

Wampanoag in a manner that is both accurate and inclusive, while highlighting and recognizing narratives that have traditionally been silenced.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Pilgrim Hall Museum, and I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating this monumental occasion of the museum's 200th anniversary and wishing Pilgrim Hall Museum continued success in the years to come.

HONORING THE SERVICES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JAMES HAIRSTON III AND TRINA HAIRSTON, LEAD PASTORS OF ALL NATIONS WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

HON. GLENN IVEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the services and accomplishments of James Hairston III and Trina Hairston, the Lead Pastors of All Nations Worship Assembly Washington, D.C.

Both natives of Bridgeport, Connecticut came to being the Lead Pastors in January of 2019 of All Nations Worship Assembly Washington, D.C. At the start of launching, they hosted live-streaming Bible Study sessions and live worship services called "Preaching to the Choir" to draw the local community closer to God. Within the last four years, they have built a culture of outreach, discipleship, and fellowship for the local Prince George's County communities. As Lead Pastors, they have purposed in their heart to cultivate the community through love, prayer, and teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We recognize that Pastors James Hairston III and Trina Hairston as a force within the Prince George's County community. Their passion has been powerful by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through prayer, love, outreach, discipleship, and fellowship into the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. Their commitment to God has both led Pastor James Hairston III and Trina Hairston to be great faith-based pillar within Prince George's County.

On behalf of Maryland 4th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lead Pastors James Hairston III and Trina Hairston for their exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS UNIVERSITY

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to recognize Friends University as they celebrate their 125th anniversary.

Friends opened its doors in September of 1898. In his opening address, President Edmund Stanley said, "The purpose of this school shall be to give to the world and to give our country a class of citizens that will be in every sense loyal citizens." He went on to

say, "Loyalty means that mental training and discipline which makes the child think—the development which makes him strong in mind and body; strong in his moral nature; a full man in that intelligence which should direct the efforts of all men for conscientious, honorable and successful private life and citizenship."

And that is just what they have done—for the past 125 years Friends has provided Kansas, our country and the world, with men and women who are honorable citizens wherever they go after graduation, bringing value to their communities. Being a Friends University Falcon is a respected recognition and the reach of Friends touches many industries and states in the country.

The University offers a distinguished liberal arts education with majors ranging from Accounting to Zoo Science and enrolls traditional and adult students seeking associate, bachelor's and master's degrees.

I'm so pleased to help Friends University celebrate this milestone anniversary and offer my sincere congratulations on 125 years of success, and I look forward to another century and a quarter of equipping students under the iconic clock tower in the heart of the Sunflower State. Happy 125th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2023, I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on the Previous Question (Roll No. 388), NO on H. Res. 681 (Roll No. 389), YES on the Democratic Motion to Recommit on H.R. 1435 (Roll No. 390), and NO on passage of H.R. 1435 (Roll No. 391).

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF JUSTICE CRUZ REYNOSO

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional achievements of former Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court Cruz Reynoso.

Cruz Reynoso was born in Brea, California and was raised in La Habra, California. By the age of 11, he led a successful petition to have his rural community receive deliveries from the postman.

Upon discovering the power in using his words to right the wrongs he witnessed, Judge Reynoso set off on a path as a civil rights advocate.

His high school art teacher saw his talents and convinced him to attend Fullerton College. There his speech teacher recommended Reynoso be chairman of the first freshman class meeting. He was elected as the freshman class president and then the following spring, he was elected the college's first Latino student body president.

Prior to his graduation in June of 1951, he was offered a scholarship to attend Pomona

College. After graduating from Pomona College in 1953, he enlisted in the United States Armed Forces, serving in the Counterintelligence Corps.

Following his enlistment, he enrolled in UC Berkeley's School of Law and graduated in 1958.

From 1958 to 1959, he studied constitutional law through a Ford Foundation fellowship at the National University of Mexico and after passing the bar, he opened a private practice in El Centro, California.

His full-time job was teaching law at the University of New Mexico, becoming one of the first Latino law professors in the country.

