

CELEBRATING THE UNVEILING OF THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERANS MONUMENT IN BUFFALO, NEW YORK

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2022*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I join the Western New York community in celebrating and honoring the service of African American veterans throughout the history of the United States military. For decades, our country ignored the unjust conditions in which African Americans had served in our armed forces. When others returned home from war, they were heralded as heroes. When African Americans returned home from war, our nation denied their humanity and their equal rights. Thankfully, a committee in Buffalo, New York has dedicated its time and energy into recognizing this reality. Now, the African American Veterans Monument will stand on the Buffalo waterfront as a constant reminder to all its citizens of the immense sacrifices that have been made.

From the Revolutionary War to the present day, millions of African Americans have served this country with valor. There are currently more than 360,000 African American soldiers in our military. We have an additional 2.1 million African American veterans. Over 200,000 African Americans served in the Union Army during the Civil War and over 1 million African Americans served in WWII. In total, 89 African Americans have been awarded the Medal of Honor, the most prestigious military decoration awarded to U.S. service members. This type of unquestionable loyalty and service cannot go unrecognized. Leaders in the Western New York community, led by New York State Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes, were not about to let that happen.

This monument will honor our African American veterans in the same way they served our country: with integrity, strength, and resilience. The first of its kind, this monument will be unveiled on September 24, 2022, at Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park. The date commemorates the anniversary of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation Act, the law that first allowed African Americans to join the armed forces. Every aspect of this monument was carefully constructed. It will feature twelve black concrete pillars to symbolize all twelve major campaigns that African Americans have fought in. The top of each pillar is illuminated to represent the candles that families would put in windows to guide their soldiers to safety. These lights will continuously glow to remind us that service does not end when a soldier comes home; it is a commitment that can never be properly repaid.

Nevertheless, I trust that the African American Veterans Monument can be the first of many steps to thoroughly appreciate our brave and selfless veterans in the African American community. I am so proud to represent countless African American veterans and those who recognized the necessity of this monument. This is long overdue.

HONORING 70 YEARS OF THE MISSOURI AND ASSOCIATED RIVERS COALITION (MOARC)

### HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2022*

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of the Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition (MOARC). Since its inception, MOARC and its members have tirelessly served the greater Kansas City region.

MOARC was formed in 1952, following a flood, with the goal of implementing better water management. Membership today consists of organizations, associations, companies, governmental units, and individuals, all of whom are interested in establishing better flood control programs and supporting conservation of land-water resources.

Since its creation, MOARC's members have fiercely advocated for the Kansas Third District and the rest of the region, advocating for projects like the Bush Creek Basin. Without their efforts, it might not be recognized as the cultural corridor of Kansas City. And thanks to their work advocating for projects like the St. Joseph Levee and Line Creek Watershed, the region is better positioned to take action on important infrastructure needs.

I've also had the pleasure of supporting MOARC's work while in Congress. Last year, I joined local officials to tour the Upper Turkey Creek levee project, for which I secured funding and MOARC supported.

I look forward to continuing my strong relationship with MOARC, their exceptional members, and their local land-water conservation efforts. Here's to many more years of responsible waterway stewardship in the greater Kansas City region.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF REVEREND MICHAEL RUSSO

### HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2022*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Reverend Michael Russo.

Throughout his life, Michael demonstrated his dedication to his faith and his passion for education. He earned his bachelor's in communications and later his Master of Divinity from Seton Hall University. Michael became an ordained minister in 1971 and was known from that point on as Father Mike. Father Mike was especially interested in political communications and American journalism. He earned a Ph.D. in American Social and Political History from New York University (NYU). His doctoral dissertation, which focused on CBS News's impact on American politics, received the 1983 Bayrd Still Award in Historical Writing.

Father Mike was eager to share his knowledge and passion for U.S. history with future generations. He began his career as an educator teaching Religion and Communication Studies at Seton Hall. He later served as chair of Seton Hall's Religious Studies Department.

He began teaching Political Communication at Saint Mary's College in the early 1980s and was later appointed as chair of the Academic Senate and chair of the Communication Department. Father Mike was adored among the Saint Mary's community and has touched countless students' lives.

Father Mike worked closely with CBS News for many years, offering his expert analysis on papal happenings. His partnership with CBS began when Mike was still in college, serving as Walter Cronkite's desk assistant. Father Mike was later asked by CBS to cover events surrounding the Pope where he provided his expertise to a global audience. Father Mike had the honor of travelling with Pope John Paul II on "Shepard One" when His Holiness visited Northern California in 1987.

Sadly, Mike passed away on August 10, 2022. He is survived by his brother Joseph and his wife Anita, his sister Marian, his nieces and nephews, Leah, AJ, Philip, Bettina, Tim, William, Josephine, and Julian, and many other loving family members, friends, colleagues, and parishioners. Father Mike will be remembered for his wisdom, compassion, and commitment to his faith. He will be deeply missed. Please join us in honoring Reverend Michael Russo for his many contributions to our community and to our Nation.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RED ARROW DINER

### HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2022*

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Red Arrow Diner in Manchester, New Hampshire. As one of the most popular diners on the East Coast, the Red Arrow Diner enjoys a special place in the folklore of our state and remains a popular destination for locals, celebrities, politicians, and tourists alike.

Dating back to the diner's opening in October of 1922, the Red Arrow cemented its legacy in downtown Manchester as a quaint, family-friendly locale with a knack for home-cooked meals guaranteed to please even the most skeptical palate. This tiny little diner on Lowell Street flourished into a major chain that today employs one hundred and seventy-five people and has expanded operations to Concord, Londonderry, and Nashua. Despite this massive growth, the Red Arrow remains committed to the values of its founders: serving customers with a smile and delivering consistent, quality home cooked meals.

