

solutions that protect and save lives. It is because of their expertise, creativity, and tireless efforts that the company has achieved its remarkable success.

Through initiatives such as the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Habitat for Humanity, and the Tarrant Area Food Bank, Elbit Systems of America employees have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars and tens of thousands of service-hours. By investing in these important areas, the company has helped improve the lives of countless individuals and strengthened our society as a whole.

Please join me in congratulating Elbit Systems of America on this significant occasion and wishing them continued prosperity in all their future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023*

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on May 30, 2023 due to 2 positive COVID-19 tests. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 238, YEA on Roll Call No. 239, and YEA on Roll Call No. 240.

#### HONORING PAUL HUBER, THE J. CARTER WALKER AWARDEE

### HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Huber, the J. Carter Walker awardee, at Woodberry Forest School. For the past 55 years, Mr. Huber has served his students, the school, and his community, through his long-standing commitment to education and learning.

Mr. Huber's educational journey at Woodberry Forest started as a student at the school in the Fall of 1964. In 1968, he graduated from Woodberry as the class valedictorian. In his valedictorian speech, he asked the class not to leave Woodberry "without feeling not only has the school done something for you, but also that you have done something for the school." In accordance with this statement, the 1968 senior class announced at graduation that their class gift could not be used by the school until the board of trustees opened admission to all students, regardless of race or religion.

After graduation, Mr. Huber attended Yale University. He returned to Woodberry Forest School in 1972 to teach French, and throughout his 55-year career at Woodberry, he taught every language offered by the school. He also served as an academic dean and as associate headmaster from 1980 to 1996. In this role, he oversaw student scheduling and academic affairs. Since 2001 he has served as Woodberry's senior master. Finally, in 2018 he returned to the academic dean's role while continuing to teach French.

Mr. Huber is known for his ability to connect with his students. He remains in contact with hundreds of alumni—he is known for remembering birthdays, staying up to date on their

professional advancements, and offering advice when asked. His office is often the first stop for visiting alumni.

After 55 years of service to Woodberry Forest School, Mr. Huber is being honored with the J. Carter Walker Award, Woodberry's highest honor. J. Carter Walker, for whom the award is named, served Woodberry for more than 50 years and was the school's first headmaster. The award is given by the board of trustees to an alumnus or friend of the school who has exemplified the personal standards of Mr. Walker in devotion and long service to Woodberry Forest School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Paul Huber. His commitment and passion for education and for Woodberry Forest School are admirable—and may he keep inspiring Virginia students to learn.

#### CONGRATULATING HOLLY JOHNSON

### HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023*

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Holly Johnson for a remarkable 24 years with the Adams County Economic and Community Development, including the last 12 as Economic Development Director. Throughout her service to the county, Holly has worked with and met people from different backgrounds, led many community collaboration efforts, and built important partnerships throughout the county.

Holly is well known in Adams County, Ohio. Her selfless service has been a beacon of hope, integrity, and diligence.

Never touting her own accomplishments, Holly always acted in the best interests of all those she chose to serve. She leaves an incredible legacy in the community and leaves the job where the next Director will be in a position to thrive.

Holly Johnson served all around with dedication and honor throughout her career. I thank Holly for her service to the good people of our community. I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

#### HONORING AND RECOGNIZING IDA TIMMONS ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 34 YEARS ON THE EASTERN SUFFOLK BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (BOCES)

### HON. ANDREW R. GARBARINO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023*

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Ida Timmons on her retirement after 34 years on the Eastern Suffolk Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

Throughout her career, Ida has been a Student Assistance Service Counselor with Eastern Suffolk BOCES at the South Country Central School District as well as a Volunteer at numerous Not-for-Profits Agencies and Churches.

Ida has been an asset to Eastern Suffolk BOCES and to our community. I thank her for 34 years of incredible public service and wish her the best on her upcoming retirement.

#### FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN TO SUMMIT MOUNT EVEREST

### HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023*

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the first Native American to summit Mount Everest, Dr. Jacob Weasel from Rapid City, South Dakota.

Dr. Weasel is a surgeon at Monument Health and a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. Five years ago, he became the first known Lakota surgeon and is now also known as the first Native American to summit the Earth's highest peak.

Dr. Jacob Weasel wants to set an example for Native American youth, showing them, they are capable of accomplishing whatever they set their mind to. This recent accomplishment is only a part of his goal to be the first Native American to summit the Seven Summits. Additionally, Dr. Weasel hopes to build a playground in Rapid City's Lakota Homes neighborhood and fund three women's health centers in rural Nepal.

I want to congratulate Dr. Jacob Weasel on his recent accomplishment and wish him the best of luck in completing the Seven Summits.

#### IN MEMORY OF PROFESSOR CHRISTOPHER SMITH: A TRAILBLAZER IN MEDIA, ECONOMICS, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION

### HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable educator and dear friend, Professor Christopher Smith, who has recently passed away at the age of 55. Christopher was a clinical professor of communication at the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, where he passionately served for more than 20 years, inspiring colleagues and students with his innovation, leadership, and vision.

Throughout his tenure at USC Annenberg, Christopher proved himself to be an innovator and a leader. Christopher's passion for teaching was clearly demonstrated in the variety of comprehensive courses he developed. These included engaging and thought-provoking subjects like "Communication, Culture and Capitalism," and "Media, Money, and Society." These courses and seminars, unique in their focus and design, opened doors of opportunity for students to investigate the pressing issues of our time and devise innovative solutions.

Christopher's contributions extend far beyond the classroom. He was a trailblazer in creating links between academia and industry, leveraging his professional network to establish partnerships with prominent technology

companies in Silicon Valley and Los Angeles. His influence was instrumental in shaping the USC Annenberg experience, establishing economic literacy and entrepreneurial acumen as cornerstones of education there.

As the co-founder and director of the interdisciplinary Media, Economics & Entrepreneurship (M{2e}) program, Christopher led the way in exploring the evolving business models of communication and journalism. This program has been instrumental in cultivating the next wave of media leaders and entrepreneurs, providing them with practical, hands-on opportunities at leading companies.

His academic prowess also extended to research, with his work published in respected journals such as Social Text and the International Journal of Communication. He was frequently sought after by national and international media outlets, including NBC, ABC, NPR, the BBC, and Reuters, to share his insights.

In his capacity as a global intellectual voice, Christopher dedicated himself to cultivating global opportunities for USC. His research presentations at leading universities in Shenzhen, China; Johannesburg, South Africa; Copenhagen, Denmark; and Oxford, England, opened dialogues for further international collaboration.

Christopher's advocacy extended into the realm of diversity and inclusion. He founded the Women's Leadership Society, the first of its kind at USC Annenberg, which focused on promoting female professional advancement within the intersecting fields of technology, media, and entertainment.

His relentless dedication to closing opportunity gaps for women, people of color, and historically disadvantaged groups showcased his unwavering commitment to fostering an equitable and inclusive academic environment.

In his capacity as a faculty member, Christopher served the university and its students in many roles. He was selected to serve on the USC Board of Trustees Development Committee and most recently, served as the chair of USC Annenberg's Faculty Council. Moreover, his influence was felt within his innovative course "TV Strategy: From Broadcasting to YouTube," where he provided students with opportunities to work on real-world business cases and conduct original research projects, fostering an environment that truly combined theoretical knowledge with practical experiences.

Christopher Smith's life was a life dedicated to service, to mentorship, to innovation, and above all, to the pursuit of knowledge and justice. He will be deeply missed; yet his legacy will live on through the countless lives he touched and the profound impact he had on the field of media studies. On behalf of the United States Congress, I extend our deepest condolences to Christopher's wife, Salaam Coleman Smith, their children Asa and Nina, and their extended family and friends. We honor his significant contributions to education and communication, and his enduring legacy will continue to inspire and inform generations to come.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on May 30, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted: Yea on Roll Call No. 238, Yea on Roll Call No. 239, and Yea on Roll Call No. 240.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I missed this series of votes because of a delay in airline travel to DC. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 238, YEA on Roll Call No. 239, and YEA on Roll Call No. 240.

