

first Asian-American mayor of a major city, San Jose, California; the first Japanese American from the contiguous 48 states to serve in Congress; and the first Asian-American cabinet secretary.

When I entered Congress in 1993, I was fortunate to serve with and learn from Norm Mineta. With our Congressional Districts bordering each other, we worked shoulder to shoulder on behalf of our constituents. Our staffs worked closely together as well, and our offices had a friendly baseball competition in which Team Eshoo faced off against Team Mineta.

Secretary Mineta held a great love of his country, and despite being interned during World War II, he was not consumed by bitterness. Among his many contributions to our nation was the key role he played in enacting the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which provided reparations and an official apology to Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II.

While serving as Secretary of Transportation, he was highly regarded for his steady leadership after our country was attacked on September 11, 2001, when he grounded all air traffic in the U.S. in little more than two hours. He is also remembered for his work to establish the Transportation Security Administration, the TSA, and for his insistence, informed by his personal experience having been interned, that the agency never engage in racial profiling.

It is fitting that he was recognized during his life by having the San Jose International Airport named in his honor, and being awarded the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom by President George W. Bush.

Through his lifetime of service, Norm Mineta made our country better and stronger. He was a hero in Silicon Valley and beyond, and I'm proud to have worked with him and proud to have been his friend and colleague. I shall miss him greatly and hope that my prayers are a source of comfort to his beloved wife Deni, his sons David and Stuart, his stepsons Robert and Mark, and his many grandchildren.

IN HONOR OF STATE
REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SMYRE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend a distinguished public servant, principled business leader, trailblazer, and friend of longstanding, State Representative Calvin Smyre of Columbus, Georgia.

Representative Smyre is completing a long and stellar career, spanning 48 years as a member of the Georgia State House of Representatives, where he is the longest serving member in the Georgia legislature. His leadership and political savvy have contributed to a great legacy of service to his community, the State of Georgia, and our nation, and tonight, he will be honored by the Greater Columbus, Georgia Chamber of Commerce in recognition of his tremendous career in public service.

Calvin Smyre was born in Columbus, Georgia on May 17, 1947, to Chief Warrant Officer Ill Carter Smyre, Jr. and the late Mildred Bass

Smyre. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Fort Valley State University in Business Administration with a minor in Accounting.

His career path has taken him from being a community organizer in the "War on Poverty" to corporate executive for a Fortune 500 company and a trailblazing national political leader.

Starting in 1976, as a management trainee at the Columbus Bank and Trust Company, the Columbus-based division of Synovus Financial Corporation, he rose through the ranks to become Vice President of Corporate and External Affairs, President of the Synovus Foundation, and ultimately Senior Vice President and Assistant to the Chairman for Community Affairs.

In 1974, at the age of 26, Calvin Smyre was elected to the Georgia State House of Representatives as its youngest member. In 1984, he was the first African American from Georgia elected to the Democratic National Committee.

In 1979, he was elected Chairman of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus. In 1982, he was elected President of the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials. In 1983, he was appointed by Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris as Assistant Floor Leader, and in 1985, as the first African American Floor Leader. He has served as President of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, Chairman of the Georgia House Minority Caucus, and Chairman of the Democratic Party of Georgia—these last two being firsts for an African American.

He has received numerous legislative awards and his legislative record includes authoring the bill making Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a state holiday; creating the historic Georgia Dome, home of the Atlanta Falcons; and construction of the \$62 million Columbus River Center.

He has served on numerous boards, including the Board of Trustees of the Morehouse School of Medicine; the Medical College of Georgia Foundation; the Columbus Museum; and as Chair of the Fort Valley State University Foundation. He was the catalyst for the annual Fountain City Classic football weekend, which brings 20,000 fans to Columbus, Georgia contributing millions of dollars to the local economy.

Representative Smyre is a man of faith and continues to be a lifelong member of the Ward Chapel AME Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, last Fall, as Representative Smyre neared the end of his long and distinguished legislative and corporate careers, we were all delighted, when President Joseph Biden announced his intent to name Representative Smyre to the United States Diplomatic Corps as Ambassador from the United States to one of the Caribbean islands, pending full Senate Confirmation.

