

institution focused on strategic global development consulting, effective community-based engagement, particularly, diaspora and private sector integration for sustainable growth and investment.

Whereas, Dr. Magalie Emile-Backer has over 20 years experience conducting research in the biopharmaceutical industry and federal government. She is currently a Director in Vaccine Safety, at Moderna Therapeutics, supporting the manufacturers global health safety surveillance for the COVID-19 pandemic and global expansion of its innovative mRNA science portfolio. Prior to Moderna, Magalie has served as a biomedical research SME at NIH and supported the nation's COVID-19 response within ASPR/HHS.

Whereas, Dr. Emile-Backer holds a clinical doctorate from Howard University, Bachelors from Temple University and postdoctoral fellowship training from Rutgers University, and Hoffman Laroche Pharmaceuticals, as well as, several certifications and publications in major scientific journals. Magalie serves on several community, scientific and county boards (e.g. Alexandria Commission on HIV, Myocarditis Advisory board and Fairfax Health systems).

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Emile-Backer for her extensive work recognizing Caribbean Heritage Month.

RECOGNIZING WHEELERSBURG  
SOFTBALL TEAM

**HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Wheelersburg High School Softball Team on winning the 2023 Ohio High School Athletic Association Division III Softball State Championship.

The Wheelersburg Pirates won their second straight state championship following a 6-0 shutout victory over Indian Lake. The Pirates have posted an impressive 57-1 record over the past two seasons and a perfect 32-0 this season. Wheelersburg head coach Teresa Ruby remarked that she was "speechless" and so proud of how her team played this season.

The Pirates broke the game open in the 3rd inning, scoring four runs, and Pitcher Andi Jo Howard took control after, recording two strikeouts and only allowing two hits in a shutout.

I want to congratulate Coach Ruby and her players, including four of whom were named to the All-State team, on their amazing season. I look forward to watching them chase a three-peat next spring.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF ALDERWOMAN SCHEKETA  
HART-BURNS

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend Alderwoman Scheketa Hart-Burns and to recog-

nize the important contributions she made to the City of Aurora, Illinois.

Mrs. Scheketa Hart-Burns was born in Fort Meyers, Florida on December 1, 1954, and moved to the City of Aurora in 1978 making it her home and her community. She dedicated herself to improving the lives of residents in the city she loved.

Alderwoman Hart-Burns is a history-making, award-winning elected official, community leader and mentor to many. She holds the distinction of being the first African American elected to Aurora City Council in 1991, originally in the 6th Ward. When the 7th Ward was added, she became its alderwoman. The ward is on the east side of Aurora, south of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad line. She was also appointed the first-ever African American Mayor pro term from 2016-2017.

A stalwart figure in the community, Alderwoman Hart-Burns spearheaded and served as a member and advisor to dozens of organizations and initiatives for Ward 7 residents and the City of Aurora as a whole.

Her ward and neighborhood initiatives include establishing a ward committee and several apartment-complex resident councils, establishing community gardens, and hosting annual holiday programs for Ward 7 communities.

Citywide she started the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. luncheon, started the effort to install commemorative street signs for prominent Black residents, established the annual citywide Black History Program, hosted annual holiday musicals for food pantries, and made holiday dinners for senior citizens and disabled persons.

She was especially committed to helping Aurora's children, founding many programs to help youth and their families. These include founding the Back-to-School Bash at Martin Luther King Park, which serves more than 5,000 students, co-founding the annual Coats-for-Kids drive which provides winter coats, hats, and gloves to thousands of students, acting as founding advisor and Mother Emeritus of Boys II Men, Inc., mentoring Aurora University Students pursuing degrees in social work, and co-founding the City of Aurora's STEAM Academy.

Alderwoman Hart-Burns was also involved in organizations serving surrounding communities, including working as the Chairperson of the Circle of Wise Women for the Kane County Health Department and the Chairperson of Weed and Seed with the Kane County State's Attorney's Office. She was a Board member and Advisor of the Quad County Urban League for 33 years, a founding Advisor for the City's African American Heritage Advisory Board, a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens, and a board member of the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry and Childcare Center.

Alderwoman Scheketa Hart-Burns had a strong faith and was an Evangelist Missionary at Greater Mount Olive Church of God In Christ.

I am proud to represent Aurora, and I am grateful for the service and kindness Mrs. Scheketa Hart-Burns has shown over the years. Mrs. Scheketa Hart-Burns is an Aurora legend, and her commitment and contribution to the city will never be forgotten. I offer my condolences to her family and to the city for the loss of this trailblazer, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating my dear friend Scheketa Hall-Burns' incredible life.

