

his in-laws, Alberta Baxter, David and Ruby Brown, Arthur and Ida Farria, and Jerald and Martha Warrick.

Claude was a member of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, where he was baptized in 1990 by Rev. Donald Jeanjacques, and where he held various leadership positions. Claude was also a recent recipient of various awards throughout his professional career, including Congressman TROY CARTER's Lifetime Achievement Award. Claude will be deeply missed by his co-workers, friends, and family. He has touched many lives, both near and far.

The Greater New Orleans Community has suffered the loss of a great gem. I credit much of my political successes to his guidance and support. I will forever carry his direction as I serve the constituents of LA02. May he forever rest in peace.

ALAYNA MCCALL

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alayna McCall for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Alayna has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Alayna, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alayna's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Alayna McCall on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING DOUG HOUSE FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE QUAD CITIES AFL-CIO HALL OF FAME

HON. ERIC SORENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Doug House of Rock Island, Illinois on his induction into the Quad Cities AFL-CIO Hall of Fame.

Doug has spent many years dedicated to a life of service. Whether that was showing support on the picket line to working people, joining the National Guard, or now as he's come out of retirement to be a member of my very own staff, Doug has shown what it means to be an exemplary member of our community. Doug spent time as a member of UAW Local 281, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 537 & 150, and he is a 35-year member of Laborers Local 309.

While dedicating his life to service, Doug has made it a priority to find balance with the things that matter most to him. Family always came first, but he found a way to balance his love of his work, political activism, and enjoying a home life filled with family and friends.

He has many interests including hot rods, collecting John F. Kennedy and other political memorabilia, hunting, and fishing. It is an honor to have him in as a member of my staff and community. Doug deserves all the accolades and honor from this induction into the AFL-CIO Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Doug House again formally on the honor of being inducted into the Quad Cities AFL-CIO Hall of Fame, and I join the rest of the community in thanking him for all he has done for the residents of the Illinois 17th District and beyond.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS. MAUREEN ROSARY O'DONNELL SCHEUERMANN

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an outstanding New Orleans Matriarch, Mrs. Maureen Rosary O'Donnell Scheuermann. Born in New Orleans on October 7, 1933, to the late Francis and Eunice Ohlmeyer O'Donnell, Mrs. Maureen is often referred to as a mastermind of all things in New Orleans.

Maureen was a devout and faithful Catholic and lifelong parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, located in Uptown, New Orleans. At the time of her death, Maureen was the parish's longest-tenured parishioner. Mrs. Scheuermann passed away peacefully at Touro Infirmary on Friday, October 6, 2023, the eve of her 90th birthday. Born on the Feast of the Holy Rosary, she celebrated the Feast of St. Francis only two days before gracefully transitioning.

Maureen began her career as a secretary at Loyola University where she met the love of her life, "Rags" Scheuermann, the University's Baseball coach at the time. A charming prelude to their story unfolded as she gifted him a four-leaf clover before a baseball game. The pair later married on June 20, 1959. In 1974, Rags co-founded the Delgado Community College athletic department where Maureen became the Dolphins' first fan. In the following 50 years, she would serve as a devoted mother and grandmother to three generations of Dolphins, as well as a leader in Rags' New Orleans Boosters Summer Baseball League.

Maureen's dedication to the team resulted in decades of trips to the All-American Amateur Baseball Association (AAABA) National Tournament in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, where she was named an honorary citizen. Her baseball bonds created lifelong memories and cherished friendships. Maureen's constant supporting presence at Kirsch-Rooney Stadium earned her the nickname "the First Lady of New Orleans Baseball." Maureen and Rags used the game of baseball to bestow indispensable values upon three generations of Scheuermanns.

Maureen worked as an employee of the City of New Orleans for more than thirty years where she held several titles at City Hall until her retirement in 1991. Most notably, Mrs. Scheuermann served as secretary to four Mayors: Victor H. Schiro, Maurice "Moon" Landrieu, Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial, and Sidney J. Barthelemy.

