

family devotion from his Pereira lineage. These values aligned well with his American upbringing as Bob seized his opportunities and became the man, we all knew and loved, one who devoted his life to God, family and nature.

Just one year after wedding the love of his life, Shirley, Bob was called to service in the U.S. Army in 1959. Upon being Honorably Discharged as a Private 1st Class, Robert and Shirley decided to settle in Hanford, CA so Shirley's mother could help her take care of their two sons, Mark and Mike.

After working as a machinist, Bob eventually moved the family to a tight-knit community in Three Rivers where the landscape fed his passion for nature. His love for the outdoors was evident in his pursuits of hunting, fishing, and boating. He found solace in the beauty of the world around him, and his observations of life and human behavior enriched the lives of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

This environment also fostered Bob and Shirley's dream of starting their own business—a school that would teach Medical Assisting, drawing from Shirley's training and work experience. Seeing the opportunity in the growing city of Visalia, Bob and Shirley risked everything they had to launch San Joaquin Valley College in 1977. With the help of three Medical Assisting program students, Bob ran the business operations and Shirley handled the curriculum, instruction and stability of the MA program. Teenagers Mike and Mark started out as school janitors this family of four ignited an unimagined trajectory of success.

Soon enough, their high hopes became promising returns as SJVC expanded to three cities before Bob and Shirley passed the reins to Mark and Mike in 1995. Under their new leadership and Bob's diligence on the Board of Directors, SNC has since become a renown private university with 18 campuses across California. To this day, almost a quarter-million graduates have received medical, business and technical education from SJVC with another 12,000 students currently pursuing their own education goals thanks to Bob and Shirley's dream.

Bob's legacy is one shared with family, but his qualities as an individual were uniquely his own. Beyond his professional accomplishments, Bob possessed an artistic spirit and a keen eye for beauty. He was a master woodcraft, turning raw materials into intricate works of functional art. His creations were a testament to his attention to detail and the love he poured into each piece. Bob's talent as a storyteller delighted those around him, as he shared his adventures in hunting, fishing, and exploring, leaving cherished memories for all who knew him.

In his community, Bob will be remembered not only as a successful entrepreneur and educator but also as a compassionate and caring individual. He touched the lives of many with his kindness, warmth, and willingness to lend a helping hand.

Bob has finally reunited with he and Shirley's third-born son Timothy. Still, he is survived by his life's love, Shirley, their sons Mike and Mark, five grandchildren: Joshua, Kristopher, Stephanie, Alyssa and Aaron, and four great grandchildren: Savvy, Noam, Eva and Clover and nephew, Steve Perry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lifelong contributions of Robert Fernandes Perry to his family, commu-

nity, and the field of education. May his story serve as an inspiration to us all.

#### RECOGNIZING 1001 EAST DELAVAN AND VIRIDI

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize 1001 East Delavan Avenue, which can now mark its 100th year of operation as a manufacturing plant in the city of Buffalo. For 100 years this site has been at the forefront of American manufacturing and a homebase to the hard-working people of Western New York. Viridi has remade this location to meet the needs of today and tomorrow, providing job opportunities that recruit from surrounding neighborhoods through its partnership with GreenForce, and positioning Buffalo to be a global leader in clean energy manufacturing.

The plant began operation on August 13, 1923, as General Motors utilized the factory to assemble Chevrolet vehicles. At the beginning of its existence, Buffalo was the 11th largest city in the United States with a population of over 500,000 residents. Of course, Buffalo's economic standing was due to its immense manufacturing prowess, to which 1001 East Delavan was a steady contributor.

In 1994, American Axel purchased the plant from GM and continued manufacturing auto parts until its abrupt closing in 2007. Today, the former General Motors plant is occupied by Ontario Specialty Contracting, Viridi, and several community organizations, which has injected new life into the 42-acre property. As 1001 East Delavan's newest tenant, they are the catalyst that is responsible for bringing life back into the Eastside property. Viridi focuses on designing and building battery systems that are meant to redefine energy storage and power the transition to renewable energy.

Viridi is not only committed to revitalizing the site, but also hiring people from the surrounding community. They have teamed up with GreenForce Training, which handles recruitment, training, support, and retention efforts for entry level jobs. Viridi currently possesses a workforce of over 150 employees and is projected to increase staff levels to approximately 500 employees. Seventy-eight percent of Viridi and sixty-six percent of GreenForce applicants for production positions are located within the 4 zip codes that surround the plant. Thus, not only has 1001 East Delavan been a successful operation, but they are also once again delivering quality jobs for our community. Today, I ask that you join me in celebrating the centennial anniversary of 1001 East Delavan Avenue and Viridi's continued commitment to the city of Buffalo. We look forward to seeing this be a place of growth and opportunity for generations to come.

