

resident, Alva Greene as we mourn her passing.

Born and raised in Tyler Town, Mississippi, Ms. Greene was the eldest of eight in her close-knit family. She was a proud graduate of Mississippi Valley State University, where she met the love of her life Joe Green, who she married in 1960.

Ms. Greene was drawn to a career in education. She worked as a home economics teacher in the Water Valley Mississippi Public School System and in Detroit Public Schools when she and her family moved to Detroit in 1966. Her dedication to caring for the youth of our community, combined with her love of the church made her an absolute beam of light to be around. Her work throughout her life speaks volumes to her courageous and generous character. She was a beloved educator at Detroit's Northwestern High School for more than thirty years, retiring in 2000 to spend more time traveling and enjoying time with her family, especially her granddaughters Breanna and True.

In addition to her teaching career, Ms. Greene was always involved in her church community. As an active member of Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, she dedicated her time volunteering to visit sick and hospitalized church members in need of empathy and cheer and working with the Hartford Vacation Bible School.

Alva Greene's ambitious, kindhearted, and encouraging attitude will be greatly missed. Please join me in honoring her memory.

#### CONGRATULATING PEST END ON BEING NOMINATED TO AMERICA'S TOP SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT

#### HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pest End, a New Hampshire small business that was recently nominated to the 2023 America's Top Small Business Summit. For over 40 years Pest End has embodied our state's values of hard work and service, driven to provide quality customer service and innovative solutions. This recent recognition from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is a testament to its strong skills, impact on the local economy, and involvement in the community. The next generation of New Hampshire business leaders will look to Pest End for inspiration.

Pest End is an industry leader and a trusted community partner. Attention to detail, years of experience, and a customer-focused approach define the team at Pest End's hard work in keeping our community pest-free. Additionally, their business is intimately involved with service opportunities addressing local needs through active outreach. The Granite State is thankful for small businesses like Pest End that not only protect our homes from termites and rats, but foster relationships between neighbors and strengthen the local economy.

I look forward to seeing all that the Pest End team accomplishes in the years to come, and I am confident that they will continue to serve as a guide for other business leaders in the state. On behalf of the constituents of New

Hampshire's First Congressional District, I applaud Pest End for its commitment to the values of business innovation and community compassion. I wish Pest End continued success in its future endeavors.

#### CELEBRATING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIAM GRIFFIN

#### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of a trailblazing engineer for the City of Chicago, my best friend's father, Mr. William Griffin, who passed away on his 100th birthday, on October 24, 2023.

Mr. Griffin was born on October 24, 1923, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to Willie Griffin and Alma Daigre. He was raised in Chicago, Illinois, growing up in the Washington Park community. Mr. Griffin attended DuSable High School, where he excelled in classical literature and mathematics while making a name for himself as a tight end on the Black Panthers football team. Upon graduating in 1943, he continued his education at Wilson Junior College to pursue engineering.

Mr. Griffin was drafted into the United States Army as an Army Private in 1943, working his way up the ranks as a Basic Instructor, Airplane Handler, and Rifleman, until he found his niche as a Heavy Machine Gunner. Serving in the 365th Infantry, 92nd Division, Mr. Griffin operated heavy weaponry and supported infantry units to break through enemy defenses. He was honorably discharged as a well-decorated officer on February 15, 1946. His military awards and recognitions include the Good Conduct Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 2 Bronze Battle Stars, and a World War II Victory Medal.

Mr. Griffin met his life partner, Esther Murphy, a beautiful southern belle, who moved to Chicago from Sheffield, Alabama, when she rented a room in his mother's boarding house. The couple wed on March 31, 1959, and from their union had three children.

Following his Army discharge, Mr. Griffin resumed his education at the Illinois Institute of Technology, earning his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1951. He became a licensed Civil Engineer by 1957 and would go on to obtain his Structural Engineer license in 1964. Mr. Griffin began his trailblazing career in engineering for the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Mr. Griffin held numerous lead civil engineering and supervisory roles in the Bureau of Engineering, Bureau of Construction Services, and Operations Division, ultimately becoming the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Public Works for the City of Chicago in the Harold Washington Mayoral Administration.

