

The life and service of Clay Mathile have not gone unnoticed by his fellow Daytonians. Clay was a prominent businessman and philanthropist, recognized as the Citizen Legion of Honor award winner by the Presidents Club of Dayton in 2014, and the Maureen Patterson Regional Leader Award in 2019 by the Dayton Development Coalition. However, these titles meant little in comparison to Clay's role within his family as a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

I join the entire Miami Valley in mourning the loss of a remarkable man who uplifted countless others through his career and philanthropy. Dayton, the state of Ohio, and our country has lost an icon, and I have lost a friend. My heartfelt condolences are with Clay's wife Mary Ann, his children Cate and Don Laden, Tim and Lynn Mathile, Mike and Michelle Mathile, Tina Mathile, Jennifer and Pat Prikkel, his 15 grandchildren and their families; and his one great-grandchild.

HONORING MS. LORRAINE EGAN

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a Crystal Lake, Illinois native, Lorraine Egan, for her service in the United States Navy.

Following the unprovoked attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Lorraine proclaimed that she would be "joining the Navy," following in the footsteps of her father who had served in WWI. On December 8, just the day after the attack, her father took her to the Navy's recruitment center. Lorraine entered the Navy as part of the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) program, and in her words "learned to be tough in a gentle way," which she said was necessary to push back against some of the men who were less supportive of women being in the military. She was among the first 200 women to join the Navy.

The Navy sent Lorraine to Hunter College in New York where she attended nursing school before being sent to complete basic training at Naval Station Great Lakes in Lake County, Illinois. Lorraine was then deployed to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina and was involved in surgeries and delivering babies, parts of the job she loved the most. Her daughter notes that Lorraine enjoyed almost every aspect of the job, recalling that "she just loved all the work."

Former service members call her an inspiration. as not only did she have to pave the path for women to join the military, but "she had to figure out the path . . . and bring the stones." At 101 years old, Lorraine encourages young women she meets to join the military as it pays for their education, instills a strong work ethic, and teaches people to be thoughtful and care about others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Lorraine Egan for her service to this country, and her bravery to trailblaze a path for women to serve our Nation. I offer her good health and the hope that she continues to spread the lessons she has learned over her life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FOSTERING FAMILY COHESION NATIONWIDE ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Fostering Family Cohesion Nationwide Act. The legislation makes Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), child support enforcement, and foster care programs available everywhere else in our Nation also available in the Northern Mariana Islands.

My district is the only jurisdiction ineligible for such programs under Title IV of the Social Security Act. In every other part of the United States, these programs help low-income families with children achieve economic self-sufficiency, promote joint parental responsibility, and provide safe foster care placements for children who cannot remain in their homes.

The continued exclusion of our islands is not only inequitable, but also violates the agreement negotiated in the covenant that established the current political relationship between the Marianas and the United States. Section 703 of P.L. 94-241 provides that the United States will make available to the Marianas the full range of federal programs and services available to the other territories. And by failing to remedy the Marianas' exclusion from programs under Title IV, Congress is renegeing on its promise and perpetuating the unequal treatment of Americans residing in U.S. territories.

My bill, the Fostering Family Cohesion Nationwide Act, makes this long overdue correction, and upholds our nation's statutory obligation to the people of the Marianas. Each child's right to a safe, nurturing, and permanent family must be safeguarded no matter where they grow up in the United States.

I thank my colleagues who joined me in introducing this bipartisan legislation—Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. RADEWAGEN, Ms. PLASKETT, and Mr. CASE.

CONGRATULATING WEST POINT IMPLEMENT ON CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate West Point implement on a half-century of doing business.

Fifty years ago, Buddy Ternus, Francis Sand, and Erv Eisenmenger started this business that has grown significantly and evolved to meet the needs of the community through the years.

Today, Erv and his sons Scott and Chad run West Point Implement as a family business.

Over the past five decades, the business has expanded to include West Point Design and EIS, Mfg.

One of the keys to their success has been their commitment "to stay alert to change, and to lead the way for our employees and our

customers toward being the best in the business of production agriculture."

Cuming County, which is home to West Point Implement, has over 360,000 acres of farmland and is one of the top counties for cattle in Nebraska.

Consequently, West Point Implement has played a pivotal part in helping the ag economy grow in Cuming County in its years of business.

Congratulations to West Point Implement and the Eisenmenger family on reaching this milestone—here's to the next fifty years.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETTER FAMILY LIFE

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise with great honor to recognize Better Family Life on the occasion of their 40th anniversary. Endurance, faith, and unwavering commitment to service have been the cornerstones of their remarkable journey, shaping the lives of countless individuals and families across the St. Louis region.

Better Family Life's workforce development programs have provided community members with vital job skills while fostering economic empowerment and stability. Their unwavering commitment to youth, family, and clinical services has created a nurturing environment for the growth and well-being of young people.

While Better Family Life's journey began in the basement of their founders' home, it has since grown into a formidable organization, marked by significant milestones and achievements. The Better Family Life Cultural Education Center enriches our understanding of the African Diaspora through Afrikan Dance, artistic traditions classes, and the largest area Kwanzaa expo. The Business Center and Melanated Marketplace stands as a testament to the organization's dedication and impact, serving as a hub for Black education, small business empowerment, and community engagement.

As Congresswoman for Missouri's First District, I am proud of the various ways my office has been able to support Better Family Life's mission, including by securing \$3 million in congressionally directed federal funding for the Lifehouse Phase 1 initiative to help revitalize North City and support residents in securing homes. This funding is vital to sustaining the economic vibrancy of North City, and it was an honor to partner with Better Family Life to deliver meaningful federal resources for initiatives that will benefit residents across the district for years to come.

