

Month. Twenty-five years ago, the American Gaming Association established Responsible Gaming Education Week to promote responsible gaming nationwide and to educate employees and customers on the subject. This effort was expanded to Responsible Gaming Education Month in 2022.

I am proud to represent Las Vegas which sets the gold standard when it comes to gaming and gaming regulation. Casino gaming is legal in 44 states and sports betting is legal and operational in 35 states, providing jobs to 1.8 million individuals around the country. Last year, consumers spent a record \$60 billion at commercial casinos. This translated to \$13.5 billion in direct gaming taxes to state and local governments, exclusive of the billions of dollars in income and sales tax that casinos contribute to communities. All this revenue supports a range of needed public services like hospitals, schools, transportation, and public safety.

Responsible gaming is a central tenant of the gaming industry which goes to great lengths to make sure employees are trained in best practices for recognizing and dealing with problem gaming and patrons are aware of options for help if they need it. Last year, states earmarked \$104 million for problem gaming research and the promotion of responsible gaming resources. Many operators go above and beyond the minimum, partnering with organizations to educate consumers and employees and adhering to voluntary responsible gaming and marketing codes. This includes deploying responsible gaming tools like limits on deposits, wagers, and play time.

This year, Responsible Gaming Education Month has four themes: Empowering Customers to Play Responsibly; Legal, Regulated Gaming Protects Players; Building a Responsible Gaming Culture Within; and Advancing Responsible Gaming Research.

I commend operators around the country for their work on these important issues and for ensuring that the customer is always put first. I thank the many employees of the gaming industry in my district and around the country for their efforts to educate patrons about responsible gaming.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF DR.  
JOSEPH CARTER CORBIN

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Professor Joseph Carter Corbin and his contributions to education in the state of Arkansas. Mr. Corbin was an educator, journalist, mathematician, and scholar. He became one of the most educated men of his day, earning an Artium Baccalaureus degree and two master's degrees from Ohio University.

In 1872, Professor Corbin made the Natural State home for him and his family. He was then elected as the Superintendent of Public Instruction and President of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees. Mr. Corbin recognized the need for teachers and laid the foundation for a teacher's college of the "poorer class." Branch Normal College of the Arkansas Industrial University is what we now

know as the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Professor Corbin became the first African American superintendent of public education in Arkansas, and he had a profound impact on the school. He worked tirelessly to advocate on behalf of Arkansas's black educators. His dedication to serving the people of Pine Bluff is most admirable, and his legacy shall not be forgotten.

I want to thank Professor Corbin for making such a deep and lasting impact on his community, the 4th District of Arkansas, and our country. I hope his record of service will be an inspiration to all who follow in his footsteps. I am proud to recognize September 27, 2023, as Professor Joseph Carter Corbin Day in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

HONORING FRIENDS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the vital work of the Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) on the 30th anniversary of its founding. Founded in 1993 to be "a voice for the river," this nonprofit organization has grown to more than 2,500 members and countless volunteers. These dedicated guardians and the nearly two dozen staff are committed to protecting the health of America's greatest river as well as its creatures and the communities that live along its banks and rely upon its waters.

Founded in 1993 by Peter Gove, attorney George Dunn, former Mississippi National River & Recreation Area superintendent John Anfinson, and river boat dispatcher Hakan Miller, FMR started with a mission to engage the public to protect, restore and enhance the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities region. Whitney Clark joined the organization as Executive Director in 1997, quickly growing the organization and expanding its mission from community stewardship projects to include legislative advocacy concerning the entire length of the Mississippi river beyond Minnesota.

The Mississippi River is one of our nation's most important natural resources, cherished each year by millions of residents and visitors alike. As one of the world's longest rivers, the Mississippi is a defining geographic feature of North America with a watershed that drains all or parts of 31 states and provides drinking water for 20 million Americans. The river's ecosystem is a natural resource of global significance, with nearly half of North America's ducks, geese and swans relying on the Mississippi River for food, direction, and resting places during seasonal migrations.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of its staff, board and the hundreds of members and volunteers that support it, FMR is one of Minnesota's leading nonprofit citizen organizations for land conservation, watershed protection and river stewardship. As the ecological vitality of the Upper Mississippi River continues to be under threat, FMR faces the important task of protecting the river's ability to support native plant and animal species. FMR provides expertise and technical assistance critical to the protection of the Mississippi River and they

engage public and private landowners, local governments and concerned citizens as stewards of the river for current and future generations.