The engineering legacy of Mr. Griffin lives on in the infrastructure of Chicago. The inner workings of the engineering systems throughout the city have felt the impact of Mr. Griffin's creativity and dedication to his craft, which traces back to him riding the L train as a child.

From his childhood he developed a deep appreciation and curiosity for urban systems

and architecture. His love for the City of Chicago is felt in every gear, beam, and buttress of the bridges and left an undeniable mark on the engineering system of one of the most visited cities in the United States.

Mr. Griffin was a community leader in the Jeffery-Yates Neighbors Community Organization. Mr. Griffin stayed active into his later years, nurturing his longtime loves such as debate, sports, classic literature, and music as a talented trumpet player.

Above all, Mr. Griffin was a committed family man. He was preceded in death by his parents and beloved wife, Esther Murphy. He is survived by their three children, Ava, Tara, and Eric; his cousin, whom he considered a brother, Elliott Daigre; his furry, four-legged family members: Ebony, Chewbacca, and Milo, as well as Kavik, Prince, Hunter, Langston, Sade, Starlight, Puffy and Friskie; and a host of cousins, dear friends, and family who we know will miss him dearly.

On a personal note, I was honored to get to know Mr. Griffin as the beloved father of my law school best friend, Tara. Mr. Griffin was one of a kind. His quick wit, robust knowledge of all things, and warm and engaging demeanor were a part of his perpetual charm that made him a true Renaissance man. Mr. Griffin excelled in everything he did—as a trailblazing engineer for the City of Chicago, a devoted husband, a self-taught handyman, and a connoisseur of classical literature, jazz, sports, and life learning. I will cherish all the wonderful memories of being in his presence. I am so grateful to Tara, Ava, and Eric for sharing their father with me. I know the legacy of Mr. Griffin will live on through the many people he impacted. We are all blessed that he lived to be 100 years old.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of William Griffin for his contributions to the engineering profession and decades of service in transforming the City of Chicago.

#### ATLANTICARE'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that we celebrate AtlantiCare, an institution deeply ingrained in the fabric of the State of New Jersey, as it marks its 125th Anniversary on November 30, 2023. Sharing the same name as the city it was founded in, AtlantiCare's journey began in 1898 as Atlantic City Hospital, known for its compassionate care of its first patient, eleven-year-old Gussie John. From those humble beginnings, AtlantiCare has blossomed into a cornerstone of healthcare excellence, serving South Jersey with an unwavering commitment to exemplary service. Today, AtlantiCare stands as a testament to the resilience and adaptability required of healthcare institutions over time. With more than 6,500 dedicated employees spread across more than one hundred locations in South Jersey, AtlantiCare continues to evolve to meet the dynamic needs of its community and patients. The numerous accolades bestowed upon AtlantiCare, including designations from The Baldrige Foundation, The

Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, the Joint Commission, and Magnet underscore the institution's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of medical care. We extend our heartfelt congratulations, paying tribute to its respected history, and acknowledging the profound impact it has had on the people of New Jersey, especially in Atlantic, Cape May, and Ocean County. God Bless AtlantiCare and God Bless the United States of America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 2, 2023*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 560, H. Res. 559, and YEA on Roll Call No. 561, H.R. 340.

#### HAMAS AND OTHER PALESTINIAN TERRORIST GROUPS INTER- NATIONAL FINANCING PREVEN- TION ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 1, 2023*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, while I agree with the sense of the Resolution that the terrorist organization Hamas must be denied finances, I align myself with an earlier version of this legislation that included language providing a humanitarian exemption for the provision of agricultural products, food, medicine, medical devices, and other similar products to the civilians living in Gaza under Hamas' rule. I will vote No because the Resolution, as offered on the House Floor, is inadequate to support the grave humanitarian needs of the civilian population in Gaza.

#### AUTOS DRIVE AMERICA 2023 DRIVE-IN

### HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 2, 2023*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the career opportunities and economic contributions international automakers operating in my home state of Georgia have made to the state and local community. Auto workers from KIA and Hyundai that build vehicles in Georgia have come to Washington, D.C., advocating for policies that enable their employers to continue investing in their communities and American operations. These hard-working men and women are sharing their stories with us—how their jobs are more important than ever as our Nation rises to meet the challenges of a 21st century economy—and how American workers employed by international automakers are driving growth and innovation.

