

was always looking for common ground with his ultimate goal being the betterment of Buena Vista. He retired as Mayor in 2020 and passed the baton to his brother, Mayor Kevin Brown, continuing the family tradition of public service. Mayor Brown's propensity for service did not stop at the Mayor's Office. He was a community specialist with the West Central Georgia Community Action Council and a program coordinator with The Student Transition and Recovery Program (STAR) Program at the Macon County Board of Education. Mayor Brown was also a member of the American Legion Post 309 and the Mayor of Georgia Committee. The great agricultural chemist George Washington Carver once said that "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mayor Ralph Brown was concerned about the "least of these" during his life and made that passion his life's work.

But more than that, he was driven by his faith. God ordered the steps of his life. He was a dedicated member of the Poplar Spring Baptist Church and a member of a weekly bible study group—(Men Talk).

On a personal note, Mayor Brown was my friend of long standing. He never told me what I wanted to hear, but he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will miss his wise advice and sage counsel. Mayor Brown accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the support of his family including his beloved mother, Marie Fudge Brown; his children, Leisha Hunter; Lakisha Hunter Echols; and April Brown-Swan; and a host of family and friends who will miss him deeply.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 765,000 constituents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to Mayor Ralph T. Brown, Jr. and in extending our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement. Moreover, we pray that we will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith, and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead. To God be the Glory for the life and legacy of Mayor Ralph T. Brown, Jr.

COMMEMORATING THE ARTISTIC
ACHIEVEMENT OF GASPAR
ENRÍQUEZ

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to praise the artistic achievements of Gaspar Enríquez, a native El Pasoan who masterfully captures our borderland heritage and culture.

Gaspar was born in El Paso's historic Segundo Barrio. His artistic style is heavily influenced by his neighborhood, the place that has been the starting point on the journey northward for thousands of families coming from Mexico since the 1880s. He pays homage to the vibrancy of Segundo Barrio's history and development of our rich Chicano culture. Gaspar's art has been exhibited from the

Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. to the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture in California. Thousands of people across the country have been able to appreciate the unique beauty of our community and history because of his masterful talent.

In addition to inspiring many of us through his art, he also has inspired younger generations of El Pasoans through his teaching at Bowie High School for over 30 years. Gaspar makes a difference everyday by fostering his student's abilities to express themselves through art.

Today, it is my privilege to honor Gaspar Enríquez and the magic he has produced throughout his prolific career and thank him for using his talent to reveal the beauty of our community.

HONORING COMMISSIONER JAMES
HOWELL

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Howell, a dedicated public servant, who has gone above and beyond for the people of Mercedes, Texas.

The city of Mercedes, Texas is home to over 16,000 residents who are served, in part, by Mr. Howell as Place 1 City Commissioner. For the last three years, Mr. Howell has exemplified an unwavering commitment to the well-being and safety of our community while supporting its fast growth. Recently, the city of Mercedes has been given an A+ rating of their credit score and has taken action to address law enforcement vulnerabilities in schools. Mr. Howell has continued to work on solutions to the issues facing our community, focusing on hiring additional officers to protect the students and teachers of Mercedes.

Before his election to public office, Commissioner Howell worked to uplift young people and push them to reach their full potential, including during his stint as a Strength & Conditioning Coach for the St. Louis Cardinals. He also helped South Texas in the real estate industry, ensuring those he worked with could find a place to call home. Commissioner Howell has aided Mercedes in making substantial strides towards improvements in infrastructure and economic growth. With his innovative attitude and love for his community, Commissioner Howell has inspired people in Mercedes to work hard and dream big. As a volunteer firefighter, coach and educator, he has learned and exemplified what it means to step up and fight as a leader in Mercedes and for the entire Rio Grande Valley. From his education at the University of Texas Pan-American to his journey as a Ph.D. student, Mr. Howell has exemplified the importance of education and never giving up on the pursuit of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, Commissioner Jacob Howell, the City of Mercedes, and all our public officials who dedicate their lives to our amazing communities have my greatest thanks. I have no doubt that Commissioner Howell and all people of Mercedes will continue in their hard and tireless work to provide significant results for all Mercedes residents, and I am forever thankful for their service to our community.

HONORING JANICE BARRY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and exemplary life of public service of Janice Barry, who passed away on February 19, 2023.

