

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

passed away on April 22, 2023, surrounded by loved ones. Born in Bakersfield, California, Mr. Hallum was 1 of 5 children. He grew up in the Central Valley, and attended Arvin Union Elementary, Haven Drive Junior High School, and Arvin High School. Throughout his childhood, Mr. Hallum excelled in academics and sports, won the Henry Greve speech contest in junior high, and was Senior Class Vice President in high school.

After his high school graduation in 1961, he attended Bakersfield College for 2 years where he played tennis. Soon after, he was offered a full ride to Stanford University, which he turned down to pursue an education at the University of Oklahoma. Mr. Hallum graduated with his bachelor's degree in history and political science in 1966 and returned to Arvin High School as a teacher. Mr. Hallum volunteered for the draft in 1969, during the height of combat operations in the Vietnam War. He served in forward reconnaissance in the Quang Ngai Valley in South Vietnam.

Mr. Hallum achieved the rank of Sergeant E-5 and was awarded a Combat Infantryman's badge. He spent his life honoring the sacrifices of the soldiers who served alongside him. In October of 2022, Larry and his son, Ryan, visited the U.S. Capitol and the Vietnam Memorial Wall as part of the Central Valley Honor Flight. After his service, Mr. Hallum returned to Arvin High School, where he spent 40 years as a teacher. He was a vital part of the Arvin community, having taught thousands of students in the Central Valley across multiple generations of families. Mr. Hallum was devoted to his students, teaching world civilizations, geography, U.S. history, government, and economics.

Mr. Hallum led the school's Academic Decathlon, Mock Trial, and in 1987, started the "We the People" Constitution Team, which was nationally ranked under his leadership. He also spent time supporting his students outside the classroom—coaching football, tennis, and baseball and supporting other students as he cheered from the sidelines. Mr. Hallum was honored as the first recipient of the Jim Burke Teacher of the Year Award, received the Arvin Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award, and was gifted the Key to the City of Arvin. After his retirement, he was selected as one of the 100 Outstanding Alumni from Bakersfield College, having been recognized for his commitment to the students at Arvin High School.

Mr. Hallum and his wife of 45 years, Brenda, have twin sons together, Drew Jonathan and Ryan Wesley. Mr. Hallum was their biggest fan throughout their childhood and supported them at their football games and marching band performances. His love of teaching influenced his sons to spend time as educators in their careers. In honor of Mr. Hallum, the Kern High School District has created the "Spirit of Arvin High School" Memorial Scholarship to support future college students in the district. His service to our country, commitment to his family, and dedication to the students of the Central Valley will always be remembered.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life of Mr. Larry Vernon Hallum.

CONGRATULATING MADISON
KESSLER 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 Osage High School's Madison Kessler on her victory in Missouri's Class 3 Pole Vault State Championship.

Madison claimed the Class 3 title in the pole vault competition, clearing the impressive height of 3.28 meters. Madison 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 Madison Kessler for a job well done.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATOR OF GENERAL SERVICES TO SELL THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE WEBSTER SCHOOL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to direct the General Services Administration (GSA) to sell the federal property known as the Daniel Webster School, which is located in the District of Columbia, for fair market value by December 31, 2025. I am grateful that Representative SCOTT PERRY, the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, joins me in introducing this common-sense legislation.

Built in 1882, the Daniel Webster School, a red-brick, 3-story building, has been used for a variety of purposes over the years. However, since the 1980s, the building, which is located in downtown, has been vacant and fallen into disrepair. This bill will return it to productive use.

During my service in Congress, I have worked to transfer unused or underused federal land in D.C. to D.C. or the private sector to redevelop neighborhoods and to generate tax revenue for D.C. I passed 2 bills that enabled the transformation of the Southeast and Southwest waterfronts into thriving, mixed-use neighborhoods known today as The Yards and The Wharf, respectively. I passed a bill to transfer Reservation 13, which is in Hill East, and Poplar Point to D.C. I passed a bill that required the redevelopment of the Old Post Office, which is now a hotel. I successfully fought to ensure that at least 67 acres of the 110-acre Walter Reed Army Medical Center campus would go to D.C. for redevelopment. I also successfully worked to bring federal agencies to NoMa, which spurred billions of dollars in mixed-use development.

The sale provision in this bill is the same as the sale provision in the bill enacted in 2016 that directed GSA to sell the federal property in D.C. known as the Cotton Annex, which is now being converted into housing.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING FRANK WHITE

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Frank Manuel White, a poet and veteran from Stafford, Virginia.

Frank wrote his first poem at the young age of 12. His love for writing poetry carried over into adulthood and was woven into his life and military career. Frank served in the U.S. Air Force for a total of 26 years, from 1957 to 1983. He served as an officer for 10 of those years. During and after his time in the military, Frank penned poems during his free time, often on weekends and evenings. These poems give us a glimpse into his life, his thoughts, and his surroundings.

Frank's poems were published in 2022 in a book titled "Frank's Homespun Poems from the Heart: A Country Boy's Poetry." Some of the poems included are poems he penned for his now wife, Dorothy, along with her responses to him. The poems exchanged between Dorothy and Frank are a reminder of their long-distance courtship—the poems were sent while Frank was stationed at Ft. Eustis, Virginia and MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida and Dorothy lived in North Carolina. These lovely poems served as their main way of correspondence and are lasting evidence of their love and commitment to one another.

In June of 2019, Frank composed a poem titled "TEXAS JUNETEENTH EPIC POEM." This poem tells the story of how Juneteenth came to be, and it details history that we must not forget.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Frank Manuel White for his service to our country and for his contributions to keeping the history of our nation alive through his poetry.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to include in the RECORD Mr. White's poem, so future generations of Americans can access his poetry for years to come.

TEXAS JUNETEENTH EPIC POEM

Mr. Thomas Jefferson wrote in Seventeen Seventy-six

Words which have survived for ages, addressing a problem to fix.

"All men are created equal" were his words to the British Crown,

"But the way you are treating us, has caused us to do more than frown."

So the colonies fought a war, which General Washington led,

Everyone knows the end results, colonies won, British fled.

But then Thomas Jefferson's words were cast aside put on a shelf.

They only applied to those men, who looked like Jefferson himself.

So Slavery kept on keeping on, in this land called the USA,

The issue had to be resolved, another time, another day.

Then in eighteen sixty one, Abe Lincoln was the president,

War broke out between North and South, now guess what that was all about?

An issue of human control, had once more risen to the top,

ABE Lincoln told his staff and aides, "This war and slavery got to stop."