Longfellow wrote: "The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night." Representative Smyre has achieved great heights and through his service has done so much for so many for so long.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the Greater Columbus, Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the more than 730,000 people of the

Second Congressional District, his friends, family, and admirers across the country in congratulating, honoring, and commending The Honorable Calvin Smyre for his many years of public service. Moreover, we wish him the best for an imminent and successful Senate Confirmation as he moves into the next chapter of his life.

SKIN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, as May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month, I rise today to draw my colleagues' attention to the importance of knowing the risks for common skin cancers and treatment options.

I am a skin cancer survivor, thanks to regular screenings and early detection. My father was not so lucky and passed away from untreated skin cancer.

Our skin is our largest organ, protecting us from temperature extremes, injury, and infection. When our skin is exposed to the sun for an excessive amount of time, particularly our face, neck, arms, and hands, DNA damage can occur, resulting in non-melanoma skin cancer.

It is estimated that 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70, making this the most common type of cancer amongst Americans. On average, 3.4 million new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed every year, with thousands of those cases resulting in death. With early detection, the 5-year survival rate for melanoma is 99 percent. Today, treatment options include both surgery and non-surgical radiotherapy.

Everyone should take steps to avoid skin cancer. Do self-exams. See your primary care doctor or dermatologist annually and tell them about your risk factors, including sun exposure, use of indoor tanning devices, age, prior skin cancer or family history, and other health conditions. Use broad-spectrum sunscreen that filters both ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays and offers a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher every day. Limit your exposure during peak sun hours (10 am to 4 pm), and wear sunglasses with 100 percent UV protection and a wide-brimmed hat.

APRIL CONSTITUENT OF THE
MONTH, RYAN HICKMAN

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize San Juan Capistrano resident, Ryan Hickman, as my April Constituent of the Month. Ryan began recycling for his family at the early age of three, and since then he has grown his passion of helping people all over the world to recycle and be better stewards of the planet.

Growing up, Ryan pursued his passion of preventing bottles and cans from reaching the ocean, and he now leads cleanups all over the world. To this day, Ryan spends a part of

every week sorting through cans and bottles from his customers and getting them ready to take to the recycling center. I am proud he has combined his passion of recycling and protecting the environment with volunteerism to support our community and conserve its beauty.

During National Volunteer Month and on Earth Day, I am proud to celebrate the exceptional work of individuals like Ryan Hickman who volunteer their time and contribute to our unique and beautiful district. I'm so grateful for CA-49 residents who dedicate their lives to the betterment of our residents and planet, and I'm proud to honor Ryan Hickman as my April Constituent of the Month.

RECOGNIZING THE FEDERATION
OF INDIAN ASSOCIATIONS IN
COMMEMORATING INDIA'S 75
YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE AND
HONORING ASIAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize the Federation of Indian Associations (FIA) as it commemorates India's 75 years of independence as well as Asian Heritage Month. Since FIA's establishment in 1970, its mission has been to serve the Indian-American community, promote Indian cultural heritage, and advance bilateral ties between the United States and India.

Over the course of five decades, FIA has organized numerous outreach events to provide community support and to celebrate Indian culture and heritage. FIA's efforts have included consular document service assistance for over 11,000 community members, cultural dance competitions that have engaged over 19,000 children in celebration of their heritage, and an annual Diwali Soup Kitchen which has successfully distributed thousands of meals throughout the Northeastern United States. Furthermore, FIA helped to distribute personal protective equipment and hot meals to first responders and community members during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Madam Speaker, I honor the dedicated work of FIA to serve and uplift the Indian-American community, sustain the legacy of Indian heritage across generations, and foster cross-cultural cooperation and understanding. FIA's activities benefit all the communities in which its members reside, and for that, we are all grateful.

FEDERAL FIREFIGHTERS
FAIRNESS ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Rule and my colleague's legislation, the Federal Firefighter Fairness Act.

