

HONORING DAWN HELMS STEGALL

**HON. DAN BISHOP**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Union County Public Schools teacher, Dawn Helms Stegall, on her retirement after 48 years of serving Union County's students and families. Dawn graduated from Piedmont High School in the class of 1972 before attending both Wingate University for a degree in history, and Meredith College for a degree in social studies and secondary education.

In 1975, Dawn started her teaching career at UCPS at Sun Valley, where she taught history for 10 years. She accepted a job at her alma mater, Piedmont High School, where she taught history for the next 38 years. She was named UCPS Teacher of the Year for the 1989–1990 academic year and was later named the Region IV Teacher of the Year. Year after year, Dawn's students register among the highest scores for AP U.S. History. Dawn's dedicated leadership in the classroom has inspired several of her students to further study history and return to teach in the UCPS system.

Dawn's years of service to the UCPS community also extends far beyond the classroom. Dawn helped start the Piedmont Barbecue in 1986 and continued every year until 2019. Over these years, the Barbecue has raised more than one hundred thousand dollars for Piedmont High students. It is clear, Dawn is the epitome of servant leadership.

Once again, on behalf of the entire 8th Congressional District of North Carolina, I rise to congratulate Dawn Helms Stegall on a successful career and a well-deserved recognition for her years of dedicated service to Union County.

RECOGNIZING MARI TISERA

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor the life and service of my former intern, Mari Tisera, who passed away on June 6, 2023, at the age of 20. Mari's legacy will be remembered through her passion and dedication for helping marginalized and underserved communities and her kindness to all those she knew.

Mari Tisera was born on July 29, 2002, into a family that emigrated from Argentina to the United States 2 years earlier. Mari's family moved to the United States in order to provide Mari and her 3 older brothers better opportunities and a stronger future. Raised in Front Royal, Virginia, Mari was a standout student at Wakefield Country Day School in Huntly, Virginia, where she excelled in a variety of academic subjects, served her community, and was a fierce athlete. Some of Mari's many accomplishments include being chosen by all the coaches in her volleyball league for the Delany Athletic Conference All-Conference Team and working hard as a leader in student government. A first-generation Argentinian

American, Mari enjoyed volunteering at a local elementary school as a Spanish to English translator for summer school students who were learning English as a second language.

Mari attended George Mason University, where she studied Spanish and Government and was a sweetheart for Zeta Psi, a position that she was very proud of because of the love and goodness that she was contributing to the fraternity. She dreamed of being a lawyer and had always been passionate about the ethics of law and government. Mari's dedication to serving all communities and for standing up for what is right continued in college. She organized marches for women's, LGBTQ, and Black rights, and continually fought for the rights of the unhoused.

It was wonderful having Mari serve in my Capitol Hill office at the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022. She worked hard, was eager to learn, and served my constituents and all visitors with kindness and warmth. I know that Mari has said that all of us in the office had a positive impact on her, but she also had a positive impact on all of us who worked with her that we will never forget. Mari wanted to come back and work in our office after she graduated, and it would have been an honor to have her back on our team.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor Mari Tisera and the many hearts that she has touched as a daughter, sister, aunt, friend, leader, and advocate. Her vibrant spirit, enduring determination, and genuine kindness should serve as an example to all of us of what it means to be a good person in this world.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL MATTHEW LUZZATTO

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Colonel Matthew W. Luzzatto on his retirement from the United States Army after more than 25 years of service. COL Luzzatto has exemplified honor, integrity, and professionalism throughout his career and his service is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Throughout his decorated career, COL Luzzatto has held various command and officer positions, including Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, and Chief of the Host National Funded Construction for U.S. Forces Japan, Yokota Air Base, and has served the country in deployments to Kosovo and Kirkuk, among others. His experience, knowledge, and initiative have distinguished COL Luzzatto as an outstanding leader who has upheld the core values and mission of the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

As Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, COL Luzzatto has been a valuable partner to my office and the community. Together, we have worked on projects to reduce storm and coastal flood risks to protect residents, properties, and infrastructure. He has overseen vital beach replenishment, dredging, and flood control projects, working in coordination with federal, state, and local entities. It has been an honor to work

with COL Luzzatto to protect our communities, and I thank him for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it is my sincere honor to pay tribute to Colonel Matthew Luzzatto for his years of service to the United States Army. I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in thanking COL Luzzatto for his honorable service to our great nation.

