

Generations of families and farmers have worked to build a thriving and prosperous agricultural community, which is now a defining characteristic of Washington County's economy and culture.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate the Washington County Agricultural Fair on its 225th anniversary. I thank the staff, volunteers, and exhibitors for the important services they provide to southwestern Pennsylvania communities and hope for their continued success over the next 225 years.

CONGRATULATING TRINITY RIGGS  
ON HER CLASS 2 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Russellville's Trinity Riggs on her victory in Missouri's Class 2 Shot Put State Championship.

Trinity claimed the Class 2 title for the Indians, ending her high school career with an incredible throw of 11.93 meters. She should be commended for all her hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to her school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Trinity Riggs for a job well done.

HONORING ANNE HOLCOMB

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Anne Holcomb's twenty-two years of service as the executive director of Humboldt County's food bank, Food For People.

Ms. Holcomb grew up in Alfred, Maine, and attended the University of Maine. She began her decades of service helping people with disabilities transition into community life, and served as the executive director of Southern Maine Parent Awareness. She moved to Humboldt County in December 2000. During her tenure as executive director of Food For People, Ms. Holcomb helped dramatically improve the scope of the food bank's services. The food bank expanded warehousing, trucking, and direct services to reach the far corners of rural Humboldt County.

Under Ms. Holcomb's leadership, Food For People grew to operate 18 unique programs for children and adults at more than 85 locations. These programs included the Backpacks for Kids weekend hunger relief effort, Children's Summer Lunch and Food Box Program, Mobile Produce Pantry, Free Produce Markets, and Senior and Homebound programs. A large network of pantries for localized response, nutrition and education programs, and CalFresh outreach was developed under Ms. Holcomb.

In 2000, Food For People's main facility in Eureka was closed due to a major sewage

leak. This preceded the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, during which the community's need for food resources surged. The food bank continued operating to meet this need through creative problem-solving and hard work on the part of Food For People's staff, board, and dedicated volunteers. During this time, Ms. Holcomb launched a major capital campaign to build a new state-of-the-art food bank, warehouse, and office facility. This newly opened facility will allow Food For People to better serve the community, especially in times of crisis.

During her long career with Food For People, Ms. Holcomb always put nutrition first, ensuring that households, children, and seniors have access to high quality food distributed in a dignified manner. She has been a champion for hunger relief statewide and was also a mentor for staff and a committed community partner.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Holcomb has dedicated decades of her life to serving people in need and addressing hunger and poverty. Her exemplary service to Food For People and the people of Humboldt County has been meaningful and will have a positive effect for many years. Therefore, please join me in congratulating her on her years of inspiring work and wishing her the best on her next chapter.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF EDWIN JUDE RACHUBA

**HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Edwin "Ned" Rachuba, a Navy veteran and steamfitter from southwestern Pennsylvania, who passed away on March 10, 2023 at the age of 83.

Mr. Rachuba graduated from Baldwin High School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Navy on active duty aboard the USS *Wasp* from 1957 to 1959 and an additional 4 years in the Navy Reserve.

After leaving the military, Mr. Rachuba worked as a steamfitter and was a member of the Steamfitters Local Union 449 in Pittsburgh for 42 years. His professional life and military service exemplified the values of hard work, dedication, and commitment to his community.

Outside of his professional career, Mr. Rachuba was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, and uncle. He married his high school sweetheart, Sally, and celebrated 63 years of marriage over their lifetimes. Mr. Rachuba would travel across Pennsylvania and the country to watch his grandchildren play sports, never missing an important family event.

Mr. Speaker, Edwin Rachuba's dedication to his work, devotion to his family, and service to our Nation are an example of a life well-lived. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I extend my condolences to Mr. Rachuba's family and wish them healing during this difficult time.

CONGRATULATING FORT  
ZUMWALT SOUTH ON THEIR  
CLASS 3 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Fort Zumwalt South Girls Soccer Team on their victory in Missouri's Class 3 Soccer State Championship.

