

HONORING JENNIFER MOORE

**HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennifer Moore as part of Women's History Month.

Jennifer has dedicated her life to representing people who have been injured as a result of medical negligence, harmful drugs and devices, and other personal injuries. As the founder of her own law firm, she never backs down from a fight and is always willing to give a voice to the voiceless. I thank Jennifer for her tireless advocacy in our community.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE PAY EQUITY FOR ALL ACT OF 2023****HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Pay Equity for All Act of 2023, which would help reduce the gender and racial pay gap by prohibiting employers from asking job applicants for their salary history before making a job or salary offer. Even though many employers may not intentionally discriminate against applicants or employees based on gender, race or ethnicity, setting wages based on salary history can reinforce the wage gap. Members of historically disadvantaged groups often start their careers with unfair and artificially low wages compared to their white male counterparts, and the disparities are compounded from job to job throughout their careers. In the last two Congresses, the House has passed this bill as part of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

This bill would help ensure that salaries are based on skills and merit, not on salary history, by assessing penalties against employers that ask applicants for their salary history during the interview process or as a condition of employment. It would also provide job applicants and employees with a private right of action against employers that violate these provisions.

There is much work to be done to address the wage gap. This bill would be an important step in reducing the wage gap.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

**HONORING BRENDA SANTANA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH****HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Brenda Santana was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and relocated to Florida as an adult. She learned English as a second language while in school. Brenda loves helping people learn and understand the Spanish language. Her dedica-

tion won her several poetry awards. At school, she could be found tutoring her fellow students on Spanish grammar and sentence composition. Today, Brenda lends her skills to the Orange County Library System as a technology trainer. Her students ached to learn Spanish and Brenda instituted Spanish language classes at the Southeast Branch in 2017. During the pandemic, Brenda offered a new way to learn with virtual learning. Students of all ages attend her classes. Brenda's pioneering spirit expanded all over the county as she trained other OCLS staff to offer more online classes.

In 2022, the Southeast Branch saw an average of 36 students per class, the highest attendance record in OCLS history. Brenda's commitment to the community has been evident in her response to customer feedback as she prioritizes their needs.

As a technology trainer, Brenda has an open-door policy in between classes to assist students with tech-related questions. Brenda focuses on her students by hosting life skill tech classes, such as assistive technology like using the GPS feature on their phones. In these workshops, students are provided a hands-on experience using the tools and devices to boost their quality of life. In January alone, the overall attendance for her computer classes was 377.

Brenda Santana has received positive praise and feedback from her students regarding the way she responds to their suggestions and feedback. She continues to evaluate the needs of the community and provide options that inspire and change lives.

**RECOGNIZING DR. JOHN RUGGE AS THE 34TH ANNUAL J. WALTER JUCKETT AWARD HONOREE****HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Dr. John Rugge, this year's recipient of the Annual J. Walter Juckett Community Service Award. Dr. Rugge is the founder of Hudson Headwaters Health Network, a community of 21 health centers dedicated to providing medical services to communities across Upstate New York and the North Country.

Dr. Rugge began work as a supervising physician at the Glens Falls Hospital in 1974. He originally intended to stay at the post for only six months, but when he noticed the need for consistent medical care in many North Country communities, he realized he had found his life's calling. That year, he established the Hudson Headwaters Health Network, and today, the network provides medical services to over 150,000 patients in Northeastern New York.

Under Dr. Rugge's dutiful leadership, Hudson Headwaters quickly became an example for other medical providers. Over the course of his career, he partnered with policymakers from over 40 different government advisory panels, task forces, and councils to address how best to improve the quality of healthcare available to underserved communities across the country.

Dr. Rugge's dedication to his community and passion for providing accessible medical

care have made him a pillar of Upstate New York. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, it is my honor to celebrate the 34th Annual J. Walter Juckett Community Service Award recipient, Dr. John Rugge.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE SALARY TRANSPARENCY ACT****HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Salary Transparency Act, which would require employers to provide the salary range for jobs in advertisements and interviews and to existing employees.