RECOGNIZING KEVIN  
KLINKENBERG FOR TWO YEARS  
OF SERVICE TO THE NEW DEMO-  
CRAT COALITION

**HON. SUZAN K. DeIBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Ms. DeIBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin Klinkenberg for his incredible 2 years of service to the New Democrat Coalition as Senior Policy and Outreach Advisor.

Under my tenure as Chair of the New Dems, Kevin was an invaluable member of the Coalition team, leading our work on health care, trade, and immigration. His unbridled commitment to expanding the reach and influence of the New Dems on these critical issues will continue to positively impact the work of the Coalition, and the well-being of the American people, for years to come.

Kevin was key to growing the Coalition's outreach initiatives, helping to foster strong relationships with outside stakeholders. His efforts strengthened our various initiatives and helped solidify our Coalition's reputation as a group of pragmatic lawmakers who deliver results for our constituents.

Beyond his exceptional contributions to the Coalition, Kevin has been a warm and helpful presence to all who have had the pleasure of working with him. While we will miss him dearly, we could not be more excited for his next chapter as a Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

HONORING WHITLEY COUNTY HIGH  
SCHOOL BASEBALL STATE  
CHAMPIONS

**HON. HAROLD ROGERS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Whitley County High School Colonel Baseball Team and Coach Jeremy Shope for winning the 2023 Kentucky High School Athletic Association State Championship at the Kentucky Proud Park.

The Colonels brought home the 13, Region's-first-ever state baseball title, returning top honors to the mountains for the first time since 2001. Rising from defeat after a district championship loss, Whitley County closed out the season with an impressive 39-4 record, defeating LaRue County, South Warren, Henderson County, and finally beating the Shelby County Rockets 2-1 to earn the state tournament crown. Our mountain student athletes have a long-held legacy of competing with tremendous grit, talent, and pride, and I am personally proud of their determination and tenacity to show the entire state what our students are capable of achieving.

When Coach Shope took over the helm of the baseball program in 2018, the Colonels had not made a tournament appearance since 2005. The team has since improved by leaps and bounds, steam rolling past their opponents, winning the regional title in 2021 and 2023, and sweeping the state tournament this

year with skillful plays that they have tirelessly trained for.

The Colonels were visibly determined to bring the state title back to the mountains. Grant Zehr, a senior pitcher, dominated the baseball mound with 96 pitches in the final game, earning the MVP award for the tournament. Bryce Anderson scored the first run thanks to an RBI ground out by Sam Harp, who scored again in the sixth inning by courageously stealing home plate, a rare feat at any level of competition. The team's stellar defense then held the Rockets to one run, securing the highly coveted banner for Whitley County High School.

It is with great enthusiasm that I join the people of southern and eastern Kentucky in celebration of the Whitley County High School Baseball Team and the coaching staff for winning the state championship. Their achievement will undoubtedly encourage our young mountain student athletes to dream bigger, knowing the state title is always within reach with sheer perseverance, excellent coaching, and hard work.

RECOGNIZING KEVIN  
KLINKENBERG

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate Kevin Klinkenberg for his service to the New Democrat Coalition. Kevin has been an incredible and integral member of the New Dem team, and we thank him for his 2 years of service.

In my capacity as New Dem Vice Chair of Outreach, I have had the sincere pleasure of working closely with Kevin to strengthen our Coalition's outreach efforts to key stakeholder groups. From relationships with labor organizations to the business community, Kevin has undoubtedly strengthened the New Dem brand through his ability to convene diverse groups and facilitate important dialogues.

Throughout my tenure as Vice Chair, I have had the privilege to observe Kevin's dedication and remarkable work ethic firsthand. I can say with certainty that the Coalition's success would not be possible without Kevin's contributions.

As Kevin departs to join the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, New Dems can be sure he will continue to demonstrate the qualities that made him such an integral member of our team. I wish him well, and I look forward to witnessing all the incredible work he will accomplish throughout his career.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. ELISE JONES  
MARTIN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a trailblazer, fearless business owner, voting rights advocate, and my good

friend, Elise Jones Martin. Mrs. Martin transitioned from this life on June 1, 2023, in Palo Alto, California. Having lived in Columbia, South Carolina, for the majority her life, Mrs. Martin was a pillar of our community who was widely loved and respected for her tenacity and compassion.