He continued to make his mark in the legal field by being appointed to the California Court of Appeal in 1976 and the California Supreme Court in 1982 as an Associate Justice.

From 1991 to 2001, he became a law professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

In 2001, he was rewarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor, by President Clinton. The same year, he became a Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of California, Davis.

His wife of 53 years, Jeannene, died in 2007. He remarried, and he and his wife Elaine lived in Davis, where he enjoyed the time spent with his 17 grandchildren. In May 2021, Cruz Reynoso passed away.

In April 2013, Fullerton College Centennial Celebration saluted the achievements of Cruz Reynoso as an inaugural member of its Hall of Fame.

Today, Fullerton College renamed its Student Services Building as Cruz Reynoso Hall to honor Judge Reynoso, a Hornet alumnus and the first Latino Supreme Court Justice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the commitments and accomplishments of Judge Cruz Reynoso.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the vote series on September 14, 2023. My wife contracted COVID-19 while I was in Washington this week and I returned home to take care of her and our children.

H.R. 1435 would disrupt the growing electric vehicle market in the United States, jeopardize American jobs in auto manufacturing, and hurt the EPA's ability to protect our clean air. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on Roll Call vote No. 391, H.R. 1435.

RECOGNIZING ACHARYA DR. LOKESH MUNI JI'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEACE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding global interfaith leader, Acharya Dr.

Lokesh Muni Ji. For the last 30 years, Acharya Lokeshji has been an advocate for communal harmony, non-violence, peace, and mutual cooperation.

Born in 1961 in northwest India, Acharya Lokeshji studied Jain, Buddhist, and Vedic philosophy from an early age, and left home at the age of 22 to take initiation into Jainism. After receiving the title of Acharya, one of the highest honors in Jainism, Acharya Lokeshji travelled the world and authored dozens of books to reflect on the principles of religious harmony and unity in diversity. He is also outspoken on critical issues such as environmental protection and substance use disorder.

Acharya Lokeshji's brave actions back up his doctrine of non-violence. In 2013, while on a tour of London, he rushed back to India to assist victims of a deadly riot between Hindus and Muslims. Prior to that, he resolved a Sikh religious dispute in the Punjab region of India. As a capstone to his initiatives, Acharya Lokeshji also recently dedicated India's first "World Peace Center" in Gurugram, one of the country's largest cities. These examples all serve as a testament of Acharya Lokeshji's ability to put his principles into practice.

We are all grateful for Acharya Lokeshji's dedication to interfaith dialogue and peace. His selfless service is an incredible example of global citizenship, and we wish him success in his continued work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2023, I did not arrive in Washington in time for the vote on H.R. 1567—ACRES Act, as amended, and H.R. 3324—To extend the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity Marina fees through fiscal year 2029. I missed both votes because I was in attendance and speaking at the funeral for Lawrence Lacks, Sr., the last living child of the late Henrietta Lacks, the mother of the medically famous HeLa cell, and a former neighbor of mine in my youth. Had I been in D.C., my vote would have been YEA on H.R. 1567, Roll Call No. 386, and YEA on H.R. 3324, Roll Call No. 387.

HONORING BOB KNAPP

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions and tireless dedication of Mr. Bob Knapp, a distinguished individual, devoted advocate, and community leader in Colorado.

Mr. Knapp has exemplified exceptional commitment to his community and has been an integral part of various organizations dedicated to improving the lives of retired Americans, advancing the cause of democracy, and promoting the rights of American workers.

Mr. Knapp's contributions include co-founding the Colorado Chapter of the Alliance for Retired Americans. For 2 decades, he served

as its Secretary, working to ensure the needs and concerns of retired Americans were addressed and advocating for policies that enhanced their quality of life.

Perhaps one of Mr. Knapp's most remarkable achievements is his service on the AFL-CIO Executive Board for over 30 years. His long-standing commitment to the AFL-CIO has been marked by strong leadership and dedication to American workers.

Throughout the past 20 years, Mr. Knapp has provided strong leadership, demonstrating an ability to keep everyone on track and focused on achieving their goals. His dedication and his tireless efforts on behalf of the community are an inspiration to us all.