But that leadership takes investment in American workers. Last year's economic im-

pact report from Autos Drive America found that, nationwide, international automakers employ more than 156,000 Americans, with two-thirds of those jobs in manufacturing. In Georgia, these companies employ more than 6,000 Georgians across 30 facilities, in jobs like production, engineering, technical training, and many other career areas. In fact, 45 percent of all cars and trucks made in the United States today are built by international automakers, who have increased their U.S. production by more than 85 percent in the last 25 years alone.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognized Manufacturing Month in October, let's ensure we are doing all we can in this Chamber to enable international automakers to continue to invest in the United States and create 8,888 careers in automotive manufacturing that has changed the lives and communities of those in my state.

#### HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVER- SARY OF TLC FOR KIDS SPORTS

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 2, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend TLC for Kids Sports, upon celebrating its 15th anniversary serving the Bay Area community. This outstanding achievement is a testament to the critical work that TLC for Kids Sports has accomplished to give every child the opportunity to safely participate in youth sports.

Originally founded in 2009, TLC for Kids Sports is improving local communities and youth sports by transforming youth sports facilities in underserved neighborhoods. Its work across the Bay Area—including in Antioch, Martinez, and Richmond—helps ensure that every child, no matter where they live, can enjoy the countless benefits of team sports.

TLC for Kids Sports is active in community outreach and frequently collaborates with local businesses and neighborhood volunteers, uniting participants in working toward the common goal of building a better future for our youth. Since its founding, over 5,000 volunteers have worked with TLC for Kids Sports to support communities in need and create safe environments where children can thrive.

The fields built and restored by TLC for Kids Sports are places where our youth can learn sportsmanship, hard work, and confidence, empowering them with the knowledge and skills to build their future. TLC for Kids Sports plays a vital role in improving our communities, supporting our children, and giving youth the resources and space to grow.

On behalf of the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate TLC for Kids Sports upon its 15th anniversary and extend my sincere gratitude for its years of service to the Bay Area community.

#### COMMENDING THOMAS POULTON

### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 2, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Thomas Poulton for his achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout. Thomas is a senior at Kingsway Regional High School, and he has future plans to pursue a degree in business management. Thomas's academic journey has been marked by excellence, with a particular passion for history, earning college credits through AP History classes. Outside the classroom, Thomas has been an active participant in sports, contributing to his school's cross country, winter track, and tennis teams for three years. Thomas's impressive 12-year scouting journey culminated in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. His scouting journey is marked with countless hours of community service, numerous leadership positions, and endless outdoor adventures. For his Eagle Scout Project, he built a gaga pit for a local park, a project which he planned and executed himself from beginning to end. His scouting experience has shaped him into a fine young man, emphasizing leadership, a strong moral compass, and a dedication to positive societal influence. Thomas's achievements are a source of pride for his family and his community, and I congratulate him on everything he has accomplished. God Bless Thomas and God Bless the United States of America.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVER- SARY OF DENNIS, GARTLAND, & NIERGARTH

### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 2, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Dennis, Gartland & Niergarth of Traverse City on their 50th Anniversary. A full-service accounting firm, Dennis, Gartland, & Niergarth (DGN) are committed to serving the people of Northern Michigan and improving its communities.

On October 1, 1973, the late Thomas Gartland founded the firm with an emphasis on teamwork and a focus on client success. Sticking to these founding principles, the company quickly became Northern Michigan's largest, full-service, public accounting firm.

For the past 50 years, DGN has been committed to elevating their clients, providing extraordinary attention to detail, and hands-on service to businesses and individuals in their community. DGN has expanded to boast more than 55 professionals, 2 offices, and 12 partners who serve Northern Michigan. When DGN grew, so did the list of services they provide and today DGN is ready to help from Agribusiness to estate and retirement planning. As exemplified by the staff, DGN's community-centric values are what distinguishes them in their endeavor to serve and improve the lives of those in Northern Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dennis, Gartland, & Niergarth on their 50th anniversary. I'd like to thank them for their