#### CONGRATULATING UKRAINE ON THEIR INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Consulate General of Ukraine in Houston, and all the people of Ukraine, on their Independence Day. The spirit of Ukraine is an inspiration to all freedom loving peoples in the world. The rights that we so often take for granted are under constant threat from dictators like Vladimir Putin. There is no stronger example of what it takes to stand up for liberty in the world today than the struggle fought every day in Ukraine.

I take a special pride in offering this congratulations as Texans and Ukrainians are most assuredly kindred spirits. In a book he wrote after a 1946 trip to the Soviet Union, the late John Fischer concluded that Ukrainians are "Texans in Fur Hats." It's no surprise that a significant portion of the first wave of Ukrainian immigrants to the United States settled in Texas. Our histories are intertwined, as is our love of liberty. Glory to Ukraine (Slava Ukraini).

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 109; NAY on Roll Call No. 108; YEA on Roll Call No. 140; YEA on Roll Call No. 212; NAY on Roll Call No. 231; and NAY on Roll Call No. 234.

#### RECOGNIZING PASTOR EDDIE WILLIAMS

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pastor Eddie Williams for his 17 years of service to the congregation at Lakeridge Ministries Church of God in Christ.

Lakeridge Village Ministries was founded on the principle of uplifting people from all walks of life in spirituality and that the gift of spirituality is not limited to clergy. Pastor Williams has sought to lead his flock under that guidance, fostering a true sense of community and caring for the most vulnerable. In addition to his work in ministry, Pastor Williams has sought to expand resources and options for people suffering from the pain of addiction and mental illness. His work at Lakeridge Village has accomplished so much in fighting the stigma around mental health issues and connecting those struggling with substance abuse to the assistance they need. In short Pastor Williams has performed outstanding service to the community through his ministry and charitable work.

Please join me in tribute to Pastor Eddie Williams in celebration of his 17 years in spiritual service to Lakeridge Ministries Church of God in Christ.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF  
COLLIN MICHAEL MORRISON

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Collin Michael Morrison, devoted American patriot and late President/CEO of LionHeart Security Services in Tempe, Arizona.

Born at a British military base in Singapore, Michael was the son of Scottish U.S. Army servicemembers. He spent his childhood in the United Kingdom and Southeast Asia where his father worked in intelligence.

After moving to the United States, Michael's core values in teamwork and equal justice led him to serve in both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army, in the Monterey County Sheriff's Department, and later in international security.

Notably, his international work landed him at U.S. embassies in Africa, including roles as a Project Manager for security forces in Guinea, West Africa, and as a security consultant for U.S. embassies in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, and Senegal. Here, he developed security training modules for local security forces assigned to these embassies.

After 7 years in Africa, Michael returned to the United States to foster his continued sense of duty and create LionHeart Security Services in Arizona. As a business owner, he held an "always can do and will do" attitude with intense follow through. Every time the United States of America asked Michael to step up, you can guarantee he did.

Beyond his accomplishments in the security industry, Michael was also a strong Conservative Republican. He was instrumental in drafting Congressional legislation to ensure U.S. Security Force project managers only report to U.S. Diplomatic Security Agents at U.S. embassies and consulates abroad. Similarly, he assisted in the Arizona House to pass a law to allow honorably discharged veterans to obtain a security guard I.D. card without a waiting period, thus enabling veterans to begin working as soon as their discharges were complete.

He did not consider himself a hero, but an ordinary man in service of the nation he so loved. However, Michael's greatest service was not in work, but in friendship. He lived by the following words:

If you cannot stand, I will lift you.  
If you cannot walk, I will carry you.  
If you are blind, I will see for you.  
If you are mute, I will speak for you.  
If you are deaf, I will hear for you.  
If you are in fear, I will comfort you.  
If you are lost, I will guide you.  
If you are in danger, I will protect you.  
If you need courage, I will be brave for you.  
If you are confused, I will reassure you.  
If you cannot fight, I will defend you.  
And if you just need a friend, I am here for you.