The team claimed the Class 3 title for the third time in the first ever three-peat in girls' soccer by a Missouri public school. Isabel Montileone and Audrey Smith scored beautiful first-half goals to give the Bulldogs the win as they defeated Smithville 2-1. The team should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Fort Zumwalt South Girls Soccer Team for a job well done.

DEFENDING ROHINGYA REFUGEES

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, June 20th every year marks World Refugee Day, an international day organized by the United Nations to raise awareness of the plight of refugees around the world. The UN defines refugees as "people who have fled war, violence, conflict or persecution and have crossed an international border to find safety in another country."

The Rohingya are an ethnic Muslim minority who practice a Sufi-influenced variation of Sunni Islam throughout Southern Asia. The Rohingyas trace their roots back for many centuries predominantly to the Rakhine State in Burma.

The United Nations has described the Rohingya as "the most persecuted minority in the world" due to the actions taken against them by the Tatmadaw. Discriminatory policies of the Burmese government since the late 1970s have compelled hundreds of thousands of Muslim Rohingya to flee their homes. In 2017, the Tatmadaw renewed and increased violence, including reported rape, murder, and arson, triggered an exodus of Rohingya from Burma.

The majority of those Rohingya who have been able to flee have found refuge in Bangladesh. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees estimates the population of Rohingya in Bangladesh at close to one million.

The largest exodus of Rohingya began in August 2017 after a massive wave of violence broke out in the Burmese Rakhine State. It is estimated that 730,000 Rohingya fled from the 2017 genocide seeking refuge in Bangladesh. With half of those able to flee to safety in Bangladesh being women and children.

In honor of the annual World Refugee Day, the American people commend Bangladesh for providing safety for the Rohingya refugees from the Tatmadaw. Today 17 countries are

home to significant populations of Rohingya refugees, including the United States. The Rohingya deserve to live safely anywhere in the world without fear of persecution.

We are grateful for the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed. The people of Bangladesh are well represented in Washington, D.C., by Ambassador Muhammad Imran.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 290, YEA on Roll Call No. 291, and NAY on Roll Call No. 292.

#### CONGRATULATING MORGAN CANNON ON HER CLASS 5 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Liberty High School's Morgan Cannon on her victory in Missouri's Class 5 Javelin State Championship.

Morgan claimed the Class 5 title with an incredible throw of 45.21 meters. She fought through her shoulder pain and singlehandedly won 10 of her team's 18 points. Morgan should be commended for all her hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to her school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Morgan Cannon for a job well done.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF ZANE BREAKIRON

### HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and accomplishments of Morgantown Police Officer Zane Breakiron, who sadly passed away on June 3, 2023.

Officer Breakiron, a Uniontown, PA native, exemplified the values of humility, selflessness, and dedication and provided an example for all Americans of what it means to serve our communities. While attending Uniontown's Laurel Highlands High School, Officer Breakiron was a 3-sport varsity athlete, lettering in football, wrestling, and track and field.

Following his graduation from the University of Florida, he joined the Morgantown, West Virginia Police Department. Zane served in the department's K-9 Unit and on their Underwater Search and Rescue Team. Continuing his passion for athletics in his professional life, he also served as a physical trainer for other officers in the department.

Outside of his service as a law enforcement officer, Zane Breakiron spent time giving back to his native community in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He was involved in the Catholic War Veterans of Fayette County and was an active member of the Fraternal Order of Police. The positive energy and kindness he spread in his community were a product of his unshakeable faith in Christ and active participation in the Church.

Zane Breakiron was a brave and dedicated servant to his community and will be greatly missed for his kind, selfless, and hardworking spirit. Zane is survived by his parents, Dr. Garrett and Mindi Breakiron, his 2 grandparents, his aunt and uncle, his 2 cousins, and his younger brother.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Breakiron's legacy of service to family, faith, and community should inspire all Americans. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I extend my condolences to Officer Breakiron's family and wish them healing and strength during this difficult time.

