

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.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MAYOR
GREGORY ZILKA UPON HIS RE-
TIREMENT**

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate a dedicated educator and public servant, Mayor Gregory J. Zilka, who will be retiring after twelve years as Mayor of the City of Avon Lake. Over the course of his career, Mayor Zilka's commitment and leadership to Avon Lake has shaped it into the city it is today.

Prior to serving as Mayor of Avon Lake, Mayor Zilka worked as a social studies teacher at Avon Lake High School for thirty-five years. In 1985, he was appointed to the Avon Lake City Council where he served for twenty-six years, fourteen of which he served as President.

Mayor Zilka was first elected mayor in 2012. Since then, he has performed over 200 weddings, applied for and received \$4,000,000 in grants on behalf of the city, oversaw the construction of 600 new single-family dwellings, and saw the population of Avon Lake grow by over 3,000 people. Mayor Zilka also saw Avon Lake through many complicated issues, including the potential closing of the Ford Ohio Assembly Plant. In the end, the company remained open and announced a \$1.5 billion expansion. To help Avon Lake gain more access to Lake Erie, the Mayor oversaw the closing of Avon Lake Power Plant which had dominated the shoreline and skyline for 100 years. Mayor Zilka has also helped organize and participated in Avon Lake's year-long Bicentennial celebrations which brought about the first beer festival as well as other events for Avon Lake's citizens.

Mayor Zilka has also been an active volunteer throughout his entire life. In his early 20's, he served in the Peace Corps, where he met his wife of forty-five years. For the past fourteen years, he has been active within the Lorain County Office on Aging's Home Delivered Meals program. Additionally, he volunteers weekly for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Lorain County and has served on the board of trustees for organizations including the Lorain County Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ADAS), Cleveland State Leadership Academy, and the Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital Advisory Council, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Mayor Gregory J. Zilka of Avon Lake, Ohio. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of

Ohio, I recognize the dedication and leadership that Mayor Zilka has shown through his service to his community. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING CRIS EDWARDS

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cris Edwards of Olney, Illinois, for being named a National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Cris is the principal for Richland County Elementary School, which serves nearly 1,000 rural students. The elementary school's mission is to "develop respectful, responsible learners and leaders." Under Cris Edwards' watch, that mission is being fulfilled.

Her devotion is recognized by students, parents, and teachers alike.

The school was given the high honor of "Legacy School" by the Leader in Me program. They host "High Five Fridays" to build connections in the community. And they launched a mobile library in an old school bus to deliver books in the summer.

Cris has earned her status as a National Distinguished Principal, just as she has earned her new position as the incoming president of the Illinois Principals Association.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Cris Edwards for all she has done to provide a positive learning environment for Richland County schoolchildren.

**RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BENZIE AREA
CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS**

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (BACN) for 40 years of dedicated service and charity. BACN serves as an inspiration to the community, standing by their mission of improving the quality of life for others and lending a hand to those in need.

Founded in 1983, BACN has since performed an integral role in the Benzie Area. The group provides direct, needs-based assistance to those in the area who desperately

require it. If BACN can't provide the support necessary themselves, they always assist with a referral to those who can. Over the years as BACN grew, it began to transform from a growing charity to a vibrant organization of faithful people working to better our society.

For 40 years, the list of services that BACN offers has expanded substantially. Today, BACN is proud to provide a stocked food pantry, a large clothing center, adult education opportunities, financial assistance and so much more. BACN also partners with larger philanthropic entities in order to extend the best possible services to the Northern Michigan community. Through their collaborative efforts, no one who seeks help is turned away empty handed.

The spirit of selflessness and compassion which characterizes BACN is what makes it special. Dedicated volunteers fill many crucial roles within the BACN network, serving as coordinators, organizers, and staff in all of the different locales of service. Their commitment and support have kept BACN running efficiently these past 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate the Benzie Area Christian Neighbors for 40 outstanding years of service to the Benzie community. I'd like to thank BACN for their continued outreach and charitable programs, and I wish them the best in their future endeavors.

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, November 16, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.