Several states have enacted laws relating to salary range disclosure, and the federal government should follow their lead and make this a nationwide requirement. Salary transparency is an important tool to combat the gender and race wage gap. Salary secrecy facilitates both intentional and unintentional pay discrimination and perpetuates the wage gap.

Studies have consistently shown that when women negotiate for their salaries, they negotiate for less than similarly situated men. Frequently, this is because the salary they request is a certain percentage higher than their current salary. Because women on average make less than men, this practice perpetuates the wage gap. The same is true for people of color, who earn less on average than their white counterparts. Requiring employers to disclose the salary range for a position will help eliminate this harmful portion of the negotiation and lead to a reduction in the wage gap for women and minorities.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

**RECOGNIZING PATTI GARTLAND****HON. TOM EMMER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Patti Gartland. Patti is retiring this May from her role as president of the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation.

Patti has led the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation (GSDC) for the past 10 years. During that time, she oversaw the considerable economic expansion of the Greater St. Cloud region. Part of her efforts to increase the visibility of the area included the launch of GreaterStCloudJobSpot.com, a local job board that is updated daily with thousands of local jobs. She was also integral to the development of St. Cloud Shines, a digital marketing initiative that has attracted more than 170 million impressions online.

Before joining the GSDC, Patti served as the city administrator for Sartell for nearly 12 years, where she helped coordinate emergency response efforts following the tragic paper mill explosion. Prior to that, Patti worked for the City of St. Cloud for 15 years, the last 13 of which she served as the city's planning director. Since 2014, Patti has been a member

of the Metropolitan Airports Commission, serving as its vice chair. In this role, she has continued to advocate for our community and was partially responsible for creating the St. Cloud Regional Airport Authority, expanding service to our region.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Patti for many years. I thank Patti, for the incredible impact she has had on the Greater St. Cloud region. On behalf of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District, I wish her all the best and hope she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.

#### HONORING REBECCA JACKSON

#### HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rebecca Jackson as part of Women's History Month.

In 1998, Rebecca Jackson made history as the first woman elected Jefferson County judge executive. Her decades-long commitment to Louisville as an educator, activist, and public servant is nothing short of inspirational. I thank Rebecca for her service to our community.

#### CELEBRATING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE IN SERVICE OF VETERAN HAROLD WILLIAMS

#### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Army Technical Sergeant Harold Williams' 100 years of life and honor his illustrious military career.

As a young man, Harold dropped out of school and began working to help support his family during the Great Depression. In 1942, he enlisted in the Army and served in the 1st Infantry Division of the 62nd Armored Field Battalion as a forward observer and a radio operator. During his military service, he participated in both the African and European Theaters of war. Notably, Harold fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was among the first wave of young Americans to storm the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. This act of bravery at Normandy helped turn the tide against the Nazis.

During his remarkable military career, Harold received many recognitions for his service. He earned both the American Theatre and European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Campaign Medals, as well as an Army Occupation-Germany Medal, a Republic of France Certificate, and a Presidential Unit Citation. Following the end of World War II, Harold retired from active-duty service and started his second career working for the United States Postal Service. He also earned his high school diploma in 2021 and was inducted into the New York Senate's Veterans Hall of Fame a year later at the age of 99.

Harold's life is a shining example of service for all Americans. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored to celebrate a

decorated American veteran's 100th year of life.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF NOAH DANIELS

#### HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of a true American patriot, Mr. Noah Daniels.

Born during the post-Great War peace, Mr. Daniels lived a quiet life until World War II began. Wanting to serve, Mr. Daniels desired to join the military, but at his mother's direction, he entered tech school.

For hands-on training, Mr. Daniels was sent to Ft. Knox where he later entered the civil service. This proved fortuitous, as Mr. Daniels was instrumental in preparing General Patton's tanks to secure a victory over Germany's feared Desert Fox, Rommel.