The Red Arrow Diner's success can be attributed in large part to the efforts of Carol Lawrence, her father George Lawrence, and Amanda Wihby. Their vision for this diner has made the Red Arrow a must-visit destination for visitors from out of state, and their dedication to the state of New Hampshire will ensure that the Red Arrow remains a vital part of our state culture for another 100 years. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I thank the Red Arrow Diner and its management for 100 years of outstanding contributions to our state.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FERRY  
SERVICE EXPANSION ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Ferry Service Expansion Act" with U.S. Senator PATTY MURRAY (D-WA). I want to thank my House colleagues for their support as original cosponsors of this bipartisan legislation.

Ferries are among the most climate-resilient modes of public transportation, capable of reaching areas where it is infeasible or imprudent to build new bridges or causeways. Historically, Congress has underfunded public ferry service compared to other transit and roadway projects. Our "Ferry Service Expansion Act" would correct this by increasing funding for both the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) formula and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) competitive grant programs to the levels requested by the Public Ferry Coalition, which represents public ferry operators across the country.

In the Bay Area, the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) is working to expand ferry service for commuters and visitors alike. WETA is also retrofitting its existing diesel-powered ferries to reduce emissions of particulates and greenhouse gases. WETA is pursuing new, zero-emissions ferries to eventually replace its entire vessel fleet. The "Ferry Service Expansion Act" would provide federal support for this important work, while also holding federal grantees to the high standards for "Buy American" requirements and prevailing wages under the Davis-Bacon Act that already apply to other federal funding for ferries.

Under current law, States may use their federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) for public or private ferry projects. In December 2020, the Bay Area Council released a feasibility study for employing hovercraft to provide ferry service in the South Bay. Hovercrafts can provide ferry service in environmentally sensitive areas that cannot be dredged to sufficient depth for vessels. Section 4 of the "Ferry Service Expansion Act" would simply clarify that States could use their STBG for hovercraft ferries, provided the project is otherwise eligible under the program as providing ferry service to the public. On July 1, 2021, the House passed this same provision as my amendment to Chairman PETER A. DEFAZIO's (D-OR) "Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act."

Lastly, our bicameral, bipartisan legislation would also support private operators of passenger ferries by allowing them to register Capital Construction Funds with the Maritime Administration (MARAD). Capital Construction Funds allow vessel operators to forgo paying federal business taxes on such vessels provided all that forgone tax payment is reinvested in constructing new U.S.-flagged vessels in American shipyards. Under current law, only cargo vessels and commercial fishing boats are eligible for this special tax exemption. However, some car ferry operators successfully registered Capital Construction Funds with MARAD, arguing that the cars are "cargo" and therefore their vessels are a

"cargo vessel" and not a "ferry." The "Ferry Service Expansion Act" corrects this discrepancy by ensuring that passenger ferries are also clearly eligible. On March 29, 2022, the House passed this same provision from my H.R. 6882 as part of the "Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022" (H.R. 6865).

As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I continue working to secure additional federal funding to complement the state, county, and local investments to improve ferry service across the Bay Area. I plan to work with Senator MURRAY to make this legislation a priority. Madam Speaker, I encourage all members of the House to join us in cosponsoring the "Ferry Service Expansion Act."

## 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 meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## SEPTEMBER 27

4 p.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider S. 4573, to amend title 3, United States Code, to reform the Electoral Count Act, and to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide clear guidelines for when and to whom resources are provided by the Administrator of General Services for use in connection with the preparations for the assumption of official duties as President or Vice President.

SR-301

## SEPTEMBER 28

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Karla Ann Gilbride, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Moshe Z. Marvit, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, and other pending calendar business.

TBA

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine stakeholder views on the Brownfields Program reauthorization.

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine keeping the pressure on Russia and its enablers, focusing on the reach of and next steps for U.S. sanctions.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity from Nuremberg to Ukraine.

SD-226

11 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 4828, to provide consistent leadership, purpose, and administrative support for the primary governmentwide executive councils, S. 4894, to provide for the perpetuation, administration, and funding of Federal Executive Boards, S. 4893, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain disclosures by registrants regarding exemptions under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, S. 4882, to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize appropriations for the United States Fire Administration and firefighter assistance grant programs, S. 4528, to establish a Government-wide approach to improving digital identity, S. 4816 and H.R. 7337, bills to require the Archivist of the United States to submit a plan to Congress to eliminate the records backlog at the National Personnel Records Center, S. 4328, to modify the fire management assistance cost share, S. 4399, to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government, S. 4668, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 North Main Street in Belen, New Mexico, as the "U.S. Senator Dennis Chavez Post Office", H.R. 7777, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish an industrial control systems cybersecurity training initiative, H.R. 5689, to improve the provision of Federal resources to help build capacity and fund risk-reducing, cost-effective mitigation projects for eligible State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and certain private nonprofit organizations, H.R. 6824, to authorize the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security to hold an annual cybersecurity competition relating to offensive and defensive cybersecurity disciplines, H.R. 7211, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, review a final rule of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, H.R. 3544, to require the Administrator of General Services to transfer certain surplus computers and technology equipment to nonprofit computer refurbishers for repair, distribution, and return, H.R. 4209, to support remediation of illicit cross-border tunnels, H.R. 6873, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office for