Born in Casper, Wyoming in 1944, Janice spent her childhood outdoors, skiing, skating, and riding horses. She moved west to California to attend Occidental College, graduating in 1966 to pursue a degree in medicine from the University of Southern California. While in medical school, she met her husband Peter, to whom she was married for 50 years.

Janice and Peter traveled extensively after her graduation from medical school. After a short stint in the Bay Area, they relocated to Anchorage, Alaska where Janice worked at the Teamsters Clinic. Following this, they moved to Panama to provide public health services at Gorgas Hospital.

In 1979, the family moved to Ross, California, and Janice opened her internal medicine practice, which she ran for 50 years until her retirement in 2020. She also was a physician for the Marin County Jail for 15 years. In addition, she traveled to Guatemala numerous times as a medical volunteer.

Balancing motherhood and her full-time practice, Janice remained active, hiking, and running through Marin's watershed trails. Her love of the outdoors translated into conservation work that she pursued through her presidency of the Tamalpais Conservation Club and efforts to preserve Bald Hill, which she accomplished after three decades raising funds for its purchase.

Beyond her full-time commitment to caring for the community's health, Janice completed marathons and biking events, traveled the globe, and made everything from wrapping paper to chocolate truffles from scratch. She was known for her beautiful landscape paintings, knowledge of wildlife, and deep compassion. Janice leaves behind her husband Peter; her brother, Gary Brown; and her children, Christopher, Piers, Hillary, and Andrew.

Mr. Speaker, Janice Barry exemplifies the best traits for public service through a multitude of professional and volunteer contributions. While she will be greatly missed, her legacy will endure through the positive impacts she had on communities across the globe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN GALLEG0

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. GALLEG0. Mr. Speaker, on March 24, 2023, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call No. 161 in opposition to the so-called Parents Bill of Rights Act, H.R. 5.

The bill is just another example of extremist attacks on public schools. It does nothing to meaningfully support the engagement parents already have with their children's education and imposes unfunded and burdensome mandates to already underfunded schools. It sows

unnecessary distrust in educators and librarians and will only lead to more teacher shortages and book banning.

Further, there are specific provisions that would make already marginalized children feel less safe. It requires school staff to “out” trans and queer youth, even if it would put that child in great personal danger, and it prohibits school mental health professionals from doing a mental health evaluation without active parental consent, even if that means delaying lifesaving intervention or if the child is experiencing abuse in their own home.

This harmful bill puts politics and extremist, right-wing talking points over parents, students, and educators. That is why I am opposed to H.R. 5.

HONORING THE BIRTH DATE OF THE REBBE AND REMEMBERING HIS LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and leadership of Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, a global spiritual leader known universally as the Rebbe, and head of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement.

The Rebbe was born in 1902, and lived through the darkest periods of history, the evils of Russian communism, and the horrors of Nazi Germany. In 1941, the Rebbe and his wife Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka, arrived safely on the shores of the United States, where he worked tirelessly to rebuild and guide a demoralized world Jewry after the Holocaust.

With brilliant Talmudic and Hasidic scholarship, deep insight into the human condition, and his love for all of God’s creatures the Rebbe exemplified an ideal and value that we need today: give of ourselves selflessly for the betterment of those around us.

The Rebbe encouraged rabbinical students to travel across the country to visit Jewish farmers, U.S. servicemen, and those isolated from their families or larger communities. This includes Ellsworth Air Force Base, and cities and towns across South Dakota. The rabbinical students sent by the Rebbe are often the only Jewish connection locals have with their faith.

The Rebbe urged all people to become ambassadors for goodness and kindness and explained that education must not be limited to the academics needed for making a good living, but rather focus on the ethics, morals, and values that have always been the basis of decent societies.

One result of the Rebbe’s leadership is the Chabad-Lubavitch movement, which, by following his teachings and example, became the world’s largest Jewish educational organization. Today, there are more than 3,500 permanent Chabad-Lubavitch centers providing educational, religious, and humanitarian programming in all 50 States and 109 countries around the world. It is thanks to the Rebbe’s vision that our state has its first rabbi in almost forty years, with the establishment of the Chabad Jewish Center of South Dakota.

