

TRIBUTE TO SIGRID WRIGHT—  
CALIFORNIA'S 24TH CONGRES-  
SIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

**HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, each year, through the Women of the Year Award, my office extends special recognition to women on the Central Coast who have made a difference in our community. I would like to recognize one outstanding Women of the Year Award recipient, Sigrid Wright of Santa Barbara, California.

A longtime resident of Santa Barbara, Sigrid Wright has been a leader in environmental non-profits and climate change advocacy on the Central Coast for more than 25 years. With the many daunting challenges of the growing climate crisis, her leadership has guided the community in facing those challenges.

Sigrid was named as CEO/executive director of the Community Environmental Council (CEC) in 2015, becoming the first woman to lead the 45-year-old non-profit. Driven by the environmental destruction seen along Santa Barbara's coastline due to the 1969 oil spill, Sigrid has championed CEC's mission to move the Santa Barbara region away from dependence on fossil fuels in one generation—Fossil Free by '33. As CEO, Sigrid has spearheaded CEC's climate goals by educating and activating the Santa Barbara community around sustainable practices, advocating for environmentally sound policies and laws, and building partnerships with other organizations to open new pathways for sustainable transportation, energy, and food systems.

In her longstanding commitment to resolving the climate crisis, Sigrid co-founded the Central Coast Climate Justice Network as well as the Central Coast Climate Collaborative, devoted to advancing social, economic, and environmental justice. Sigrid's efforts to effect real change in climate advocacy have already been recognized by her community. In 2020, California Assemblymember Monique Limón named CEC Non-Profit of the Year. Community initiatives sparked by Sigrid and CEC have included Santa Barbara's first ever wind farm which is expected to power 53,000 family homes with clean, sustainable electricity.

Where Sigrid sees a need, she takes action to fill it. She strategizes and addresses each of the root causes of climate change in her role as leader of CEC. Her influence over Santa Barbara's local food justice movement has led to produce and prepared food being redirected to impoverished peoples and families in need rather than end up at a landfill. Sigrid's quest to reduce consumption and waste has helped expand the Rethink the Drink program, providing access to thousands of hydration stations across Santa Barbara County and environmental education for participating schools. She gives so much of her time, energy, and resources to serve our community. She is a worthy candidate for this honor and a role model for community leaders of all kinds.

I am honored to recognize Sigrid for her continued commitment to environmental and climate change advocacy on the Central Coast. I ask all Members to join me today in

honoring an exceptional woman of California's 24th Congressional District, Sigrid Wright, for her incredible service to her community.

HONORING MATALIE MILES

**HON. RICK W. ALLEN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Matalie Miles, upon her acceptance to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As a future cadet, she will be joining the ranks of the world's most fearsome fighting force—the United States Army—guided by duty, honor, and country.

The service and sacrifice of America's military personnel have safeguarded our Nation since its inception, defending our way of life from Lexington to Normandy.

And throughout our history, American soldiers have demonstrated tremendous courage and strength, beating back tyranny to the ends of the earth.

I was glad to sponsor Matalie's nomination and I am confident that her talents will distinguish her among her peers both during her time at West Point and thereafter.

I congratulate Matalie, and know that she will make this Nation proud.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CURTIS L. JONES, JR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor, commend, and extend my congratulations to a gifted educator, dedicated community leader, and great team builder, Dr. Curtis L. Jones, Jr. Dr. Jones retired from his role as Superintendent of the Bibb County, Georgia School District, and a retirement celebration was held on Friday, May 27, 2022, at The Macon Coliseum located at 200 Coliseum Drive in Macon, Georgia.

Born to the union of Reverend Curtis L. Jones and Mrs. Roberta Prescott Jones, Dr. Jones earned his bachelor's degree at the United States Military Academy at West Point and went on to complete a distinguished military career in the U.S. Army, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He earned a Master of Business Administration from Albany State University in Albany, Georgia, an Education Specialist Degree from Lincoln Memorial University, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

For nearly two decades, Dr. Jones has been an effective and trusted leader in multiple roles in public education administration in the state of Georgia. He established an impressive career beginning as a JROTC instructor with the Griffin-Spalding County School System in Griffin, Georgia, moving to the positions of High School Principal, Assistant Superintendent, and thereafter, Superintendent of Schools.