In recognition of his outstanding service and important contributions, I extend a heartfelt thank you and congratulations to Bob Knapp on behalf of Colorado's 7th Congressional District. His legacy will inspire generations to come.

HONORING WALTER ATKINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Walter L. Atkins, Jr.

Walter L. Atkins, Jr. was born November 10, 1972, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Atkins, Sr. in Clarksdale, MS. He was the first born of 4 children. In 1978, he moved to Darling, MS and resided there until 1990 with his parents and siblings.

Walter attended Falcon Elementary School and furthered his education by attending Quitman County High School and graduated in 1990. Walter joined the United States Army Reserve in 1989. Upon completion of his Basic and Advanced Individual Trainings, he furthered his education by attending Alcorn State University from 1991 to 1998. There he received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Secondary Education in Biological Sciences. During his freshman year of college, tragedy struck with the sudden death of his mother.

Walter began his educational profession in the South Delta School District, where he served as a science teacher for 5 years. He left the profession for 3 years to pursue a career in auto sales. Fortunately, he returned to the profession that he so loved 3 years later in the Leland School District. In 2011, he joined the Drew School District where he served as a high school science teacher. The following year, the district consolidated with the Sunflower County School District to form the newly formed Sunflower County Consolidated School District. Walter left the classroom in hopes of becoming an administrator.

In 2012, he served as an assistant principal and shortly after principal of R.H. Bearden Elementary School in the West Tallahatchie School District. In 2016, he returned to his home county, where he took the position as high school principal of (formerly known as Quitman County High School) Madison S. Palmer High. Upon returning, he was given the task of raising the graduation rate to 95 percent. In 2020, the district was recognized by MDE for its 95.7 percent graduation rate

which placed the Quitman County School District in the top 10 of all school districts within the state of Mississippi.

In addition, he spearheaded and began a College Prep initiative that took the financial burden of paying for college courses from the parents. He served in that capacity for 6 years where the school made many educational strides and received recognition from MDE for its academic successes. He currently serves as the district's Director of Curriculum and Instructional Management. Walter is the proud father of 2 sons—D'Kedrianane and Jeremy, and has 2 grandchildren that he enjoys spending time with.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Walter L. Atkins, Jr., for he is a reflection of a hero.

IN MEMORY OF BILL RICHARDSON

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, last week, the enchanted State of New Mexico, the United States and families seeking justice everywhere lost a statesman, a former Ambassador, Governor and Congressman.

Governor Bill Richardson is survived by our former First Lady of incredible grace, Mrs. Barbara Richardson.

In 1983, Governor Richardson began his public service career as the first Representative of the newly formed 3rd Congressional district. I stand on his shoulders, and am grateful for his sage advice on how to best serve this district.

As Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus he opposed cruel immigration policies and brought attention to Latino policy priorities.

As Governor, he recognized the importance of education and economic diversity as he raised teacher salaries and increased film production.

May we honor Richardson as a tenacious champion for New Mexicans, skillful diplomat and a committed public servant.

I include in the RECORD Linda Lynch's story on how Richardson rescued her husband held hostage.

17 years ago, this month, I flew to Khartoum with the late Governor Bill Richardson.

The mission was to free my husband, Paul Salopek, a journalist, from captivity in Sudan, along with his translator, Suleiman Moussa, and driver, Idriss Anu. Paul was reporting a story for National Geographic magazine when they were abducted on the western border of Sudan. On August 6, 2006, they disappeared for 10 days. When they surfaced, they had been traded for a box of uniforms and turned over to the Sudanese government. They were flown by helicopter deep into Darfur, separated, imprisoned, and charged by the government with "espionage, passing information illegally, and reporting false news."

I will never forget the day Governor Richardson telephoned me at home in Columbus, New Mexico offering help. At that time, I, together with Paul's editors at National Geographic and the Chicago Tribune, had scrambled to locate Paul and were grappling with how to get them out. Over the course of days, we worked an intricate web of contacts