taking steps to reduce their food waste.

Every year is the United States wastes more than 100 billion pounds of food, the equivalent of 130 billion meals. In New Jersey alone, one person on average throws away 325 pounds of food each year. Across the country, over \$408 billion dollars' worth of food is being thrown away each year, the need for new and innovative ways to reduce food waste has never been higher.

Knowing that their school had an important role to play in reducing and recycling food waste, teachers and paraprofessionals at Mary E. Roberts Elementary School took action. In 2019, the school received funding through the Sustainable Jersey for Schools grant to purchase equipment and hire instructors to explain to students how to sort their unopened and untouched food. These resources were instrumental in the launch of the "No Food Left Behind" program where left-over food and produce from the school's garden is collected and donated to local food pantries and animal hospitals.

The action taken by Mary E. Roberts Elementary School has inspired the community to proclaim yesterday, April 28, 2022, as Stop Food Waste Day and encourage others to learn about simple ways to minimize the impact of food waste.

Each of us believes that no one in the United States should go to bed hungry. The unfortunate reality is that, in New Jersey's Third District alone, more than 55,000 people, including 12,000 children, experience hunger. Programs such as "No Food Left Behind" are not only raising awareness playing a key role to raise awareness on food waste. I applaud all the staff, students, and volunteers at Mary E. Roberts Elementary School for showing us how we can all improve our communities, and I look forward to seeing more schools across the country follow their lead.

HOMETOWN HERO—KHEN HOIH

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Khen Hoihi of Irving, Texas,

whose inspiring story displays the type of community North Texas has to offer.

Despite being born without the lower half of his left arm, Khen has always dreamed of following in his brother's footsteps by playing in his school's orchestra. As his teachers put it, "he's never let anything hold him back."

This dream was recently made possible by the ingenuity of several Nimitz High School engineering students, who took their lessons from class to tirelessly fashion a musical prosthetic for Khen.

After months of work and his new prosthetic dawned, Khen miraculously played the violin for his peers, parents, and teachers at a recent school board meeting.

Khen's dedication and passion for music proved that against all odds, anything is possible.

I thank Khen for inspiring us to reach for our goals—no matter the obstacles we may face. I also thank the brilliant students who made his dream become a reality. His creativity and compassion for others is a wonderful reflection of the spirit of Texas-24.

TRANSATLANTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3344 the Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act to direct the Department of State and other federal agencies to help Central and Eastern European countries improve the security of their telecommunications networks.

To support eligible projects, the State Department shall provide diplomatic and political support and encourage international financial institutions to provide investment support.

This bill will strengthen national security cooperation by securing 5G development with our key allies and partners in Central and Eastern Europe.

In recent years, the United States and our allies have defeated increased threats from China and Russia that seek to expand their spheres of influence and undermine democratic institutions.

Recently, European countries have felt significant pressure to use Huawei 5G equipment, a state-linked Chinese information and communications technology company, giving China the ability to compromise allied critical telecommunications infrastructure.

5G networks are crucial to artificial intelligence platforms, which in the future will introduce immense national security and domestic economic implications.

Secure telecommunications are also critical for military interoperability with our European allies at a time when NATO coordination is needed now more than ever.

Given these critical national security needs, the United States must provide our allies an alternative to Chinese financing and provide increased diplomatic support to ensure secure telecommunications lines.

For this reason, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 3344 the Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act.

HONORING MR. GORDON
HARGROVE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gordon Hargrove, a community advocate who has spent his career fighting to deliver basic services to the most vulnerable people in Worcester, Massachusetts.

In 1957, while attending Worcester State College, Mr. Hargrove began working as part-time staff at the multi-service neighborhood center, the Friendly House. Over the course of 65 years, Mr. Hargrove worked from his position as a volunteer at the Friendly House to the role of Executive Director, in which he has served for 52 years. During this time, Mr. Hargrove has used his passion and knowledge to fortify the Friendly House as an important service provider to Worcester's immigrant and low-income communities.