On April 6, 2015, he became Superintendent of the Bibb County School District in

Macon, Georgia, and worked tirelessly with teachers, administrators, and other support staff to transform the students of Bibb County into scholars, leaders, and good citizens. While leading the Bibb County School District, Dr. Jones has worked to enhance literacy and classroom learning through the development of a District Literacy Plan, which led to student growth on the Georgia Milestones Assessments. He led two voter-approved Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) campaigns, which funded the opening of six new school buildings and countless school renovation projects. His commitment to equity motivated him to secure major technology improvements assuring that every child has equal access to high-quality technology resources. During his tenure as Superintendent, the Bibb County School District has made great gains in improving its graduation rate from 58.9 percent in 2014 to 80.67 percent in 2021.

Under his exceptional leadership, the District has received Georgia's College Board Linking Award for having more than 80 percent of juniors and seniors utilizing Khan Academy for SAT preparation (2017); the Digital School District Survey Award for Large Student Population Districts category, and along with its Board of Education has been named both a Distinguished and Exemplary Board by the Georgia School Boards Association (2018). Bibb County was featured in The District Management Journal, in an article titled "Raising Achievement and Addressing Equity at Bibb County Schools" and as a case study with K-12 Insight for its work in improving stakeholder communications through its use of the Let's Talk! platform. In addition to these achievements, seven schools have achieved Leader in Me Lighthouse School status (2022), and the District has achieved accreditation from AdvancED, (now Cognia), with two schools—Skyview and Carter Elementary Schools, being recognized as National Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I Schools of Distinction.

Dr. Jones' leadership has made a tremendous impact on the many educators and administrators in the District, as numerous leaders and staff members have been recognized at the state and national levels, and have been invited to serve as leading panelists and make presentations on how Bibb has demonstrated success.

Winston Churchill once said: "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." Dr. Curtis L. Jones, Jr. has given so much to the Bibb County School District, its educators, its administrators, and most importantly, its students. He has cast a wide net in his service as an educator, and Bibb County, our state, and our nation are better because of his work.

In addition to his work for the Bibb County School District, Dr. Jones is engaged in numerous professional and community organizations including the Rotary Club of Macon and the Kiwanis Club of Macon. He serves on several community boards including those for the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce and the United Way of Central Georgia. He is a past governing board member for The School Superintendents Association (AASA) and past president of the Georgia School Superintendents Association (GSSA).

For his work in educational leadership and administration, Dr. Jones has received several

awards and commendations including the President's Award from the Georgia School Superintendents Association (2021); the Bill Barr Leadership Award (2016); the AdvancED Excellence in Education Award (2018); and the 2019 Georgia Superintendent of the Year award. He was named one of four finalists for 2019 National Superintendent of the Year by The School Superintendents Association (AASA) and the 2019 National Superintendent of the Year at AASA's National Conference on Education.

Dr. Jones has accomplished much in his life, but none of this would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and support of his wife, Evelyn, their three children, and grandchildren. Their support has, no doubt, been the wind beneath his wings.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in honoring, commending, and extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Dr. Curtis L. Jones, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement from an outstanding career in Elementary and Secondary Education Administration and his continued service to humanity.

RECOGNIZING KATERINA  
NAFPLIOTI PANAGOPOULOS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Katerina Nafplioti Panagopoulos for her outstanding career and accomplishments. Through her many endeavors and initiatives, Ms. Panagopoulos has shown unwavering dedication to the Greek community.

Ms. Panagopoulos was born in Athens, Greece and studied at both the Evangelical School of Nea Smyrni and the Foreign Literature Department of the Paul Valery University, in Montpellier, France. She holds an honorary Doctor of Philosophy from Amity University. Ms. Panagopoulos founded the successful business Studio Alta Moda in Athens and has since made great accomplishments in the sectors of tourism and commerce.