As Better Family Life celebrates this momentous milestone, I extend my deepest appreciation for their unwavering dedication and congratulate them on the tremendous impact they have had on our St. Louis community over the past four decades.

RECOGNIZING THE 39TH
ANNIVERSARY OF NOVEMBER 1984

HON. MARY GAY SCANLON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my Sikh friends in Pennsylvania and around the world to recognize the 39th anniversary of November 1984 anti-Sikh violence in India. November 1984 marks one of the darkest chapters in modern Sikh history. Sikhism traces its nearly 600 years of history to the Punjab region of India. The Sikh community has a rich history in our country, with emigration dating back 100 years. With nearly 30 million followers globally and a thriving community here in the United States, Sikhism is one of the world's major religions.

Today we are here to remember the violence which occurred in November 1984, after the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the capital territory of Delhi and most major cities of India. These killings lasted for days, and it is estimated that thousands of Sikh men, women, and children were brutally murdered in their homes and on the streets. Mr. Speaker, as a proud co-chair of the Congressional Sikh Caucus, remembering this heartbreaking violence that targeted Sikhs across India in 1984 is an important and historic step towards justice, accountability, and reconciliation and to prevent future such occurrences.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WY'EAST
TRIBAL RESOURCES RESTORA-
TION ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Wy'East Tribal Resources Restoration Act, which establishes a first-in-the-nation tribal co-management structure on the Mount Hood National Forest.

This bill directs the Forest Service to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs to protect and enhance Treaty resources within "Indian Treaty Resources Emphasis Zones," through a co-management structure. The establishment of such Zones will help meet the trust responsibilities of the United States in protecting the exercise of Tribal Treaty rights and integrate indigenous ecological knowledge as an important part of the best available scientific information used to manage land within the Zones. The co-management plan will be developed with public input, subject to all existing environmental laws and regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act. The bill also requires implementation of the Cultural Foods Obligations, which were included in the Public Lands Management Act of 2009 but have never been implemented.

The federal government forced Native Americans off of their homelands and onto reservations, and we haven't honored our promises for their treaty resources. I believe this tribal co-stewardship is an incredibly im-

portant step forward. It represents 21st century public lands management and I'm proud to lead the effort. It also helps the federal government fulfill its treaty obligations to Native American communities—a moral obligation that the federal government has never truly fulfilled.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which will return some land management authority to Native Americans who have lived on, and managed, this land since time immemorial.

CELEBRATING THE FIRST RE-
SPONDERS HONOREES AT THE
4TH ANNUAL BLUE MASS AT AS-
SUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor South Florida's first responders as they are celebrated at the fourth annual Blue Mass at Assumption Catholic Church taking place in Florida's 23rd Congressional District on November 15, 2023.

Today and every day, America's first responders remain on alert and on call whenever we need them. Putting themselves at great personal risk. They are our police officers and sheriff's deputies protecting our communities. They are our firefighters running into burning buildings or emergency medical technicians, paramedics, 911 dispatchers and other public health workers providing emergency cases. There are not enough words to explain how grateful we are to all our extraordinary brave men and women who put themselves in harm's way each day, to keep our Nation safe.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great appreciation that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring our first responders for their service and sacrifice to our communities. We owe them a great debt of gratitude.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO THE LADY DRAGONS
WATER POLO TEAM

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Southlake Carroll's Water Polo Team, the Lady Dragons.

In only their second year as a UIL program, the Southlake Carroll Lady Dragons Water Polo team has already achieved back-to-back appearances at the UIL 6A state tournament. This year, they took 2nd place at the State Championships.

The Lady Dragons finished their 2023 season as District Champions, Regional Champions, and State Runner-Up, achieving a 23-2 overall record for the season.

Congratulations to the Southlake Carroll Lady Dragons Water Polo team on an amazing season and all of their accomplishments. I look forward to cheering them on next season

and wish all graduating seniors the best of luck.

DAMON NELSON, STAFF
DIRECTOR, HPSCI

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, November 10, marked the 5-year anniversary of the passing of a beloved friend and colleague, former House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Staff Director, Damon Nelson.

Damon Nelson served his country nearly his entire life. Before working for Rep. Devin Nunes and the people of California's 22nd Congressional District, Damon was proud to have served in the United States Air Force, where he met the love of his life and future wife, Brigadier General Dana Nelson. He was a decorated veteran of the Persian gulf war, earning an Air Medal and three Air Achievement Medals.

Damon was known to be an immensely loyal colleague. He worked in the office of former Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes for over 10 years. Five years after his passing, Members and staff alike remember Damon for his hard work, boundless sense of humor, selfless commitment to mentoring others and service to the intelligence community and his country.

HONORING LINDA KAY MITROVICH

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Linda Kay Mitrovich, a beloved friend, leader and mentor.

Linda was born on May 18, 1947, in Whittier, California. She was a dedicated public servant. She served on the Poway City Council and was Deputy Mayor from 1986 through 1990.

She committed her life to the betterment of others and took on many important causes, including environmental protection and Native American sovereignty.

She played a significant role in creating the first Wildlife Corridor in California, the Coal Canyon Wildlife Reserve, which supported the ecological well-being of over twenty-two million people in Southern California. Linda also created the first national conference on Native American Sovereignty in 2000.

The California State Legislature also recognized her accomplishments by naming her Woman of the Year in 1988 and 1991.

Linda's legacy is remembered through her husband and five children, and her memory is cherished by those fortunate enough to have met her.