Maureen was the loving mother of Maureen, Emma, Joe (Shelly), and Ed (Stephanie) and devoted grandmother of Tyler, Nataly, Parker, and Peyton. She is also survived by her brother, Francis O'Donnell, Jr., nieces Kathy Barbazon (Clem) and Karen Meyer (Gordon), and grandnephew Brett Barbazon. Maureen was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 38 years, Louis "Rags" Scheuermann, who passed away in 1997, as well as her loving mother, her sister, Claire O'Donnell, her brother John O'Donnell, and her grandniece, Katherine Hickham.

Maureen was eternally grateful to Velma Smith, Glenda Ingram, and Wendy Cordova for their dedicated caregiving over the past nine years, as well as the physicians and staff of Touro Infirmary.

Maureen will be remembered as a light to all who knew her throughout the many seasons of her. Her motherly "MawMaw" wisdom, faith, hope, and joy touched the lives of everyone who met her. Her Funeral Mass was celebrated by New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond, retired Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes, and nine other priests, on Friday, October 13, 2023, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, in New Orleans.

On a personal note, Maureen was everyone's mother, grandmother, and best friend. When I arrived at New Orleans City Hall as a very young man, working for then, Dr. Alfred "Al" Stokes, Executive Assistant to then Mayor, Honorable Sidney J. Barthelemy, I found the most loving, caring, walking encyclopedia of everything New Orleans.

The Greater New Orleans Community has suffered the loss of an incredible gem. I am proud to say I was able to connect with her throughout my entire political career, respecting the guidance and support she gave. I am forever grateful for her friendship, love and guidance, and will forever carry her direction as I serve the Constituents of LA-02. May she forever rest in peace.

PERSECUTION OF THE BAHÁ'Í OF IRAN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the government of Iran's long, ongoing, and brutal campaign of terror against the Bahá'í continues unabated.

Of course, the government of Iran is one of the most brutal, cruel, and repressive in the world, truly one of the "worst of the worst." The victims of its terrorism abroad include entire countries threatened by the wars, proxy wars, and terrorism it directs, including in most Middle Eastern countries.

Within Iran, the regime terrorizes its own citizens—here we will remember the savage persecution of Christians, and the women blinded by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps in the protests that followed the death of Mahsa Amini. To some degree everyone living in Iran is a victim of this government. Yet we must also specifically remember the Bahá'í.

Mr. Speaker, the Bahá'í religion initially developed in Persia. Iran is home to about 300,000 Bahá'í—which makes it the largest

Bahá'í community in any country in the world. The Bahá'í International Community at the United Nations Office in Geneva published The Bahá'í of Iran—A Persecuted Community, which revealed that since the current regime took power in 1981, over 200 Bahá'ís have been executed, and more than 10,000 have been dismissed from government and university jobs on account of their religion.

In the last year, the persecution has intensified, resulting in grave human right violations. The number of arrests of Bahá'ís has only increased, and even included that of a 90-year-old man who had previously served 10 years in prison. The Bahá'í center of faith is in the city of Haifa, Israel, which the Iranian government uses as a pretext to classify Bahá'ís as Israeli spies and execute them for committing the spurious crimes of conspiring with the "Zionist regime".

Although the Iranian government persecutes all who are not Shi'a Muslims, since Bahá'í are accused of heresy and group apostasy, they are singled out for particularly savage repression. The Iranian government has denied them access to universities and even in some cases, prohibited them from graduating high school, while also consistently denying Bahá'ís the opportunity to open and own businesses.

In 1982, the Iranian government seized the Bahá'í cemeteries and holy places—and only over ten years later did it allocate them a 20,000-square-meter plot of land in which to bury their dead. As time has passed, that small parcel of land no longer suffices—and finding a place to bury loved ones has become a daunting task. Reportedly, government agents are stationed at the entrance of the cemetery to prevent visitation, and the government has taken control of the buildings used for burial ceremony activities.

