

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANN
MCGUINNESS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of an extraordinary woman's rights leader and advocate, Ann McGuinness, of Selkirk, New York. Ann passed away peacefully and surrounded by family on August 3, 2022, following an aggressive, and courageous battle with cancer. Ann's life and achievements will be celebrated and remembered on September 28, 2022, in Washington, DC, where she did so much work to advance privacy rights and delivery of women's health care based on science and medicine.

Born in 1957 and raised in Newington, Connecticut, to Edward and Catherine McGuinness, Ann's life was initiated and guided by her Connecticut origins. Her proud, Connecticut-Catholic upbringing—and with it an instilled affinity for social justice—was reinforced by her earning a political science degree from the College of St. Joseph in West Hartford, Connecticut. By that point, through her tenacious demeanor, she had already discovered what would ultimately grow into her life-long passion: advocating for women's reproductive rights.

Her tireless advocacy and passion can be observed in every step of her life's story—no matter what Ann was doing, she always tied it back to advancing equal rights for women. The earliest stage of her career prior to obtaining a master's in public administration from Columbia University, was with the National Women's Political Caucus. She continued her political advocacy by campaigning on Tim Wirth's campaign for Senate. Upon then Senator Wirth's successful electoral bid, Ann, equipped with her experience and passion, made a career transition to work for NARAL Pro-Choice in 1987, a mission which she remained dedicated to for 17 years. Madam Speaker, I had the privilege of knowing Ann personally, particularly in her earliest years of political activism. She was very bright, very principled and had a great sense of humor. Her husband and soul mate William "Chip" Reynolds was a perfect match and they supported each other's social activism as well as their commitment to growing and raising a beautiful family.

Having built up roughly two decades of experience and a network in reproductive rights advocacy, Ann transitioned her career again in 2006, this time lending her unmatched expertise to Planned Parenthood's fundraising arm. She approached her senior role at Planned Parenthood with the same sense of ferocity that she brought to every other project. What caused her to be most successful in her role, however, was her penchant for connecting with young people and her steadfast belief in affording reproductive rights for all that energized her to pour limitless energy into the mission. Relentless in her pursuits to ensure equal access to reproductive rights, Ann left Planned Parenthood in 2018, working to form the Contraceptive Access Initiative in 2020—an effort which was purposed towards ensuring contraceptives were available to women without barriers.

Madam Speaker, we have all come to know Ann McGuinness as a champion of community,

inspiring and convincing others to become philanthropists and donate hundreds of millions of dollars toward a cause fundamentally important to her and the lives of women across the country. We would be hard-pressed to find an example of someone more unwavering in their commitment to a cause. Of her critical work, nothing may have been more important to Ann than mentoring and recruiting youth on the issue of reproductive rights. For, over the decades, Ann McGuinness had not only solidified the legacy and strength of a post-Roe America, but has now undoubtedly inspired brigades of activists to carry the torch, as we collectively fight to not just regain, but expand even further women's reproductive rights. This legacy will hopefully provide solace for the loss her husband, Chip Reynolds, children Nora Reynolds and Nicholas Reynolds and siblings, Patrick McGuinness, Timothy McGuinness and Mary Kate Hallisey have and will endure. Those of us in public office can and should contribute to that effort to honor her memory. To that end, Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Ann McGuinness.

SUPPORTING H.R. 8542—MENTAL HEALTH JUSTICE ACT OF 2022; H.R. 6448—INVEST AND PROTECT ACT OF 2022; H.R. 4118—BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE ACT; AND H.R. 5768—VICTIM ACT OF 2022

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the four public safety bills that the House is considering today.

Crime, and in particular gun violence, continues to be a major problem affecting every community in our country. The annual cost of gun violence alone is more than \$280 billion.

This Congress has already taken the most significant action in 30 years with the enactment of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to reduce gun violence.

Today, we take another step forward to strengthen public safety by passing four bills that will keep our communities safer.

Together the bills will save lives by increasing grants for police training and recruitment for small police departments which often lack the resources they need.

They will fund the deployment of mental health crisis response units and evidence-based community violence intervention programs—two strategies that have been used very successfully in my district.