Outside of her work as an accomplished businesswoman, Ms. Panagopoulos has served the world of sports extensively. Since 1998, she has acted as the National Ambassador of Greece in the Council of Europe for Sports, Tolerance and Fair Play and has presided as president of the Panhellenic Women's Sports Association "KALLIPATIRA" since 2005. In 2013, Ms. Panagopoulos signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Association of Greek Olympians (SEO) and the Hellenic Paralympic Committee as the President of KALLIPATIRA. Since that time, her work has involved supporting Olympic and Paralympic Champions and Winners, the construction of more than 25 athletic venues throughout Greece, and providing athletic and medical equipment as well as financial support to athletic associations. The International Olympic Committee honored Ms. Panagopoulos in 2012, when she became the first Greek recipient of the Woman and Sports Award.

Ms. Panagopoulos has served as Ambassador of the Greek State regarding matters of promotion of the international role of Greece globally, the creation of new investments and the Hellenic Diaspora since 2019. She is the Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Greece for Hellenic Diaspora since 2018, and President of the International Center for Science and Hellenic Values.

In collaboration with the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Panagopoulos founded an initiative to organize a series of lectures in the most important centers of the Greek Diaspora in the United States. She frequently participates in conferences and working groups, and lectures in schools and foundations nationwide.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Katerina Nafplioti Panagopoulos for her outstanding accomplishments and commitment to representing Hellenic culture in the United States and around the world.

CONGRATULATING RUSSELLVILLE'S BASEBALL TEAM FOR  
WINNING THE 2022 CLASS II  
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Russellville Indians baseball team for winning the Class II State Title.

This is Russellville High School's first state title in the history of their baseball program. These players and coaches should be commended for their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state title to their school and community.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the Russellville Indians baseball team for a job well done.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIME TIMERS OF THE  
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 25th anniversary of Prime Timers of the National Capital Area.

Prime Timers of the National Capital Area was founded on December 17, 1996, as a chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, an international non-profit organization that celebrates all human diversity and whose vision is to "Bring together mature gay and bisexual men for friendship, social activities, support and personal growth."

The mission of Prime Timers of the National Capital Area is to provide opportunities for older gay and bisexual men to come together in a safe and supportive environment regardless of race, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability, ethnicity, religion or political affiliation. The chapter promotes healthy aging

through supportive relationships and personal enrichment through service to others.

Madam Speaker, again, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Prime Timers of the National Capital Area for its 25 years of dedicated service, which has advanced the welfare not only of the LGBTQ community in the District of Columbia, but of the entire population of the District of Columbia.

RECOGNIZING THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF SLEDER'S FAMILY  
TAVERN

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 140th Anniversary of Sleder's Family Tavern of Traverse City, Michigan. Through almost a century and a half of service and steadfast devotion to their community, Sleder's Family Tavern has become a local landmark and an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Established in 1882, Sleder's Family Tavern's continuous dedication to the local community has landed the business the title of the oldest active restaurant in Michigan. The tavern was started by local wheelwright, Vencil Sleder, who came to the United States as a Bohemian immigrant and built the tavern with the help of his fellow neighbors. The original construction of the tavern was made up of wooden slabs from sawmills and took approximately three years to build since many of the builders were only available on weekends.

Sleder's Family Tavern was owned and operated by the Sleder family for three generations, until it was sold to Bob and Sylvia Classens around the business's 100th anniversary in 1975. The Tavern was then sold to Deb and Brian Cairns in May 1992, who eventually transferred ownership to their son and daughter-in-law, Ryan and Megan Cox, on December 31, 2019. Throughout the years, the business has only had minor renovations and additions, and much of the original building has been preserved with the help of the community. Today, the Sleder's Family Tavern is located in the heart of downtown Traverse City, and continues to serve locals for their food and beverage needs.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Sleder's Family Tavern for nearly a century and a half of success and service to Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF GENERAL JOSEPH M. MARTIN, VICE  
CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY

**HON. MARK E. GREEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 7, 2022*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of General