

years of leading a broad range of teams, projects, and responsibilities provide a solid foundation and will add a unique perspective in her new role.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Whitney Anderson and wishing her the best of luck in her new role on the NAFCU Board of Directors. I look forward to working with her and NAFCU members to better serve our constituents across Indiana's 7th Congressional District.

HONORING THE REMARKABLE  
LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELVIRA  
"VERA" TAMARGO GARCIA

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2023*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Elvira "Vera" Tamargo Garcia, who passed away at the age of 88 on August 8, 2023. She was a lifelong Tampa native and devoted teacher who dedicated her life to civic service. Vera's contributions and tireless dedication to the Tampa Bay community will forever be remembered.

Vera embodied the true spirit of public service, exemplifying the values of compassion, dedication and mentorship. Throughout her 48-year career as a teacher at Broward, Ballast Point and Mendenhall elementary schools, she left a mark on hundreds of students she taught, their parents, and new teachers she mentored. Throughout her career, Vera taught in every elementary grade. Her passion was for early childhood education, and she played an important role in launching kindergarten instruction in Hillsborough County schools. Her talent and experience as an educator were evident in the numerous accomplishments she achieved. Vera's recognitions included Florida's Outstanding Young Educator in 1966 and was ranked fourth at the national level.

She attended the University of Tampa for her bachelor's degree and subsequently earned a master's degree from the University of South Florida. In her classroom, Vera strived to teach her students the values of respect and friendship along with phonics and counting, and her selfless service is manifested in the good principles of my Tampa Bay neighbors. Her tenacious determination as an instructor to future generations shaped much of her perspective and identity, but her work as a caregiver extended beyond the classroom.

Many knew Vera for her work advocating for Tampa's Latino heritage, protecting and preserving the Centro Asturiano de Tampa's original cemetery and its 121-year-old building. Vera took the role of president for the historic social club for immigrants and their descendants, making her the first woman to hold that position at the "Centro." She and her husband, attorney William F. "Willie" Garcia, devoted their later years to the preservation of the "Centro." Earlier in their lives, Vera and Willie were active in state and local politics, running campaigns, attending rallies and always supporting Democratic candidates at the local, state and federal levels. At home, they would adorn Christmas gifts with handmade themed ornaments that they would spend

months creating. Their marriage was filled with love and support for each other, accompanied by humor that made their bond stronger.

The eldest of three girls, Vera was born to Francisco "Pancho" and Honorina "Nora" Tamargo. She and her two sisters, Junis and Sandra, shared a room as children and their lives as adults. Her devotion to her family was shown in her commitment to spend Christmas together with her two sisters and cousin Mary Louise. Vera was beloved by her many nieces, nephews and cousins who could call or stop by her home to say hello, help with a chore, or take her to a family gathering.

For her two sons, William and Joseph, Vera was that unshakable support who got them where they needed to pursue their interests from swim meets to Scouting camping trips. Her grandchildren called her "Bueli", and they will remember her love and the way she lit up just hearing their voices.

Vera is survived by her sons, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and many loved ones to whom I extend my deepest sympathies. She will be remembered not only for her many years of selfless service, but also for her genuine compassion and kindness.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my sincere condolences to Vera's family and friends. She impacted the lives of countless members of the Tampa Bay community and her steadfast leadership and patient mentorship undeniably enhanced the lives of my neighbors. Tampa Bay is grateful for her contributions and the legacy she leaves.

HONORING COOK OUT BEING  
NAMED ONE OF THE TOP TEN  
FAST-FOOD RESTAURANTS IN  
THE COUNTRY

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2023*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cook Out on being named one of the top ten regional fast-food restaurants in the country according to USA Today's Readers Choice 2023.

Cook Out opened in 1989 in Greensboro, North Carolina and has since spread nationwide, operating more than 300 locations across the Southern United States. However, Cook Out has remained true to its Carolina roots and is a regional staple, best known for its famous tray combos and delicious milkshakes.

I have been a big fan of Cook Out since I was growing up in North Carolina. To this day, one of my favorite parts about going home after a long stint in Washington is being able to sit down and enjoy Cook Out with my family, friends, or staff.