As wildfires grow larger and last longer, federal firefighters answer the call of duty, leaving

behind their lives and families for months at a time. Our firefighters are routinely exposed to occupational hazards ranging from carbon monoxide to cancer-causing chemicals released during fires.

I wholeheartedly support this legislation and efforts to establish a science-based list of diseases for which an automatic presumption of work-related illness would apply. This is a commonsense policy that ensures our firefighters get the care they deserve.

I am thankful that House Leadership brought this legislation to a vote ahead of this year's wildfire season. Our communities are depending on federal fire crews to keep us safe and reduce the threat of wildfire—federal firefighters should be able to rely on the federal government for livable wages and healthy work conditions in return.

That's why I introduced the Tim's Act, bipartisan legislation to overhaul federal firefighter pay, benefits and classification. I urge Congress to pass Tim's Act and recognize the needs of our brave wildland firefighters who risk their lives to keep our lands and our families safe.

I encourage a yes vote and thank my colleague, Rep. CARBAJAL, for bringing this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I was called away due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 158, 159, 160, 161, 162; NAY on Roll Call No. 163; and YEA on Roll Call No. 164, 165, 166, and 167.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL RALPH
THIBAUT FOR BEING INDUCTED
INTO THE UPPER PENINSULA
LABOR HALL OF FAME

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Michael Ralph Thibault for his induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. Through a lifetime of service and devotion to the public good, Michael has become an indispensable part of the Upper Peninsula and the state of Michigan.

The U.P. Labor Hall of Fame was established in 1993 to recognize unionists who have made an outstanding contribution to the cause of worker dignity and workplace fairness. With a lifetime of service to his community and state, Michael is very deserving of this honor.

Michael was born in Escanaba, Michigan, on November 12, 1949, and was raised in the Village of Garden. He spent many summers working for local farmers and loggers until he graduated from Garden High School in 1967. In the spring of 1968, he traveled to Detroit with a Garden Peninsula ironworker to find work, eventually becoming a permit ironworker for a construction site.

In 1969, Michael decided to return to the U.P. and was accepted for an apprenticeship with International Association of Iron Workers Local 783. Over the next two decades, he served as an on-site steward representing Local 783 and Local 8 while working on many industrial projects. During that time, he joined the Joint Apprenticeship Committee for Local 783 and eventually the Executive Board as a Recording Secretary. Michael went on to serve in several other supporting roles, including as an Ironworker Business Representative, a delegate to the Marquette County Labor Council, and the founding president of the Upper Peninsula Regional Labor Federation.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Michael Ralph Thibault for his induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. This great honor reflects a lifetime of service towards the rights and wellbeing of fellow workers. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ANNUAL
GALA OF THE 92ND STREET Y,
NEW YORK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 92nd Street Y, New York (92NY) on the occasion of its annual gala, entitled "A Love Letter to New York." For nearly 150 years, 92NY has promoted learning and culture while providing a broad range of services and opportunities to the New York City community and beyond.

Founded in 1974 by a group of German Jewish professionals, 92NY has stood as a tremendous cultural institution in Manhattan's Upper East Side. As part of the Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association, 92NY is testament to the contributions of the Jewish community to our city and nation. Since its founding, 92NY has expanded beyond New York's borders and has patrons in all 50 states and 200 countries around the world.

92NY is committed to enriching the lives of its patrons with world-class programming and embraces people of all backgrounds and persuasions. 92NY serves the Upper East Side as a community center, while simultaneously acting as a massive learning institution for a broader community. 92NY offers programs under five main tenants: Arts, Community, Jewish Life, Children & Family, and Innovation & Social Impact.

92NY displayed its dedication to its patrons during the COVID-19 pandemic. Electing to stay open, 92NY was faced with the task of adjusting its programming while continuing to serve its community. 92NY decided to embrace new digital technologies and moved its programming online, enabling it to reach a wider audience. Over the course of two years, 92NY created 5,000 original programs and attracted six million views, not only across America but from a larger international community.

As a result, 92NY has become a global institution. In order to successfully meet the