Now, FMR continues to lead efforts critical to the long-term wellbeing of the entire Mississippi River as a vital partner in supporting the Mississippi River Resilience and Restoration Initiative, which will create a comprehensive federal strategy to coordinate efforts on conservation and environmental restoration along the entire river corridor. FMR's years of advocacy have helped to make the Twin Cities a model for watershed planning and decision-making. Today, FMR's advocacy extends well beyond Minnesota to the entirety of the river, from the northernmost headwaters in Lake Itasca to the Mississippi Delta.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the commitment and dedication of the many members, volunteers, and staff of Friends of the Mississippi River as they commemorate their 30th anniversary. May Friends of the Mississippi River continue its mission to restore and protect this river for future generations of Minnesotans and indeed all Americans.

HONORING THE COURAGEOUS SERVICE OF MASTER SERGEANT DONALD W. JACKSON OF GREENEVILLE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant Donald W. Jackson of Greeneville for his courageous military service during the Vietnam War. Master Sergeant Jackson risked his life to defend this Nation. From 1965 to 1996, Master Sergeant Jackson served in the United States Army, Navy, and National Guard.

Master Sergeant Jackson first began his career as an aircraft mechanic, stationed in Ft. Rucker, Alabama in 1965. The following year, Master Sergeant Jackson received his first tour of duty in the Mekong Delta. Assigned to the 1st Platoon of the 121st Assault Helicopter Company, also known as the Blue Tigers, he assisted the South Vietnamese 9th Infantry division and auxiliary American forces during combat.

In the battlefield, Master Sergeant Jackson's helicopter company made emergency helicopter medical evacuations from ongoing combat operations, and also transported supplies and personnel to remote outposts—often too dangerous to reach by road. Additionally, Master Sergeant Jackson's helicopter company frequently accompanied General Nguen Van Minh, commander of all South Vietnamese forces in the Mekong Delta, and his staff.

Despite suffering an injury in 1967, Jackson extended his tour for another 6 months and served during the Tet Offensive, one of the deadliest battles of the Vietnam War. Master Sergeant Jackson returned from Vietnam in 1968, achieving the rank of a Specialist 5. Committed to protect and defend our Nation, he continued his dedicated career of military service for more than 25 years as a servicemember in the U.S. National Guard, the U.S. Navy, and the U.S. Army Reserves.

Please join me in thanking Master Sergeant Donald W. Jackson for his bravery and distinguished military service to our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 151ST ANNIVERSARY OF GREATER SAINT PAUL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the 151st Anniversary of Greater Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in West Columbia, South Carolina.

I am grateful for the strong leadership at Greater Saint Paul AME Church, including Reverend Dr. Tobie H. Pollock, Reverend Rosalyn G. Coleman, Mrs. Phyllis N. Green, and Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. I appreciate their dedication to spreading the word of God in our community, making an impact in the lives of so many people.

Established in 1816, the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church holds the distinction of the inaugural African American denomination organized in the United States. The church played a significant role in the African American community, championing civil rights and evangelizing. Over 200 years later, the AME Church continues to serve many people throughout our communities.

Greater Saint Paul will be celebrating their anniversary on Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

RECOGNIZING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS OF THE 2023 CENTREVILLE IMMIGRATION FORUM ANNUAL DINNER

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centreville Immigration Forum on the occasion of its 6th Annual Dinner. The theme of this year's gala is "Celebrating a Community United for Justice" and will recognize the rich diversity of cultures in Northern Virginia. The Centreville Immigration Forum has done tremendous work in Northern Virginia to support our immigrant community by implementing sustainable programs that provide immigrants in need with the means to improve their lives and become more integrated into the community.

Northern Virginia is blessed by its diversity. In Fairfax County, nearly 1 in 4 residents are foreign born. More than 200 languages are spoken in our schools, and we are home to more minority-owned technology firms than anywhere else in the Nation. Our variety of cultures and heritages do not divide us; they make us stronger.

