

15 counties across northeast North Carolina. What started as a small, humble operation has become an essential food source for the region. The food bank is well on its way to becoming a "nutrition bank," as it now boasts a newly expanded facility, including a Teaching Kitchen.

On Wednesday, April 5, 2023, the Food Bank hosted a 40th-anniversary celebration for the community, which included a tour of the new facility, food to enjoy, and the return of their renowned Sort-A-Rama food packing competition: "Pack Madness." The competition consisted of twelve teams bagging up as many apples as possible in under 45 minutes—some healthy competition is always good when it ultimately helps feed our local communities.

The Food Bank of the Albemarle and its volunteers have made it their mission to help anyone in need, and northeastern North Carolina is better because of it.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Food Bank of the Albemarle on its 40 years of service. I know volunteers will continue their phenomenal work, and I cannot wait for them to celebrate another 40 years of service to the region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call votes 193 and 194, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "AYE."

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF U.S. ARMY MASTER SERGEANT, LOUIS GRAZIANO

HON. ERIC BURLISON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the World War II achievements of U.S. Army Master Sergeant, Retired, Louis Graziano who is celebrating his 100th birthday this year.

Mr. Graziano joined the U.S. Army in January 1943. After his basic training, he made the Atlantic crossing to the United Kingdom on the Queen Mary with 16,000 other American troops. A major storm hit during the crossing and nearly capsized the ship about 700 miles off the coast of Scotland. Once safely ashore, he boarded a train for Camp Weston in Crewe, England, where he was placed in Headquarters OISE Section Command Z to continue his combat training. While there, he was approached by a general who sent him to London on a special mission for the Army. To this day, Mr. Graziano has not revealed the contents of this classified mission to anyone.

Returning from London after six weeks, Mr. Graziano was made a Utilities-NCO Sergeant overseeing 35 men who were tasked with erecting accommodations for the large number of arriving troops. This effort earned him the nickname, the "Mayor of Tent City."

Mr. Graziano's next assignment was to travel 700 miles south to board landing ships that would take him and his fellow soldiers across the English Channel for a coming invasion. Little did Mr. Graziano know that he would be landing in the third wave on Omaha Beach in Normandy, as part of history's largest seaborne invasion. Facing machine gun fire as he drove his gasoline truck off the LST, he and those with him scrambled to the limited safety of a cliff, only to take fire from German troops from a cliff-side bunker. Mr. Graziano smartly grabbed a flamethrower and set fire to the grass under the bunker forcing the Germans out of its protection.

Mr. Graziano later suffered severe frostbite during the Battle of the Bulge and spent three weeks recovering in an infirmary avoiding the amputation of both feet. Mr. Graziano subsequently landed in France where his unit set up Special Headquarters Command in Reims, where he oversaw maintenance of all the facilities. While there, he was privileged to witness the historic occasion of Germany's unconditional surrender in Europe, signing the German Instrument of Surrender at General Eisenhower's Headquarters on May 7, 1945.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Master Sergeant Graziano, a brave hero and a great American, for his commitment to freedom. Without brave men like him, our world would look much different today. Please join me in thanking him for his brave contributions to America.

RECOGNIZING DR. DOON GIBBS, BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LAB

HON. NICK LaLOTA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Mr. LaLOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding leadership of Dr. Doon Gibbs, who has dedicated his 40-year career at Brookhaven National Laboratory to advance science and technology to secure our Nation's future.

Brookhaven National Laboratory is one of 17 national laboratories overseen and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. The Lab has yielded seven Nobel Prize-winning discoveries and countless advances in science, transformative technology, and pioneering research.

Dr. Gibbs joined Brookhaven National Laboratory as an assistant physicist in 1983 and became the Director in 2013. Under his leadership, construction of the National Synchrotron Light Source II was completed on time, under budget, and with increased scope. Dr. Gibbs was also instrumental in overseeing the design and construction of the Lab's Center for Functional Nanomaterials.

Dr. Gibbs's vision and leadership has enabled our nation's scientists to efficiently address challenges that are of critical importance to our national security. I thank Dr. Gibbs for his many years of service at Brookhaven National Laboratory and I wish him the best in his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE HARDIN SIMMONS COWBOY BAND

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Hardin Simmons Cowboy Band from West Texas.

The Cowboy Band has represented Abilene in 42 states and 17 countries. They have been a pivotal staple in countless celebrations and exciting events, including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, six Presidential Inaugural Parades, 11 Gubernatorial Parades, and Texas' Cotton Bowl Parade.

Regardless of where they play, I'm thankful that these God-fearing, freedom-loving young men and women will always call West Texas home.

Congratulations to Hardin Simmons University and its beloved Cowboy Band for reaching this important milestone. God bless and go West Texas.

FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS DE- VELOPMENT CENTER (FSBDC) AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNI- VERSITY

HON. MARIA ELVIRA SALAZAR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Ms. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, Florida International University (FIU) is one of the top universities in the Nation, and the presence of the Florida Small Business Development Center (FSBDC) at FIU has had a great impact on the South Florida economy. Established under FIU's College of Business in 2014, the Center is a team of highly experienced business consultants providing assistance and training to entrepreneurs and business owners in Miami-Dade County to help them start, grow, and succeed.

It is vital that individuals starting a business have access to resources that will help ensure their long-term success. The FSBDC at FIU works one-on-one with Miami-Dade County small businesses providing startup assistance, access to capital, marketing, financial management, international trade, human resources, and business strategy advising.