In September 2023, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) reported that "Iranian authorities have arrested scores of Bahá'ís across Iran, taken them to locations that were initially undisclosed, and sentenced them to excessive jail terms as the government has attempted to restrict internal dissent in response to protests."

Mr. Speaker, it is sad to say that neither in respect of human rights of the Bahá'í or in any other respect has the government of Iran reformed or even improved its human rights record. But Congress has remained firm in their support of the Bahá'í. Since 1982 Congress has repeatedly passed resolutions expressing support for the religious freedom rights of the Bahá'í's in Iran.

The Iranian government must stop the arbitrary arrests of members of the Bahá'í community. We must continue to speak out and hold the government accountable for the destruction of life and property belonging to people of Bahá'í faith.

ALI ALCALA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ali Alcala for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Ali has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Ali, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Ali's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Ali Alcala on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

HONORING CORTEZ POLICE
SERGEANT MICHAEL MORAN

HON. LAUREN BOEBERT

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Ms. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life, sacrifice, and service of Cortez Police Sergeant Michael Moran, a true American hero who laid down his life in service to our great country and to his community. Sergeant Moran was fatally shot during a traffic stop on November 29, providing a tragic end to a life of great dedication and service.

Sergeant Moran answered the call to serve our nation as a Marine for nine years, including two tours in Iraq, before joining the Cortez Police Department in 2012. His life was marked with selflessness, courage, and love, always putting others before himself. He was a man of honor, and his presence was a source of hope and encouragement to all. His smile lit up even on the toughest days. He was known for his integrity and his mentorship of the officers who looked up to him, instilling in each of them the value of trust. Those close to him say they will remember him for his humor and dedication to serving his community. Sergeant Moran was a respected leader and a true friend, always ready to lend an ear or offer words of encouragement. While Sergeant Moran's passion was law enforcement, his top priority was always his family, and his passing tragically leaves behind two daughters and countless friends and family.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Moran was an incredible gift to this world and a shining example for all Americans. He touched countless lives and was a blessing to everyone who had the honor of knowing him. His career was marked with an unwavering willingness to put everything on the line in service to our nation and the safety of his community. I urge all Americans to join me in honoring Cortez Police Sergeant Michael Moran for his selfless sacrifice and service to his fellow Americans. Sergeant Moran dedicated his life to serving others. His passing is an immeasurable loss for us all, and he was the best that Colorado's Third Congressional District had to offer.

RECOGNIZING THE JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MILITARY LOUNGE

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, when I'm traveling to and from my home in Florida, it al-

ways lifts my heart to see men and women in uniform at the airport. We have all seen those incredible videos . . . the moment when a deployed service member comes home to the loving embrace of a child or a spouse. Mr. Speaker, tell me you don't get choked up when you see one of those videos. Our Nation's armed forces are full of heroes who go where duty calls, and so, whether headed to deployment, or making their way home, you are know they are defending our great freedoms.

That's why today, I stand before you to recognize the new Jacksonville International Airport Military Lounge. This is a place where service men and women can feel at home, even when they are headed for a long road ahead.

This home away from home for active-duty military includes all the amenities of home, and a very special display of the flags of all branches of the military, and the POW/MIA flag, to remember those who may never come home again.

This Military Lounge is a reality due to the dedication of the North Jacksonville Rotary Club, the Veterans Council of Duval County, the NE Florida Green Beret Chapter 88 of the U.S. Army Special Forces Association. Several other veterans-civic-governmental organizations assisted in recruiting volunteers to staff the lounge.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the Jacksonville International Airport on the grand opening of their new Military Lounge and thank them for their ongoing efforts to help our veterans, active-duty military, and their families.

ANGEL NOEMI RODRIGUEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Angel Noemi Rodriguez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Angel has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Angel, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Angel's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Angel Noemi Rodriguez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR FRANK KUNTZ

HON. KIM SCHRIER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the public service and accomplishments of Mayor Frank Kuntz, who for the past 12 years has served as the Mayor of Wenatchee, Washington.