

His first full-time job after college was as an outreach counselor for a UCSB partnership program that provided tutoring at junior high and high schools in Goleta and Santa Barbara. This kicked off a long career dedicated to helping students achieve their educational goals.

Seeing a need for dedicated and qualified educators and counselors in the San Fernando Valley, Britt used his acquired skills to motivate generations of Latino and Latina engineers and computer science students. His leadership set the gold standard for opening doors to traditionally underserved students.

He planned hundreds of bilingual financial aid workshops and organized college resource fairs. He partnered with groups such as the United Way to make these things happen.

During 2 years of work with CSUN's minority education program, Mr. Ortiz and the MEP team brought in the largest freshman class of minority engineering and computer science majors in the history of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at California State University, Northridge.

After mastering his skills in the San Fernando Valley, he returned to UC, Santa Barbara and led the UC system's largest and oldest precollege academic preparation program. His work helped prepare first-generation, low-income, and underserved students and their families for higher education.

Over the course of his career, he also worked to get \$4.5 million in grants and funding for various agencies, institutions, and early academic outreach programs that helped students across the State of California succeed and achieve their dreams.

He has done all of this work and more so that students who were often discouraged and overlooked had the support, encouragement, and opportunity they needed to chase after and achieve their dreams regardless of the circumstances they were faced with or what was thrown at them.

I thank Britt Ortiz for all that he has done during his 35-year career. He showed kids what is possible. He gave them the tools they needed to learn. He helped them achieve their full potential, and he helped make their dreams come true.

What makes Britt's career so special is that as a young boy, he was discouraged from going on to college, but he defied those negative thoughts and actions against him by proving to himself—not to anybody else, but to himself—that if he put his best foot forward, if he always tried his best, if he always gave it his best, he could achieve anything.

That is what is amazing about this great country, that no matter who you are, no matter what language you start with, no matter what it is that you are faced with, if you are focused and you take advantage of all the opportunities that are here for you in this great country, you can and will make it.

What is sad is all along the way some people may not believe in you. They may try to discourage you and actually get in your way. Some people may even try to get you thrown out of your school or out of your classroom or what have you for things you have never done.

I say this because I have witnessed these things with my own eyes, but it takes people like Britt Ortiz to prove to young people that those are just lies, and they can be overcome. That is why today I honor Britt Ortiz for his 35-year career of helping young people overcome these challenges and to live their dreams.

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NOVEMBER 22 RECOGNIZED AS  
KIMCHI DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Kimchi Day. Kimchi is a staple Korean banchan, or side dish, consisting of fermented cabbage and other vegetables.

What was once limited to Korean families' tables is now a culinary icon that reflects the growing Korean cultural influence in the United States since the first Korean immigrants arrived more than a century ago.

I am proud to be joined by many Korean Americans from all across the country in the gallery today to celebrate kimchi and the larger contributions that the Korean-American community have made here in the United States.

Later this afternoon, Members and those listening are invited to come to the Cannon Caucus Room at 2 p.m. as we celebrate Kimchi Day with our Korean-American community.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my Korean-American colleagues—there are four of us serving in Congress: ANDY KIM, YOUNG KIM, MICHELLE STEEL, and MARILYN STRICKLAND—who have been instrumental in working with me in a bipartisan way to introduce this Korean Kimchi Day resolution to make November 22 as Kimchi Day. I thank my colleagues and those who signed on to that resolution.

Lastly, I thank everybody for loving kimchi. "Kimchi mah-nee saranghae jooaeyo," "Please love kimchi a lot."

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings or other audible conversation is in violation of the rules of the House.

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CELEBRATING HOMEGOING OF  
LIEUTENANT FRED BREWER, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, there are more than 80,000 American military personnel who remain unaccounted for from previous conflicts around the world. Their families, nonprofit organizations, and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency continue to fight tirelessly every day to bring these patriots home and to give them the dignified memorials they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the homecoming of one of these fallen heroes, Second Lieutenant Fred Lorenzo Brewer, Jr., who after nearly 80 years has returned home to Charlotte, North Carolina.