#### HONORING VENANCIO "BENNY" CATALA, JR.

### HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, Venancio "Benny" Catala, Jr., known affectionately as "Big Ben" and "Benny from the Block," was a pillar of the Bronx community, touching thousands of lives through his political activism and outreach.

A proud Puerto Rican, Mr. Catala immigrated from San Juan to New York City at just 4 years old. He attended New York City public schools throughout his childhood and later enrolled and graduated from Monroe College.

By age 16, he was already serving his community via his numerous jobs through the Summer Youth Employment Program. At 18, he began his career in public service as a Constituent Services Representative for the office of the Honorable Aurelia Greene, connecting constituents to resources such as education programs, housing, and state social services. He was promoted to the Constituent Services Director and later District office Liaison to the Albany Legislative Office. From 2002 to 2006, he served as Director of Constituent Services for the Office of Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion, Jr., helping residents reach city agencies and services.

During the construction of the new Yankee Stadium, a beloved Bronx landmark, Mr. Catala oversaw community engagement, arranging local hiring provisions, contracts with minority and women owned businesses, and small business partnerships. In 2012, he became Director of Diversity Initiatives for the Yankees, building relationships between the Yankees and local community leaders, schools, nonprofits, and cultural organizations.

In a return to politics, Mr. Catala was appointed researcher for the State Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee in 2016 as well as serving as the Vice Chair and Sergeant at Arms of the Bronx Democratic County Committee, working with members of the Bronx Democratic party and New York State assemblymembers. He was also the Male Dis-

trict Leader of the 77th Assembly District serving Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner and the president of the Rev. Jerome A. Greene Democratic Club, running voter registration drives, and supporting district leaders.

Mr. Catala's lasting impact on his community is truly immeasurable. We will never forget his tireless dedication to the Bronx; may he rest in peace.

#### SUPREME COURT DECISION ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION WILL HAVE DEVASTATING EFFECTS

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHONTEL M. BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman JACKSON and Congresswoman CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK for leading this Special-Order Hour.

The Supreme Court's ruling on affirmative action is a disaster for the Black and Brown young people that I represent in Northeast Ohio. It's a disaster for underserved communities across the country. And frankly, it's a terrible outcome for the entire Nation, because diverse schools are better schools, for all students. This is a ruling that denies the reality of our past and undermines our Nation's future. And we need to be upfront about what this ruling will mean for real people.

Because of this ruling, there are going to be drastically fewer Black and Brown students admitted to the Nation's most selective schools. Because of this ruling, the Nation's top schools, the schools that feed into power, influence, and wealth—are going to be whiter. So, let's be real: this ruling is a lot of things—but it's not about fairness. Mr. Speaker, last week I had the honor of hosting HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra in Cleveland and introducing him to students and faculty at Lincoln-West High School.

At Lincoln-West, we have the only high school in the country located inside a hospital—and the students are doing incredible things. They're shadowing doctors and nurses, interning at MetroHealth hospital, and earning certifications at a very young age.

During our visit to Lincoln-West's facilities at MetroHealth, we met with recent graduates Tavion Lindsey and Khandah Abdullah. These talented young people impressed us deeply, introducing themselves and describing the program and their experience seamlessly with multiple members of Congress, a member of the Cabinet, and the President of the hospital. Tavion and Khandah demonstrate how this program at Lincoln-West is instilling understanding, confidence, and expertise in its students.

Mr. Speaker, Lincoln-West is in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, which is nearly 80 percent Black or Hispanic, and where a majority of students are from low-income households. The success of this innovative hospital program shows students can do so much—if they're given a chance. And Mr. Speaker, that's why this ruling cut so deep. I think of all the brilliant minds in my district and across America who are going to be denied opportunities because of this shameful and ignorant ruling. We owe it to those young people to keep fighting, keep working, and keep speaking out.