Elise Jones Martin was born on February 7, 1915, in Hartsville, South Carolina. She was raised in a loving home by her mother, Fannie Jones, who worked as a seamstress to support her and her siblings after the passing of their father. By age 20, Mrs. Martin had graduated from cosmetology school in New Jersey and settled in Columbia, South Carolina, where she opened her first beauty shop. A successful business owner, she owned several successful beauty shops in the state. She would go on to open Elise Beauty Shop in downtown Columbia and become the first Black person to own a business on Main Street.

In addition to her business acumen, Mrs. Martin was deeply dedicated to her education and passing the gift of knowledge onto others. She took classes at South Carolina State University, Allen University, and Benedict College. Mrs. Martin would go on to become a beloved cosmetology teacher of 27 years at Columbia's Booker T. Washington High School. In addition, Mrs. Martin often kept in touch with her former students, offering insight and guidance as they embarked on future endeavors.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Martin was a highly involved member of the community and volunteered her spare time to bettering the lives of others. She was involved with many groups, including the Columbia Housing Authority, the Clyburn Golf Center Committee, the Columbia Zoning Commission, the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development, the City Beautification Committee, the Drew Park Board, and the Jones-McDonald Community Club, which was co-founded by her mother. Additionally, she was a recipient of the Enduring Spirit Award from the Columbia Museum of Art and received accolades from the Columbia City Council and the American Cancer Society.

Having grown up in the Jim Crow South and enduring difficulty at the polls, Mrs. Martin closely cherished her civic activities. She became a prominent voting rights advocate in South Carolina. In addition to spending decades registering people to vote and guiding them through the voting process, Mrs. Martin served as a poll worker for more than 30 years, well into her nineties. She famously met Barack Obama whilst he was running for President, telling him proudly, "You are a good man. You've got good brains and don't you stop."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring the incredible and inspiring life of Elise Jones Martin. She is remembered fondly by her three children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, the products of a more than 50-year loving marriage to the dearly departed Montez Martin, Sr. Throughout her life, she remained steadfast in her dedication to her state and extending the greatness of this country to all Americans. She will be sorely missed and well-remembered.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN  
SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION ON  
THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 30, 2023*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the power of the sportfishing industry and to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the American Sportfishing Association (ASA). ASA has played a vital role in preserving and promoting our cherished fishing tradition in this great Nation. From striped bass off the Atlantic coast, grouper species in the southeastern United States and Gulf of Mexico, catfish and trout throughout America's rivers and lakes, to salmon and mahi on the west coast, the United States is truly the envy of anglers throughout the world. Over 52.4 million Americans participate in recreational fishing every year and thanks to ASA's efforts, this number continues to rise.

Anglers contribute over \$148 billion in economic output, contribute \$1.8 billion towards conservation, and support 945,500 jobs across the country. Sportfishing is a powerful driver of the U.S. economy, thanks in large part to efforts that ASA and all its members within the sportfishing industry have accomplished since their inception.

For the past 90 years, the American Sportfishing Association has been at the forefront of protecting and advancing the interests of recreational fishermen across the United States. Through collaborative partnerships with government agencies, conservation organizations and industry stakeholders, they have played a pivotal role in shaping policies that promote responsible fishing practices, support habitat restoration, and safeguard the rights of anglers. ASA has supported meaningful legislation that has advanced conservation efforts throughout the years, such as the Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950, which established an excise tax for the conservation, management and enhancement of sport fisheries and their habitats. More recently, ASA has been a leading advocate for pivotal conservation legislation such as the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act, America's Conservation Enhancement Act and the Great American Outdoors Act. To this day, ASA supports conservation efforts on Capitol Hill and beyond and is a champion of access to fish, abundant fisheries, fair trade and commerce.

ASA has also been instrumental in fostering a deep appreciation for the great outdoors and inspiring future generations to enjoy the sport of fishing. Their educational initiatives and angler retention campaigns, such as "Fishing, Share the Fun," help to introduce new anglers, both young and old, to fishing and provide them with a lifetime of enjoyment in the sport. ASA is also a supporter of legislation that introduces children to fishing, as seen in their efforts to support the Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act.

Beyond their advocacy efforts, ASA serves as a unifying force within the angling community, bringing together diverse stakeholders, manufacturers, retailers, and fishing enthusiasts under one common purpose: the preservation and promotion of our Nation's rich fishing heritage. Every year the American Sportfishing Association hosts ICAST, the