Three exceptional individuals will be honored during this gala who have gone above and beyond in ensuring that everyone, regardless of their country of origin, has full access to the benefits and opportunities this commu-

nity and our nation provide. I am pleased to include in the RECORD the names of the following 2023 Annual Dinner honorees.

MS. ANNABEL PARK

Annabel Park is a Korean American documentary filmmaker, political activist and community volunteer. She shined light on the struggles of immigrants in America through her documentary 9500 Liberty which was an interactive project, allowing viewers to comment and give direction to the production. It highlighted the struggles in Manassas and Prince William County in 2008 through 2009, when some leaders passed laws to make life difficult for immigrants. The story of building community in the face of bigotry inspired Centreville to organize in the years following. Ms. Park went on to co-produce the Story of America documentary series about voting rights across the country.

MR. HASSAN AHMAD

Hassan Ahmad is the principal and founder of HMA Law Firm. He is fluent or proficient in eight languages in addition to English, and this gives his clients comfort when telling their stories. His perspective on immigration as a means to prosperity is borne from his belief in unity in diversity, advising nationals of 117 countries around the world for nearly 20 years. He is a strong voice for justice and writes and speaks fearlessly against laws and policies that limit the lives of immigrants. He is an expert on the roots of anti-immigration organizations. About one-third of his practice is devoted to asylum cases.

MONICA SARMIENTO

Monica Sarmiento is the Executive Director for the Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights (VACIR), an organization dedicated to the defense of dignity, power, and quality of life for all immigrant and refugee communities. She is from the DC metropolitan area and is Salvadoran-American. She was the founding Executive Director of VACIR and built it into a coalition of immigrant rights groups with a respected voice in the Virginia General Assembly. She organized lobby days, press conferences, and campaigns that led to Driver Privilege Cards, increased language access to public information, and in-state tuition for all high school graduates.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of these individuals are noteworthy not only because they are rooted in an appreciation for our region's cultural and ethnic diversity, but also because they help to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation in our community. I congratulate them on their awards and ask my colleagues to join me in commending them for their service to the Northern Virginia region.

HONORING REYMUNDO ESPINOZA

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Reymundo Espinoza upon his retirement. He has worked to provide healthcare for those in need for 48 years throughout California and Arizona.

Mr. Espinoza was raised in the small desert town of Coachella, California, where farming was the predominant industry. Upon gradua-

tion from Coachella Valley High School, he attended Stanford University and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He received his Master of Public Health degree, specializing in Hospital Administration, from UC Berkeley in 1975.

Since 1987, he has served as CEO of the Gardner Family Health Centers. For 37 years, his vision for health equity and his commitment to access for the most vulnerable and underserved in our community have yielded impressive results:

Growing Gardner from a single clinic to thirteen sites (including two mobile units).

Increasing patients served from 8,000 to nearly 45,000 while providing high quality comprehensive medical and behavioral healthcare including prevention and education, early intervention, treatment, and advocacy services.

Participating in the Healthy Kids Initiative to ensure all children who are part of low-income households in our community could have access to a health coverage program.

Being a Founder, Chairperson and Board Member of Community Health Partnership health centers, a consortium of community clinics that advocate for and create healthcare access to low-income populations in Santa Clara County.

Co-Founding the California Primary Care Association to advocate for and create healthcare access to low-income populations in California.

During the Pandemic, Gardner Family Health Centers held the first community large-scale COVID-19 testing and vaccination clinic in Santa Clara County. From April 2020 to June 2021, approximately 12,000 individuals were tested, and 26,000 COVID-19 vaccinations were provided.

He has received many awards and recognition for his leadership in healthcare. For example, in 2023 he was awarded the Silver Medal Jefferson Award for expanding quality affordable healthcare so the South Bay's underserved can live healthier lives. In 2023 he received the Latinx Business Leadership Award from the Silicon Valley Business Journal.

His vision and legacy remain an inspiration and guiding light in these challenging but hopeful times. His expertise, good judgment, skillful leadership, and compassion have made him an outstanding member of our community. I consider him a valued colleague and friend and I join the community of Silicon Valley in honoring him and wishing him well in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2023*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate a milestone of profound significance—the 150th anniversary of the charitable endeavors of the Sisters of Providence.

For a century and a half, this venerable institution has been a bedrock of our community, demonstrating unwavering resilience and fostering a culture of compassion and service.