Following his time at Ft. Knox, Mr. Daniels joined the Navy and then the Coast Guard, serving throughout North America and the Pacific on several ships, including the USS *Ingham*.

Notably, during his time in the Coast Guard, Mr. Daniels designed the 'chain stop' to help with servicing the marker buoys in inland waterways—a design later patented by the Coast Guard and used throughout the U.S. fleet. The ingenuity and work ethic necessary to create the chain stop led to Mr. Daniels' promotion to First Class Petty Officer.

After completing his military service in 1964, Mr. Daniels moved to Central Florida where he and his family live today. Mr. Daniels is the proud father of former Congresswoman Sandy Adams, a good friend to Katie and I, who previously served in the Florida House of Representatives and the United States Air Force.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Noah Daniels, a man of renowned honor, courage, and patriotism as he approaches his 100th birthday on June 30, 2023. May his next trip around the sun be his best one yet.

Happy birthday, my friend.

#### HONORING CRYSTAL BETHEA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Crystal Bethea, CEO and franchisor of C3 Wellness Spa, is a loving wife to Marcus Bethea, CFO to C3, and proud mother to their daughter, Aryes Marie. She's an Army veteran dedicated to giving back to the Orlando/Kissimmee communities and empowering its members to live healthy, active lives.

Bethea is a licensed cosmetologist for over 20 years and a medical massage therapist with over 25 certifications that helped master her craft. She is passionate about holistic health and has seen its positive impacts on

herself and her family. This has motivated her to write and teach about natural alternatives for a healthier lifestyle. Bethea feels it is her life's purpose to continue to spread holistic wellness knowledge and practices nationwide to families and communities.

Bethea is grateful to have two C3 Wellness Spa locations and has created a franchise from their holistic brand concept to expand nationwide. They are now proud members of the 4 percent of Black-owned franchises in America.

Inspired by a long line of nurses and veterans in her family, Bethea served in the United States Army. She is a soror of Kappa Epsilon Psi Military Sorority Inc., an organization of dedicated, elite professional women being of service. Bethea has served on its national paraphernalia staff and she now serves as treasurer of the organization's Orlando cluster. Their efforts include feeding the unhoused, assisting with community events, and providing supplies for the youth.

Bethea is a trustee of the Florida Association of Veteran-Owned Businesses, which supports and advocates for veteran entrepreneurs. She was recently awarded the Eagle Award as leadership chair for the Osceola Chamber of Commerce's Poinciana Area Council. They best exemplified the Chamber's mission, vision, and values throughout the year providing business connections, scholarships, and school supplies to local teens. Bethea is also a platinum sponsor of the Association of Poinciana Villages and a longtime volunteer for Miles of Help Through Christ.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF NORTH COUNTY CIVIL SERVANT COLONEL JOAN "JOHNNIE" PANTANELLI

#### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the incredible life and legacy of Colonel Joan "Johnnie" Pantanelli. Colonel Pantanelli was a lifelong civil servant and a dedicated leader in the Civil Air Patrol, as well as a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal for her fortitude of spirit.

Colonel Pantanelli was a trailblazer for women in civil service. She began her career in the Marine Corps Reserves in 1944 and dedicated the rest of her life to public service. Colonel Pantanelli went on to join the Civil Air Patrol and spent the next 80 years of her life working towards fulfilling its mission of serving communities, saving lives, and shaping futures. In 2015, she was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for her service as a World War II mission observer who flew coastal patrol missions in search of German submarines.

Moving up in the ranks of the Civil Air Patrol, she earned the titles of Squadron Commander and Colonel. Colonel Pantanelli completed each of the five levels in the Civil Air Patrol Training and Education program and also held the rating of "Master" in the Command and Cadet Program specialty tracks. Her achievements eventually led to the squadron she once served in being renamed in her honor, the Colonel Johnnie Pantanelli Composite Squadron.