The Rebbe extolled America’s unique role as a global superpower and had meaningful

relationships with several of our nation’s leaders who saw him as the moral guide of so many. For the Rebbe, America is a beacon of light to be utilized in influencing the betterment of all humanity, and he often pointed to the words in God we trust enshrined on our currency as a defining element of the great American story.

For more than four decades, every U.S. president declared the annual observance of Education and Sharing Day in honor of the anniversary of the Rebbe’s birth, and in recognition of his contributions to the betterment of moral education for all people. It is to the eternal merit of our country and this august body that we honored the Rebbe’s outstanding and enduring contributions toward world education, morality, and acts of charity by awarding him the Congressional Gold Medal.

Education and Sharing Day represents an excellent opportunity for us to reflect on the Rebbe’s vision and leadership, and to take his teachings to heart, that starting with moral education, we each do our part to increase in goodness and kindness and bring the world to a state of peace for all people.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CLAY PARKER DAVIS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my closest long-time friends, Clay Parker Davis, upon his retirement from The Center for Rural Development’s Board of Directors in Somerset, Kentucky.

When I embarked on a mission to establish The Center for Rural Development (The Center) in southeastern Kentucky, Clay was one of the first local leaders that we recruited to help advise the board on industrial development and financial issues in our rural region. Clay was the founding Board Chairman when The Center opened in 1996 and has remained a dedicated advisor for more than 25 years. The Center was designed to launch innovative programs in leadership, economic development, education, advanced telecommunications, technology improvements and public safety training, while also serving as a venue for performing arts and cultural events in the community. The Center is now an iconic centerpiece of southeastern Kentucky, thanks to the innovative leadership of Clay Davis.

In addition to his service at The Center, Clay’s expertise has been coveted by a number of Kentucky organizations and he has worn several hats, including Citizens National Bank President/CEO for 35 years, First National Bank and Trust Executive Vice President in Georgetown, YMCA President in Somerset, Kentucky Bankers Association Past President, Somerset-Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Somerset, and the Somerset-Pulaski County Industrial Foundation, among others.

When I consider the individuals who made the biggest impact in southern and eastern Kentucky over the last four decades, I count Clay Davis among those who invested a great wealth of wisdom and worked tirelessly to make our region a better place to live. I want

to personally express my deepest gratitude for his loyal friendship, trusted advice, and courageous leadership over the years. Recently, Clay has been in a valiant battle for his health, and I’d like to close with this blessing on his behalf from Numbers 6:24–26: “May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, on March 30, 2023, I regrettably entered my vote incorrectly for rollcall No. 174, an amendment to H.R. 1.

I mistakenly voted NAY when I intended to vote YEA.

RECOGNIZING THE POPE FRANCIS PREPARATORY SCHOOL BOYS ICE HOCKEY TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2023

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Pope Francis Preparatory School Boys Ice Hockey Team on winning the 2023 U.S.A. Hockey High School Division I National Championship. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for the hard work and dedication of these exemplary athletes and coaches. Despite the countless challenges posed by this unprecedented season, the perseverance and commitment to success demonstrated throughout the year led their team to victory on the biggest stage in high school hockey.

The 2023 U.S.A. Hockey High School Division I Tournament brought 12 of the most elite high school hockey teams from across the country to compete for this year’s National Championship. Members of the Pope Francis Boys Ice Hockey Team not only performed with exceptional mental and physical fortitude, but also displayed remarkable sportsmanship and character on their path to victory. They represented the First District of Massachusetts with great honor and distinction, and I am confident that the lessons learned during this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will serve these young men well in their future endeavors.

The Pope Francis Boys Ice Hockey Team was led by their Head Coach, Mickey Foley, who has provided crucial guidance and instrumental mentorship to his young athletes both on and off the ice. Coach Foley was assisted by Assistant Coach Ryan Cloonan, Manager Kim O’Leary and the victorious student athletes who are Matthew Bolduc, Zachary Buffone, Joseph DiMichele, Patrick Fitzgerald, Colin Foyle, Joshua Iby, Jacob Jarrell, Mossey Kearney, Wyatt Kenyon, Vincent Maggi, Michael McGrath, Ryan O’Leary, Sean O’Leary, Nick Petkovich, Jacob Petrin, Nicholas Richie, Bryce Russ, Dillon Shea, CJ Watroba, and Wade Wegryn.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to once again acknowledge the Pope Francis Preparatory