Mr. Hargrove played an integral role in securing funding for the construction of the main Friendly House building, which allowed for collaborative projects with family shelters across Central Massachusetts. In the 70s, he helped coordinate providing services to families with behavioral issues and advocated for health insurance providers to fund mental health services. Mr. Hargrove also spearheaded a program to provide meals to elders—making the Friendly House the first shelter in Worcester to do so. Today, most community service sites offer elder meal programs, undoubtedly due to the work of the Friendly House and Mr. Hargrove's leadership.

Madam Speaker, the impact of Mr. Hargrove's advocacy cannot be understated. Countless people have had food on their tables, roofs over their heads, and a job to go to everyday because of the services provided by the Friendly House and the community-based solutions Mr. Hargrove has championed. There has never been a problem too big to take on or a family he didn't try to help. For over half a century, Mr. Hargrove has led the Friendly House with nothing but compassion and goodness in his heart. He has devoted his professional life to being of service to others and the community.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and all the people whose lives were changed for the better because of Mr. Hargrove's work, it is my great privilege to congratulate Mr. Gordon Hargrove on his retirement, and to thank him for his tireless efforts to create a more equitable world.

RECOGNIZING GUAM'S AUTISM COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN CELEBRATION OF APRIL 2022 AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL F. Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Autism Awareness Month. During this month of April 2022, we take the time to recognize our autism commu-

nity while reflecting on the ways we can improve our efforts to foster awareness, cultivate acceptance, and facilitate change for individuals and families affected by autism. I would like to further commend Guam's Autism Community Together (ACT) for their continued leadership in advancing these very priorities both over the past month and year-round.

Autism Spectrum Disorder is a complex, life-long developmental disability that can cause significant social, emotional, communication, and behavioral challenges. It is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the United States, with a prevalence that has risen from 1 in 125 children in 2010 to 1 in 54 in 2020. This disorder affects more than 70 million people worldwide, and in Guam, 273 students within the Guam Department of Education have autism. However, this number does not include hundreds of others on our island who are adults, students outside of the public school system, and those that may be undiagnosed.

The entire world has shared in over two years of innumerable challenges imposed by COVID-19, but it is of the utmost importance that we do not let this hinder us from extending compassion and care to others. Groups like the autism community face a unique set of obstacles that have been exacerbated by the global pandemic, and it is critical that we remain steadfast in actively working to improve the quality of life for individuals with autism and their families. Over the years, we have made strides in increasing autism awareness, but much more lies ahead for us to accomplish. Part of this work includes a commitment to bridging the gap between mindful awareness and meaningful action. With a collective effort to drive the movement forward by connecting the two, we can simultaneously break down stigmas and build a society which accepts and appreciates all people. Moreover, by supplementing awareness with more opportunities in education, employment, accessible housing, affordable health care, and comprehensive long-term services, we can ensure that people with autism have the tools to live fully in all areas of life.

ACT has tirelessly advocated for these objectives since 2004, and this year, they have admirably brought the 2022 theme, "Every Piece Matters—Accept & Support Autism," to life with various events and projects for the entire island community to participate in. Namely, they hosted an Autism Awareness Wave and Parade, their annual Autism Awareness Fair, a Funtastic Park Day, a Family Duck Ride Adventure, Movie Day, Bowling Day, 2K/5K Sunset GLOW Run, and a Mass of Thanksgiving. They are also scheduled to host a Golf Tournament today and have maintained a vital platform for our local legislature and administration to recognize the autism community.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to reflect upon the importance of coming together as a community and supporting those who have been affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder. Moreover, I am humbled to serve in pursuit of a more inclusive society which fosters understanding and celebrates our differences. On behalf of the people of Guam, I thank Autism Community Together as well as other non-profit organizations, government agencies, service providers, support vendors, and community partners across the island who are committed to providing the information, resources, programs, and services necessary for