And they will provide funding so local law enforcement can solve homicide and non-fatal shootings.

I would like to thank Representatives HORSFORD, DEMINGS, GOTTHEIMER, and PORTER for their leadership on these bills.

I urge my colleagues to put party over politics and vote YES on each of the public safety bills being considered today to reduce crime and save lives.

HOMETOWN HERO—LAWRENCE
THORNS

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 22, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lawrence Thorns as our Texas-24 Hometown Hero of the week. Lawrence is a North Texan who has gone above and beyond to ensure the next generation of Texans are equipped with the necessary tools for greatness.

Lawrence is a hard worker in his community, especially with his local church—Forest Hill Church of Christ. His work in his church community has directly impacted the lives of North Texas students.

Since 2016, Lawrence has been supplying back to school supplies for local schools and shelters, ensuring the students have everything they need to pursue an education and achieve their dreams. This year alone, Lawrence supplied over 230 bags of school supplies to students.

On behalf of our entire community, I'd like to thank Lawrence for his selfless dedication to the next generation. I look forward to seeing the impact his work will have on our students.

HONORING STEPHANIE BAPTIST

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephanie Baptist, a district staff member of mine who runs and manages the Jacksonville office for the 18th District of Illinois.

Since coming to Congress, my office has prided itself on providing top-notch constituent services with four offices in our 19-county district. We all know this would not be possible without great staff in our districts, helping constituents with casework and being the front line of communication with our communities while we are here in Washington, D.C.

For the 18th District of Illinois, which includes many rural areas in central and west central Illinois, this is extremely important with long distances between towns and cities. In Stephanie's case, she manages our Jacksonville office by herself. Stephanie joined the office several years back, replacing Barb Baker, a longtime community advocate and a staff member who sadly passed away. To say Stephanie had big shoes to fill after Barb would be an understatement; however, she filled them incredibly well.

Stephanie served with professionalism and an unmatched dedication to the community, particularly during the extraordinary times that we have faced over the past two and a half years during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stephanie served as the point person for our office on IRS casework and SBA issues over the last several years, which was not easy given the challenges our communities faced. Throughout it all, Stephanie handled her work with grace, compassion, and resilience.

Sadly, because of our redistricting in Illinois, our Congressional District will no longer have Jacksonville and our office downtown.

While we could not be happier for Stephanie as she embarks on a new and exciting opportunity, she will be missed dearly by our office. I want to thank Stephanie for all the hard work on behalf of constituents in 18th Congressional District. It has been greatly appreciated. Stephanie will always be a part of Team LaHood, and most importantly, a friend.

TOYS FOR TOTS 75TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program on their 75th Anniversary of bringing Christmas joy and a message of hope to America's disadvantaged children.

Established in 1947, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves has protected the hopes, dreams, and positive future of our nation's most valuable resource—our children—with the Toys for Tots Program, an official mission of the Marine Corps Reserve.

Over the past 75 years the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program has delivered the magic of Christmas to over 281 million less fortunate children and distributed over 627 million toys nationwide with the support of the U.S. Marine Corps, Marine Corps Reserve and community coordinators who conduct toy collection campaigns.

In Missouri, the Toys for Tots program has 20 chapters. Two of those, reside in my district: Jefferson City, MO serves Cole, Maries, Miller and Morgan Counties and Troy, MO serves Lincoln County. These two chapters have done a tremendous job of bringing their volunteers together to bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to central Missouri's less fortunate children.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the U.S. Marine Corps, the Marine Corps Reserve, and the Toys for Tots program for their outstanding efforts on behalf of our needy children, both here in Missouri and across the Nation for the past 75 years.

HONORING SILVIA MARTINEZ DE
TAFOLLA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today and honor Silvia Martinez de Tafolla, a constituent I am immensely proud of, and celebrating her 82nd birthday. Silvia was born to Jose Martinez Valades and Carment Martinez Solorzano in Irapuato Guanajuato, Mexico on May 4, 1940. She studied in Mexico for the occupation of Secretary.

