

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.

We must support schools and students and teachers in every zip code, and we must make higher education more affordable. We must invest in Historically Black Colleges and Universities and support the students that attend them. Finally, we must build a more inclusive economy, with programs and policies that are equitable.

Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court may have decided to ignore centuries of slavery, centuries of discrimination, centuries of inequality—but I have not. I am proud to stand with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, because we understand that this ruling is a setback, but that it is also a call to action. We must keep fighting for an America where all people can thrive.

#### CONGRATULATING ELLE NORTH ON HER 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 Lutheran St. Charles' Elle North on her victory in Missouri's Class 3 400 Meter Dash State Championship.

Elle claimed the Class 3 title with an impressive time of 57:75. As the only Cougar returning to the state meet after qualifying as a freshman last year, she was a key contributor to her team's state championship title. Elle not only won the 400-meter dash; she also was the runner-up in the 200-meter dash. Elle should be commended for all her hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to his school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Elle North for a job well done.

#### HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (USC) WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL TEAM

##### HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the University of Southern California (USC) Women's Beach Volleyball National Championship win. Last month's victory marked the team's third straight championship and sixth overall national title, as well as the 135th national championship for the University of Southern California. In addition, it is the 27th National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) win for a USC women's athletics team.

On behalf of the 37th Congressional District, I want to extend an enthusiastic congratulations to Harper Hallgren, Delaney Karl, Jenna Johnson, Maby Thomas, Olivia Bakos, Madison White, Colby Bennett, Tatiana Rusich, Sterling Fischer, Bailey Showalter, Ava Gallien, Ashlyn Rasnick-Pope, Megan Kraft, Delaynie Maple, Audrey Norse, Klaire VanDeusen, Caitlin Cummings, Gabby Walker,

Madison Shields, and Nicole Nourse on their impressive triumph. Kudos for all their hard work.

I would also like to congratulate Coach Dain Blanton, Assistant Coaches Gustavo Rocha and Emily Hansen, and Director of Operations Claire Kieffer-Wright, who all played a vital role in leading these young women to victory. Coach Blanton has accomplished the near impossible by leading his team to back-to-back-to-back wins as head coach and has enjoyed prior victories as assistant coach. Coach Blanton, Assistant Coaches Rocha and Hansen, and Director Kieffer-Wright's dedication to drawing out the best in their players and serving as encouraging voices has no doubt helped the team on their path to victory.

Athletics are a celebration of the human spirit. Playing a sport at the Division 1 collegiate level is no small feat, but playing at that level and being the best requires hustle and determination. They push themselves to their limits and train hard with their teammates day after day. This team has shown us the power of unity in achieving high arching goals; their spirit of camaraderie has allowed them to overcome obstacles and emerge victorious, supporting each other along the way. Their shared goal and commitment to one another powered them through the long season and delivered them to triumph.

This month, we will celebrate the 51st anniversary of Title IX. Decades ago, women wouldn't have had the opportunity to be part of a collegiate level, championship-winning team. The USC Women's Beach Volleyball team has inspired countless young girls to pursue their dreams fearlessly and are a testament to the progress that has been made in athletics.

The Women of Troy secured their sixth beach volleyball national title while battling their crosstown rivals, the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Bruins. The neck-and-neck May 7th championship match all came down to the last set with senior twin sisters Audrey and Nicole Nourse on the court. After going back and forth in the tight set with the Bruins, the Nourse sisters led their team to a 15-11 win to claim victory in the match and the 2023 NCAA championship.

I want to offer special recognition to the graduating students on the team. Seniors Harper Hallgren, Audrey Nourse, and Nicole Nourse and graduate students Jenna Johnson, Madison Shields, and Ashlyn Rasnick-Pope should be proud of their leadership of the team over the past few years and their incredible back-to-back-to-back wins. We will all miss watching them play, and we will never forget the indelible mark they have made.

As a USC alumna, I was excited to meet the Women of Troy and congratulate them on their National Championship title. I could not be prouder to share an alma mater with these remarkable women. Fight On, Trojans.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, due to an unexpected surgery this week, I will not be able to attend votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 328.

#### CONGRATULATING LUTHERAN ST. CHARLES 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 Lutheran St. Charles Track and Field Team on their victory in the Class 3 State Championship.

Lutheran St. Charles claimed the Class 3 title in an impressive team effort. With only one member of the team a returner to the state competition, the team's plethora of young talent bodes well for its future. Although their title seemed secure after 15 events, they finished strong and brought home the championship. The Cougars should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year, and I'd like to wish the team luck as they move up to succeed in Class 4 next year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Lutheran St. Charles Cougars for a job well done.

#### COUNT THE KICKS

##### HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a silent crisis in the U.S. Stillbirths claim the lives of more than 21,000 babies every year.

After suffering devastating stillborn losses, 5 Iowa women took their grief and turned it into fuel; they wanted to keep other families from joining their club. So, they founded the non-profit organization Healthy Birth Day, and along with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, they have since lowered Iowa's stillbirth rate by 32 percent. Based on scientific evidence, their Count the Kicks stillbirth prevention program educates expectant parents about the importance of tracking fetal movement in the third trimester of pregnancy.

With programs to educate and empower expectant parents with stillbirth prevention education, we can save thousands of babies from preventable stillbirth each year. The stillbirth crisis is URGENT and needs to be addressed, so I want to acknowledge the powerful work of these Iowans on a bi-partisan issue we should all get behind.

I want to also take a moment to recognize Brian and Mary Lohse and their daughter Genevieve, as well as Arizona Count the Kicks Ambassador, Shawn Soumilas, and her son Zach for their tireless work to prevent stillbirths.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. LARRY HALLUM

##### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 2023*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Larry Vernon Hallum, who