HONORING JOHN DURM, MARION COUNTY SHERIFF DEPUTY

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in remembrance of John Durm, Marion County Sheriff Deputy, who died in the line of duty on July 10, 2023, at the age of 61. He is survived by his wife, Ramona, and 4 children.

Deputy Durm was well liked and respected by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Described by his colleagues and friends as genuine, courteous, and sincere, Deputy Durm always had a smile and joke to brighten someone's day.

A shining example of what it means to serve and protect, Deputy Durm worked in the Marion County Sheriff's department for 38 years, alongside his wife. Inspired by their service, 1 of their sons is currently training at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.

Our community mourns the loss of a brave and selfless man who was dedicated to his family and the community he served. He lived out his values every day. Deputy Durm's legacy of service and friendship will be remembered by family, community members, and his Marion County Sheriff's Office coworkers. Today, I solemnly ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Deputy John Durm and his loved ones.

HONORING BRUCE ROBERT VAUGHN

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Bruce Robert Vaughn, Specialist in Asian Affairs at the Congressional Research Service. Bruce passed away suddenly on Friday, March 17, at the height of a distinguished career serving Congress.

Bruce served Congress in several roles, including in the Senate Treaty Review Support Office and on the staff of the Senate Select Committee on Secret Military Assistance to Iran and the Nicaraguan Opposition. Beginning in 2003, he served for 20 years as an Analyst and then Specialist in Asian Affairs at the Congressional Research Service, bringing his considerable expertise in the Indo-Pacific region to bear on vital national security issues important for Congress. Bruce was a passionate and dedicated public servant who believed deeply in CRS's mission to provide Congress with authoritative, non-partisan and intelligent analysis.

Bruce brought deep historical understanding of the region. He advised Congress on the

most important issues of the day, but never stopped thinking ahead. From early in his career, Bruce anticipated the importance of the Indian Ocean region and Oceania to U.S. interests in the Indo-Pacific. Given the importance of the region to my constituents, Bruce was a valuable resource to me and my legislative staff in preparing for official travel, welcoming high-level delegations from the region and organizing briefings. Even after Bruce's passing, staff and Members will continue to rely on his written analysis and expertise.

I offer my sincere condolences to Bruce's family, friends and colleagues at the Congressional Research Service, and hope they may take comfort in the knowledge of his indelible and ongoing contribution to the work of Congress. Congress has lost a distinguished public servant. I thank Bruce and honor his life and his work.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
DR. PATTI LISK

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER  
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Patti Liski, Dean of Nursing and Health Technologies at Germanna Community College, on a remarkable career as a nurse, educator, and community college advocate.

Nearly 40 years ago, Dr. Lisk started her career at Germanna when she joined as a nursing faculty member in 1983. In 1986, she transitioned to full-time teaching. During her time at Germanna, Dr. Lisk has been credited with revolutionizing the school's nursing program and building a statewide on-line nursing program. Her work writing the original grant for the purchase of human patient simulators brought cutting-edge technology to the school and kickstarted Germanna's Virtual Hospital. In 2013, after the passing of Dean Mary Gilkey, Dr. Lisk rose to the occasion after her emergency appointment to Dean of Nursing and Health Technologies, and in that role has helped further expand the mission of Germanna's nursing program.

Dr. Lisk has also served as a fierce advocate for the promise and potential that lies within America's community colleges. She has seized the opportunity to help students, many identifying as first-generation students, navigate the college process and become successful nurses. Her personal investment in supporting students through every step of their journey is admirable and has had a profound impact on the quality of nurses graduating from Germanna.