At the age of 24 Silvia married a hard-working and responsible gentleman named Miguel Vargas Tafolla. Their union brought 2 wonderful children, Silvita and Miguel Angel who are her reason for living and source of unconditional support.

After 14 years of marriage, the family was separated 2 years, as Miguel immigrated to the United States, while the family stayed behind in Mexico. Silvia and her daughter then immigrated to the United States through a difficult and dangerous journey, leaving her youngest son behind in Mexico. All the family was final reunited in Anaheim, California. Silvia and her family have made Anaheim their home for the past 40 years. Silvia worked as a sales representative. After 55 years of marriage, Silvia's husband Miguel passed away, and with the love for her children she has been able to carry on.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Silvia Martinez de Tafolla, her ability to persevere to reach the American Dream and celebrate her 82nd birthday.

COMMEMORATING THE 250TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE SOUTH HAMP-
TON BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the South Hampton Baptist Church on its 250th Anniversary. This incredible milestone is a testament to the impact of the church on the town of South Hampton, and the vital role that faith plays in the community.

The town of South Hampton and the church have undergone tremendous change since 1772, but the values and faith of the towns' founders can still be seen in the community today. As one of the oldest churches in New Hampshire, South Hampton Baptist continues to involve itself in the town through volunteerism and community get-togethers to celebrate the history and legacy of this house of worship.

As Granite Staters come out of the pandemic looking for comfort, guidance, and how to best help their neighbors, the South Hampton Baptist Church remains an important resource and a partner for many families here on the Seacoast. The history and insights into early American life found in this church give congregants a glimpse into the past, while the volunteerism and public service they perform allows them to look toward the future of South Hampton.

I would like to thank Pastor Jeremy J. Pataro for his dedication to the town of South Hampton and congratulate him on maintaining 250 years of tradition. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I congratulate the South Hampton Baptist Church for its outstanding contributions to the state and wish them another 250 years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF NICK
WOOLDRIDGE

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my legislative staffer, Nick

Wooldridge, for his service to Kentucky's Second District.

Nick is a native of Kentucky's capital, Frankfort, which helped inspire his interest in politics. In high school, he served as a page in the Kentucky House of Representatives. Nick's interest in American politics continued through his years at Princeton University where he graduated with a degree in history. While in college, Nick interned for both U.S. Senator SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO and U.S. Senate Republican Leader MITCH MCCONNELL.

In November 2021, Nick joined my congressional D.C. office as a staff assistant. Nick's initiative, strong work ethic, and extensive knowledge of Kentucky made him an excellent addition to my staff, and he quickly worked his way up in my office to a legislative correspondent. In this role, Nick does in-depth research on legislation, helps me effectively communicate complex legislative policy to constituents, and responds to constituent inquiries in a timely manner. On Nick's last week in my office, I want to thank him for his work serving Kentucky's Second District and wish him the best in the next chapter of his career.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTH-
DAY OF MOORESTOWN RELIEF
ENGINE COMPANY 312'S OLDEST
FIRE TRUCK, "BERTHA"

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Moorestown Relief Engine Company 312's oldest fire truck, affectionately known by our district as "Bertha."

Since its acquisition by the Relief Engine Company in 1922, the predominantly Ahrens-Fox engine-powered fire truck has been an integral part of Moorestown's history and community safety. Throughout its nearly 50 years of active service to the Moorestown community, the volunteers of Relief Engine Company 312 counted on Bertha when responding to major fires, car accidents, and various incidents in between.

Its presence in the community cannot be understated either. The engine was so large that the floor of the company's building was found to be sagging from its weight. Today, while not in use, the fire truck is an attraction for visitors of Moorestown's Relief Engine Company, and it holds a place in our history.

Not only has the Bertha gained recognition by residents in the Moorestown area, but the truck has also been recognized throughout the region. In the 1980s, Bertha received three first place awards at a New York Fire Truck Muster.

Our volunteer firefighter corps are essential in maintaining our safe, secure, and connected community. Bertha remains a symbol of their rich history of dedication to us and our families, and it's my honor to represent them, this symbol of rich history, and this community.