Born on August 4, 1921, Lieutenant Brewer was raised in Charlotte's historic Brooklyn neighborhood where his family attended the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church.

After graduating from Shaw University in Raleigh, the segregated South's first Black college, Lieutenant Brewer was commissioned by the United States Air Force and entered the uniformed service in November of 1942.

He was soon stationed at Tuskegee Army Airfield in Alabama, and he joined the 100th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group. Completely segregated from their White peers, he was one of the nearly 1,000 Black pilots trained at Tuskegee who would eventually become known around the world as the Tuskegee Airmen.

Known for their extreme bravery and distinctive red-tail planes, the Tuskegee Airmen fought tirelessly to defend democracy abroad and to combat racism at home.

On October 29, 1944, Lieutenant Brewer's plane, named *Trav'lin' Light*, after the Billie Holiday song, went missing while on a mission out of Ramitelli Airbase in Italy.

That day, like so many other young Black men in his elite group, Lieutenant Brewer gave the ultimate sacrifice for a country that did not yet see him as an equal citizen. In serving and in giving his life, Lieutenant Brewer showed extraordinary faith in his country and in democracy that while imperfect in its protection and promotion of his life and livelihood, it could still be worthy of his ultimate sacrifice.

While Lieutenant Brewer did not live to see it, generations of survivors vindicated his sacrifice during the civil rights era, bringing our Nation closer to the dream of every man and every woman being created equal. That is the promise of democracy, Mr. Speaker. That is the promise for which he gave his life.

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He was only 23 years old, and he left behind his parents, Fred, Sr., and Janie Brewer, and a younger sister, Gladys.

Thanks to the unyielding advocacy of his surviving cousins, Robena Brewer Harrison and Brenda L. Brewer, and the determined work of the POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Lieutenant Brewer's remains were identified in August.

Last Thursday, exactly 79 years and 1 month since his death, Lieutenant Brewer returned to Charlotte, receiving a dignified transfer. The U.S. flag was flown in his honor last Thursday at the U.S. Capitol at the request of my office.

Today, he will finally be laid to rest at Salisbury National Cemetery with full military honors.

While we celebrate today, we must never forget the countless Americans, including 25 Tuskegee Airmen, who remain unaccounted for and the families that long to bring their beloved heroes home, and we must never stop perfecting the cause for which they sacrificed.

We welcome Lieutenant Brewer home. We are forever indebted to his service.

#### CELEBRATING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as Christmastime approaches, I rise to share the history of another of our most beloved Christmas carols: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

Felix Mendelssohn once commented that the music he wrote to commemorate Johannes Gutenberg and the invention of the printing press would not be suitable for hymn or church music. How wrong he turned out to be.

Formerly, the words of this hymn were: "Hark, how are all the welkin [heaven] rings! Glory to the King of Kings."

The hymn's composer, Charles Wesley, didn't originally intend this as a Christmas hymn but perhaps as a hymn for Easter.

Wesley, the cofounder of the Methodist Church, wrote more than 4,000 hymns over the course of his life. George Whitefield, Wesley's friend, later added the first two lines we now sing.

An organist named W.H. Cummings decided to adapt Mendelssohn's music to Wesley's hymn. He arranged the 10-line stanza that we sing today, which was published as a carol in 1856.

The words of the carol are as follows:

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King;  
 Peace on Earth, and mercy mild,  
 God and sinners reconciled!"  
 Joyful, all ye Nations rise,  
 Join the triumph of the skies;  
 With th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King!"  
 Christ, by highest Heaven adored;  
 Christ the everlasting Lord;  
 Late in time, behold Him come,  
 Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
 Hail, th'incarnate Deity,  
 Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
 Jesus our Emmanuel.  
 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King!"  
 Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
 Light and life to all He brings,  
 Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
 Mild He lays His glory by,  
 Born that man no more may die.  
 Born to raise the sons of Earth,  
 Born to give them second birth.  
 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King!"