As seen by her numerous professional awards and accolades, Dr. Lisk has had an exceptional career. She has positively impacted the lives of thousands of nurses, creating a ripple effect to be felt for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, as the U.S. Representative for Virginia's Seventh District, I am proud to represent dedicated individuals like Dr. Patti Lisk. I would like to congratulate her on an exceptional career and wish her the best on a well-earned retirement.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT PIA  
KAUMA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 13, 2023*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, last week I was grateful to serve as part of the leadership of the U.S. delegation to the 30th Annual Session of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly in Vancouver, Canada. There, I was joined by several of my Helsinki Commission colleagues, including Co-Chairman Sen. BEN CARDIN and Ranking Members Rep. STEVE COHEN and Sen. ROGER WICKER.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) is a forum that gathers hundreds of parliamentarians from 56 participating States of the OSCE several times a year to discuss the most pressing issues facing the transatlantic community. The Annual Session is the centerpiece of the Assembly's work and is the one time a year when parliamentarians meet to debate, amend, and adopt resolutions on a range of topics as well as elect the Assembly's leadership.

Participating in the OSCE PA is an opportunity to demonstrate the American leadership on the world stage. Over the course of this Annual Session, we shared our diverse views, but our overwhelming message was about the unified, bipartisan support in the U.S. Congress for Ukraine in its fight to defend its democracy and sovereignty against flagrant Russian aggression. Our friends in Canada and Europe deeply appreciated this reassurance of America's resolve.

The U.S. delegation participated in bilateral meetings with parliamentary delegations from Ukraine, Canada, and Germany, as well as a visiting delegation of legislators from the Western Hemisphere. My colleagues and I introduced amendments and resolutions encouraging our friends and allies to adopt specific policies that reflect our work in the U.S. Congress. Among these were texts based on the Ukraine Victory Resolution and the Holding Accountable Russian Mercenaries Act, both which I have sponsored in the House. Furthermore, I introduced a resolution with Congressman Chris Smith on addressing the phenomena of abuse, exploitation, and human trafficking of Ukrainian women and children stemming from Russia's war. The Assembly overwhelmingly adopted all these U.S.-led initiatives.

Looking forward, I would like to congratulate those in the recent OSCE PA elections who will be assuming leadership duties for the coming year, while also thanking those who have ended their mandates. First, I want to applaud the election of Mrs. Pia Kauma of Finland as President of the Assembly. Mrs. Kauma has a long history of important contributions and strong relationships within the Assembly that will serve her well in this critical role. Additionally, I believe it is fitting that the PA should be led someone from NATO's newest allied nation, galvanized by aggression to assume greater responsibility for European security. I also congratulate the Assembly's three newly elected Vice Presidents: Mrs. Daniela De Ridder of Germany, Mr. Mykyta Poturaiev of Ukraine, and Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni of Cyprus. I am especially delighted by the selection of Mr. Poturaiev whose voice has become the conscience of the Assembly since the outbreak of Russia's full-scale invasion of his country last year. It is important to have greater Ukrainian representation in the Assembly's upper ranks.

I also extend my congratulations to the newly elected Treasurer, Mr. Johan Buser of Sweden, and officers of the three general committees: First Committee Chair, Mr. Richard Hudson of the United States, First Committee Vice-Chair Mr. Costel Neculai Dunava of Romania, First Committee Rapporteur Mr. Laurynas Kasciunas of Lithuania, Second Committee Chair Mr. Azay Guliyev of Azerbaijan, Second Committee Vice-Chair Mr. Artur Gerasymov of Ukraine, Second Committee Rapporteur Mrs. Gudrun Kugler of Austria, Third Committee Chair Mrs. Lucie Potuckova of the Czech Republic, Third Committee Vice-Chair Mr. Sargis Khandanyan of Armenia, and Third Committee Rapporteur Mr. Malik Ben Achour of Belgium. Finally, I thank outgoing President Margareta Cederfelt of Sweden for her two years of tireless service to the Assembly, which involved capably leading the organization through the twin crises of COVID-19 and Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

This team of elected officers that span the European continent and the political spectrum are assuming office at a critical time for transatlantic and global security. I look forward to cooperating with them closely in the coming year, particularly as I assume the responsibility of Head of Delegation for the United States in 2024.

I want to express my deep appreciation to our Canadian hosts at the Annual Session in Vancouver, British Columbia, especially Dr. Hedy Fry, Head of the Canadian Delegation, who demonstrated tremendous hospitality and outstanding organization in orchestrating this large and complex event. The natural beauty, personal warmth, and cultural diversity we experienced in Vancouver made for an ideal setting for our meeting.