Cook Out is a cultural icon and an esteemed member of our community in North Carolina. Its economic and community impact on our state is astounding and I look forward to continuing to work with them to see what they will accomplish in the future.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing Cook Out, its leaders, and employees on this momentous occasion and thanking them for all they do for our shared home of North Carolina.

RECOGNIZING COVENANT  
COMMUNITY CARE

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2023*

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Covenant Community Care, a well-known and trusted healthcare provider, as they celebrate the grand opening of their newest health clinic on Joy Road in Detroit in the 12th Congressional District.

Covenant Care grew from humble beginnings in southwest Detroit when a doctor and pastor joined forces to with the simple idea of providing free healthcare access to the uninsured. The doctor delivered on her promise to provide free healthcare to the uninsured and many more rallied behind the cause, creating Covenant Community Care in 2000. The need for more resources was evident, and Covenant Community Care has been steadfast in its mission to remove barriers to high quality healthcare services. Over the years, Covenant Community Care has leveraged partnerships with other medical service providers and now has several locations across metropolitan Detroit.

I had the honor of securing House-appropriated Community Project Funding for Covenant Community Care in FY2023 to support the construction of their newest clinic to provide critical services to our community. Covenant has operated a small health clinic at 18917 Joy Rd in Detroit for nearly eight years that has limited their ability to expand services. This project will be impactful not only tripling the clinical footprint in the community but providing accessibility to essential care like primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services to the Cody-Rouge neighborhood and surrounding communities.

I am always incredibly honored to serve as a partner for the Covenant Community Care team and appreciate the ongoing high level of care and compassion you provide to our communities across the district and region. We offer congratulations and wish them well on the opening of their new clinic.

HONORING MRS. LORI DOBRATZ

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2023*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mrs. Lori Dobratz on more than 37 years of service to our country.

Lori's career with the federal government began in February 1986 with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C., where she worked as the Secretary to the Division Chief in the medical unit. In May 1995, Lori joined Capital District Contracting Center, which later became the Fort Belvoir Mission and Installation Contracting Command. Throughout her 28 years there, Lori has played a critical role as a Management Support Assistant.

As part of the U.S. Army Contracting Command, Lori supported efforts to ensure Army readiness at all times. Her hard work and contributions in service to the U.S. Army have not

gone unnoticed—as evidenced by the four performance awards Lori has received over the last five years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mrs. Lori Dobratz for her hard work, dedication, and service to our country, as well as in celebrating her career, accomplishments, and retirement.

SUPPORTING H. RES. 771, STAND-  
ING WITH ISRAEL AS IT DE-  
FENDS ITSELF AGAINST THE  
BARBARIC WAR LAUNCHED BY  
HAMAS AND OTHER TERRORISTS

### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2023*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to a family matter, I was not present to vote on Roll Call No. 528. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 528. I stand firm in my support for our ally, Israel, and the Jewish community amidst the ongoing conflict. I condemn the atrocities committed by Hamas and other terrorists and support additional appropriations so that Israel may defend itself.

#### 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, October 26, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### OCTOBER 31

- 9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Appropriations  
To hold hearings to examine the national security supplemental request. SD-106
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety  
To hold hearings to examine AI and the future of work. SD-430
- Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine threats to the homeland. SD-562

##### NOVEMBER 1

- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
To hold hearings to examine the science of extreme event attribution, focusing on how climate change is fueling severe weather events. SD-406
- Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations. SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship  
To hold hearings to examine small businesses and America's outdoor recreation economy. SR-428A

3 p.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration  
To hold hearings to examine ongoing threats to election administration. SR-301

3:30 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine research at the Department of Veterans Affairs. SR-418

##### NOVEMBER 2

- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Finance  
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Martin O'Malley, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security. SD-215
- Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director, Jeff Rezmovic, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, and Suzanne Elizabeth Summerlin, of Florida, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority. SD-562

##### NOVEMBER 7

- 2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
To hold hearings to examine causes of roadway safety challenges and possible interventions. SD-406