Since its inception in 2014, the FSBDC at FIU has delivered more than 112,900 hours of consulting to 6,964 Miami-Dade County small businesses, resulting in business owners securing over \$425 million in capital, securing \$287.5 million in government contracts, increasing sales by \$379.2 million, impacting 28,829 jobs, and launching 415 new businesses. In my district alone, the Florida SBDC at FIU provided 3,859 consulting hours to 490 local small businesses in 2022. Additionally, last year the center assisted entrepreneurs in Florida's 27th Congressional district to launch 25 new businesses; secure \$23.5 million in capital; and obtain \$18.9 million in government contracts.

On April 10, 2023 the U.S. Small Business Administration announced the Center as the

winner of the 2023 Small Business Development Center Excellence and Innovation Award, which recognizes the country's top small business center. Congratulations to everyone who has contributed to the success of the Center. They are incredibly deserving of this award.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Infertility Awareness Week. Started in 1989, we salute the parents, doctors, researchers, and others for working to destigmatize infertility and bring awareness to the many barriers people face when trying to start and build their families.

Most Americans are not aware that approximately one in five Americans are impacted by infertility. The disease affects both men and women of all races, religious backgrounds, and economic status.

Through the revolutionary contributions of research scientists and considerable medical advancements, fertility treatments have vastly improved since the first successful in vitro fertilization pregnancy and live birth occurred in 1978. Such advancements include early infertility detection through detailed and data-driven testing, advanced egg-freezing technology, and progressive procedures that allow young cancer patients to preserve their fertility prior to undergoing lifesaving chemotherapy treatments. Organizations like RESOLVE: the National Infertility Association advocate for millions of individuals and couples in this country who need medical assistance to have a family. Other groups, such as the Military Family Building Coalition (MFBC), have focused on raising awareness for active duty servicemembers and their spouses facing unique challenges with family building. They are actively working to bring awareness to these unique challenges and advance laws and policies that will help our servicemembers sacrificing for our country achieve their dream of building or expanding their own family. The Alliance for Fertility Preservation stresses the importance of affordable fertility preservation options for individuals undergoing cancer treatment. In fact, in the absence of comprehensive and reliable fertility preservation and family building healthcare coverage, the option of having children may not otherwise be available for millions of Americans without the financial assistance of organizations like RESOLVE, AFP, and MFBC, and countless other worthwhile organizations.

While advancements have been a substantial step forward for family building, significant medical, financial, and health equity barriers still exist for others who require medical assistance to combat infertility.

During this National Infertility Awareness Week, I call on my colleagues in Congress to do more to remove many of the barriers that currently exist for those experiencing infertility challenges in their pursuit of having a child. The ability to have children and the timing of building a family is a basic human right, and thus we must work together to pass legislation to create a path for these American families.

PROCLAMATION ON “ENDJEWHATREDDAY”

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation on “EndJewHatredDay.”

Whereas, hate crimes targeting the Jewish community continue to rise in the United States, we must strongly condemn any and all acts of antisemitism; and

Whereas, April 29, 2023, marks the recognition of the second annual “EndJewHatredDay,” where individuals throughout the United States unite to end all forms of antisemitism and bigotry towards the Jewish community; and

Whereas, we must all commit to protect the Jewish community and respect Jewish culture as a crucial element of America's religious freedoms; and

Whereas, “EndJewHatredDay” shall serve as a day where we mourn the trauma and history of hatred against the Jewish people and vow for these actions to “never again” be repeated.

Proclaimed, that I, Congressman DOUG LAMBORN and the 5th Congressional District of Colorado shall wholeheartedly condemn antisemitism in all forms and declare every April 29 to be “EndJewHatredDay.”

HONORING THE 48 YEARS OF SERVICE OF SHERIFF PATRICK A. RUSSO

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary service of Sheriff Patrick A. Russo. Sheriff Russo has spent the past 48 years protecting his local community with both the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office and the Troy Police Department.

Sheriff Russo spent the first 10 years of his career working as a police officer in the Troy Police Department before being promoted to a Uniformed Sergeant. Ten years later, he was promoted once more to the role of Detective Sergeant, where he served as the head of the Special Operations Section's Narcotics unit. In this role, Sheriff Russo supervised all narcotic investigations and oversaw a multi-jurisdictional task force, which coordinated operations with local, state, and federal agencies.

Following his time with the Troy Police Department, Sheriff Russo joined the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office and served as county Undersecretary for 19 years before being elected to County Sheriff in 2015. During his tenure, Sheriff Russo made major strides in increasing inter-agency cooperation aimed at attacking the drug problem within Rensselaer County. He also focused on developing new programs for both youths and senior citizens meant to facilitate community engagement and communication.

Sheriff Russo's dedication to the protection and support of his community extended far beyond his work in law enforcement. He was a

member of several community organizations, including the City of Troy Labor Management Committee, the Charter Revision Committee, and the Rensselaer County Alternatives to Incarceration Board. Sheriff Russo also served as the Chairman of the Troy Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, the Housing Authority Public Safety Committee, and the Housing Authority Tenant Relations Committee. Whether in his private or professional life, Sheriff Russo continually demonstrated his commitment to improving the lives of his fellow Rensselaer County residents.

Over the course of Sheriff Russo's 48 years of service, he received numerous honors recognizing his extraordinary impact. While with the Troy Police Department, he was named the recipient of the 1985 John J. Givney Police Award, recognizing him as Troy's police officer of the year. He also received various other honors during his career for his dedication to combatting illegal drugs within Rensselaer County.

Sheriff Patrick Russo's unwavering dedication to the members of his community has left a legacy that will continue to remain long after his retirement. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored to celebrate and remember his distinguished career.

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, April 27, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 2

9 a.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management, and Trade
To hold hearings to examine commodity programs, credit, and crop insurance, focusing on producer perspectives on the farm safety net.

SD-106

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-G50