After contracting COVID-19, Michael spent his final days surrounded by friends, family,

and his loving wife Mariam. He will be remembered as a man of courage, honor, and integrity. But most of all, a friend of mine.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DOROTHY  
DIANA (ROZA) DECKER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today we gather to honor the life of Dorothy Diana (Roza) Decker, a passionate advocate for early childhood education and a beacon of dedication within our community. Diana's lifelong commitment to education has left an indelible mark on the lives of countless individuals. She peacefully passed away at her Fresno home on July 23, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of compassion, determination, and lasting influence.

Born on November 11, 1942, in Hanford, California, Diana's journey began on a dairy farm in Easton, California, surrounded by the love of her parents and five brothers. Her heart radiated with a genuine concern for others from an early age, a trait that would define her entire life. Diana attended Washington Union High School, excelling academically, and serving as the editor of the school's newspaper, a role that foreshadowed her lifelong dedication to sharing stories and voices.

Diana's path intertwined with that of her soulmate, Mike Decker, in 1963. Their story unfolded with a sense of fate, and on July 4, 1964, they embarked on a journey of love that spanned 53 remarkable years. Together, they raised a family and built a legacy of love, resilience, and unwavering commitment to one another.

Diana's passion for early childhood education was both a vocation and a calling. For over 30 years, she poured her heart and soul into advocating for the youngest members of our society. Her contributions to the Central California Association of Young Children were immeasurable, embodying her dedication through roles such as Chapter President, Community Outreach advocate, Governing Board member, and was the very first recipient of the Fansler Institute ECE Leader of the Year award for her contributions to the educational community. She continued to shine her light at the state level, serving as a Central California representative on the State board of the California Association for the Education of Young Children, leaving an indelible mark on the landscape of childhood education across the State.

Diana's impact extended to her teaching career, empowering children, and adults with her wisdom. Her role as a special education teacher for Central Unified and later as a Special Education Specialist Lead for the Merced County Office of Education, CPIN, exemplified her dedication to fostering growth and potential in every individual. Her compassion radiated not only in her professional endeavors but also within her family. As a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, she left an indelible mark of love, unity, and boundless support.

As we mourn Diana's physical absence, we find solace in the beautiful memories and legacy of love she has gifted us. Her life's tap-

estry is woven with threads of compassion, kindness, and resilience, reminding us that the impact of a single life, lived with purpose, can reach far beyond the confines of time. Diana is survived by her three children: Timothy John Decker of Pagosa Springs, Colorado; Katie Marie Decker and Scott Arthur Decker, both Fresno, California and daughter-in-law Marie Estrada Decker. Her legacy also includes three grandchildren: Michael Anthony Hill, Jady Decker Garrett, and Nicho Decker, as well as a great-granddaughter, Neelia Grace Hill. She is also survived by her brothers Gene Roza and his wife, Marylou Roza; Robert Roza and his wife, Gail Roza; and Franklin Roza. Numerous cousins, including myself, nieces, and nephews also cherish her memory.

May we honor Diana's memory by carrying forward her torch of compassion, nurturing the dreams of our youth, and supporting one another with the unwavering devotion she showed throughout her remarkable journey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of Dorothy Diana (Roza) Decker, a dedicated educator whose commitment to early childhood education has profoundly shaped the lives of many. Her contributions will continue to inspire generations, fostering a love for learning and education.

FOUNDER'S DAY FOR THE LADIES  
OF FUTURITY, INC ORGANIZATION

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 11, 2023*

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor founders Tracey & Amaris Graham, and each of the members of the Ladies of Futurity Inc. on the occasion of their 10 year anniversary. Amaris is a member of my team as a Staff Assistant and Legislative Correspondent.

Amaris and her mother, Tracey Graham, founded the Ladies of Futurity, Inc. nonprofit organization on May 26, 2013, to equip and empower young girls of diverse backgrounds to become ladies, obtain a higher education, and to be servant leaders in their community with essential life and leadership skills to create a pathway to educational success and career development through workshops, sisterly gatherings, and exceptional community service in Palm Beach County, Florida.

With over 312 inducted members since its inception, Ladies of Futurity continues to accomplish its mission of helping girls realize their true potential as they establish and ultimately achieve their future goals. Their dedication to ensuring each of its members is "empowered to achieve, educated to succeed, and forever evolving as a lady" is truly admirable. Tracey and Amaris Graham strive to provide the tools necessary for each young lady to "possess a favor, fulfilling, future."

Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending congratulatory wishes to the Ladies of Futurity, Inc. for 10 years of remarkable service. I am honored to recognize them today and wish them continued success in the years to come.