Mr. Speaker, I hope the history of this beautiful song will remind you of the Christmas season, of what it is all about and what the history is of this hymn.

On behalf of all the people of central Texas and all of Texas, I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy Hanukkah.

#### HONORING NOAH MACMILLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor my neighbor and my young friend, Noah MacMillan, who we lost last July when he died of complications from colon cancer at the age of 33 years old.

What an honor it is to speak to America this morning about Noah MacMillan. Noah's brilliance, his gentle soul, and his boundless creativity live on in the hearts of everybody he touched, in the truly extraordinary and imperishable art that he left behind, and in the beautiful devotion of his remarkable parents, Jeff MacMillan and Lucinda Leach; and his brothers, Seth and Julian.

Noah was an accomplished artist. He was a talented athlete and a soccer player. He was a gifted chef, and he was a generous teacher.

His stunning and thought-provoking illustrations were accomplished in a variety of news outlets, including The New York Times, Smithsonian Magazine, Bloomberg Business, Sports Illustrated, and Riverfront Times, to name just a few of the places that recognized his exceptional art.

One of the crowning achievements of Noah's life and one of his final projects was an illustration that fused his passions for exuberant, colorful art and for the game of soccer.

The vibrant stamp that you see next to me here bursting with energy and power honors the electrifying achievements of women's soccer in America.

It was released by the United States Postal Service at the beginning of this year, 2023. Now, countless little replicas of Noah's art are flying all across the country on envelopes and packages, inspiring artists and athletes, especially young girl soccer players everywhere, all over America and all over the world.

Noah first came to battle cancer at the age of 23. He had the same oncological surgeon that I had at Johns Hopkins; Dr. Efron.

Noah's quiet courage and insistence on living joyfully carried him through treatment and through a lot of times of adversity over the next 10 years of his life.

In that intervening decade before colon cancer stole this splendid young man from us, he lived with great purpose and great passion and an unwavering dedication to his art and to the people in his life who he loved and was devoted to.

To honor Noah's generosity and his creativity, his loving family has launched a scholarship in his honor at his alma mater, Washington University in St. Louis.

This fund will make it possible for a high school student artist to attend the same summer program at Wash U. in St. Louis that gave Noah the confidence and the skills to pursue his dreams of becoming an artist and an illustrator, a dream that led just one of his pieces of art to become a stamp in our country.

Noah was not only a remarkable artist, he was an astonishingly quick-witted and gentle and loving human being.

He left an indelible mark on everyone who knew him, including his fantastic care team led by Dr. Jonathan Efron and nurse practitioner Tam Warczynski.

Noah is survived by his fiancée, Hitomi Inoue; his devoted parents, Jeffrey and Lucinda; his two loving brothers, Julian and Seth; his extended family; countless friends and neighbors; grateful, loving students; and, of course, his timeless amazing art, which now the entire country will get to enjoy.

#### HONORING JOHN "ANDREW" FISTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Amherst County teacher John "Andrew" Fister.

Mr. Fister was an exemplary educator who dedicated nearly 25 years of his life to teaching, training, and developing his students.

After teaching Bible, math, and German for 18 years in Ohio, he moved to Virginia to serve 3 years as an academic instructor, helping young adults enter the workforce.

In January of 2022, Mr. Fister joined Amherst County public schools as a math and German teacher. Despite his relatively short time there, he left an indelible impact on the student body.

Mr. Fister was loved by many students, even those not in his classes, and served as a mentor for many who walked those halls.

With a special gift working with students needing a second chance or just a little extra help, he taught them to believe in themselves and to work hard to achieve their dreams.

Mr. Fister's enthusiasm for life was contagious, and he meant so much to so many in the Amherst community.

Only 50 years old, his time on Earth was too short for those who loved him, but his personal testimony and the influence he had on others will live beyond his life here.