## JUDGE GREG MATHIS: A PIONEERING FORCE IN JUSTICE AND MEDIA

### HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this esteemed body to honor an individual who has left an indelible mark on our society through his unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and public service. I have the distinct privilege of acknowledging the contributions of a man who has shown a remarkable dedication to the ideals of equal justice and opportunity for all, Judge Greg Mathis.

Judge Mathis is not just a well-known figure in the media landscape; he is a pioneer. For over two decades, he has consistently been a source of inspiration and motivation as the longest-running African-American male host on television. His Emmy Award-winning television court show, Judge Mathis, has provided hope and guidance to millions who tune in to witness justice delivered with fairness, empathy, and firmness. A symbol of tenacity and resilience, Judge Mathis's transformation from a street youth to an acclaimed Judge is a testament to the power of redemption and the indomitable human spirit. In 2022, his remarkable contributions to the entertainment industry were rightly recognized with a star on Hollywood's "Walk of Fame," a fitting honor for a man of his stature and impact.

While his achievements in the television industry are commendable, Judge Mathis's work in public service is equally, if not more, impressive. He embarked on his journey in public service while in college, leading noteworthy campaigns such as Free South Africa and voter registration movements. After graduating in 1983, Judge Mathis continued his path of public service by joining the staff of Detroit City councilman Clyde Cleveland. His unwavering commitment to justice and equality found a fruitful platform with Reverend Jesse Jackson's PUSH Excel, where he now serves as

Chairman. He has also devoted his time and expertise to the NAACP and the Morehouse School of Medicine as a national board member, championing causes and policies that promote fairness, equality, and justice.

Judge Mathis's deep commitment to the community, particularly his hometown of Detroit, is further underscored by his numerous civic engagements and philanthropic endeavors. In 2001, he opened the Mathis Community Center, providing a platform for community engagement and outreach. In the same vein, he established his non-profit agency, Young Adults Asserting Themselves (Y.A.A.T.). These organizations have opened the doors of opportunity for thousands of Detroit youth, equipping them with the skills and resources they need to improve their lives and achieve their dreams.

His profound contributions to the city of Detroit have earned him well-deserved recognition. In honor of his relentless dedication, a street was named after him, 'Mathis Avenue,' as a constant reminder of his tireless efforts to uplift his community. Alongside his wife, Judge Mathis has further shown his dedication by opening five non-profit preschools in inner-city Detroit, working towards equalizing educational opportunities for the children of Detroit.

Beyond his judicial and civic commitments, Judge Mathis has made a significant impact in the realms of television production and literature. His production company, Mathis Productions, has been responsible for an array of successful television series, many of which underscore transformative and redemptive narratives. He is also the author of two insightful books, Inner City Miracle and Street Judge, in which he shares his journey and sheds light on the complexities of justice and morality in society.

Judge Mathis is not only a man of profound accomplishments; he is a man of immense character. He is a loving husband to his wife, Linda, and a proud father and grandfather. His life is a testament to the power of perseverance, dedication, and an unwavering belief in the pursuit of justice and equality.

It is with deep respect and admiration that I pay tribute to Judge Greg Mathis today. His tireless commitment to public service, his unwavering dedication to equal justice, and his relentless efforts in uplifting communities and empowering youth have already left an enduring legacy.

However, knowing Judge Mathis, I am confident that his future holds further accomplishments. He continues to be a driving force for change, and I eagerly anticipate the positive impact that his ongoing endeavors will undoubtedly have on our society.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed suspension votes on May 30, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll No. 238, Nay on Roll Call No. 239, and Nay on Roll Call No. 240.