

In 2007, Dean Greene received an Outstanding Research Award from the Society of American Foresters, the Herick Award for Superior Teaching, and was later inducted into the Georgia Forester's Hall of Fame.

His accomplishments don't end there. In 2008, Dale became a UGA senior teaching fellow and, in 2011, received the Georgia Forestry Association's Wise Owl award.

These are just a few ways that Dale Greene has been recognized for his outstanding service to the State of Georgia, countless students, and the field of forestry.

Mr. Speaker, as my friend embarks on his next chapter of life, he must know that his leadership has built a strong legacy. The Warnell School has grown and become so successful with him at the helm.

I thank him for all he has done, and I wish him continued success in his retirement. Go Dawgs.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE NORMAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as southern Nevada is reeling in the wake of a horrifying mass shooting at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

We remember Jerry Chang, Patricia Navarro-Velez, and Naoko Takemaru. All three of these faculty members were killed last week at work in the middle of the day while teaching our next generation of leaders.

Once again, 6 years after Las Vegas witnessed the Nation's deadliest mass shooting, our community is coming together to mourn another entirely preventable loss of life this week when four more people were shot and killed in the northwest valley.

As we pick up the pieces of these tragedies, our community is once again asking why. Why do we continue to accept these atrocities as normal? Why do we tolerate this violence when we have legislation before us that could save lives and stop the next tragedy before it is too late?

Mr. Speaker, I have a son in college. He is a freshman. I worry every day about the possibility that a tragedy like this would strike his campus. For many parents in my community, that worry became a reality last week. They saw texts and tweets with the breaking news that every parent in this country has come to fear: an active shooter at their child's school.

Students were instructed to run, hide, and fight. That is not normal. For our kids, this reality is even more traumatic—the sound of gunshots, barricading classroom doors, everyone hiding under their desks, silence, not knowing whether the next person to walk through that door is someone to save them or a murderous assailant. That is not normal.

Let's not forget the resulting emotional trauma that will plague everyone involved for years to come.

We are all incredibly grateful for the quick action of the first responders, the University Police Services, and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, who all bravely prevented that day from becoming even deadlier.

Like so many mothers in this country, I am angry, and I am exhausted. This has become a reality for far too many Americans for far too long.

Last week's shooting at UNLV was the 80th shooting at a school this year, a year that has broken the record for mass shootings and claimed the lives of over 40,000 children, parents, and neighbors. That is not normal.

On that same day that we lost three of our own in southern Nevada, Senate Republicans were busy blocking legislation that could prevent another tragedy. Students, faculty, and university staff were hiding for their lives, cowering in fear, while Washington politicians were cowering behind the gun lobby that refuses to support policies demanded by an overwhelming majority of Americans.

That should not be normal.

Nevadans are tired of it, and so am I. We cannot and should not continue to accept this violence. Weapons of war on our streets are not normal. Barricading classroom doors is not normal. Parents being afraid to send their children to school, from kindergarten to college, is not normal.

I don't want to hold another vigil. I don't want to hold another moment of silence. What I want to do is I want this institution, which Nevadans sent me to help fix, to stop accepting this violence and to end this sick cycle of inaction.

Mr. Speaker, I am not naive enough to think that we can't prevent every shooting, but, God, please, let us at least get caught trying.

Mr. Speaker, I am begging my colleagues and anyone who is listening to consider why we have accepted this for so long. Please, let's honor these victims with action.

SALUTING EDWARD J. "DOC" MCGANN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to salute a good friend, a gentleman with one of the biggest hearts I have ever met. Doc McGann was a piece of the very community that I grew up in back home on Long Island in a small village called Island Park.

Back home in Island Park, one of the beacons of our community is our local firehouse, and Doc McGann served that fire department for 72 years. He served as chief of our department from 1963 to 1964 and had the opportunity to serve every rank in that department. Even in his elder years, he was a calm voice, someone who gave the younger members advice on how to serve their community.

He was active in our Church of Sacred Heart.

He was the executive leader of the Island Park, Lido, Point Lookout Republican Committee. In that capacity, in 1980, he was one of the architects that sent an unknown guy from a small village of 6,000 people by the name of Alfonse D'Amato to the United States Senate.

Mr. Speaker, 42 years later, he helped send another guy from a village of 6,000 to the United States House of Representatives, that being me.

He was married to his lovely wife, Gerri, for 66 years. He leaves behind four children: Danny, Kevin, Kerrie, and Jackie. He is the proud grandfather and great-grandfather of beautiful children.

Today, I salute Doc McGann. When he died just less than a month ago, a piece of Island Park died with him.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN SULLIVAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Brian Sullivan, the president of the Nassau County Correction Officers Benevolent Association.

After a long and storied career in the Nassau County Sheriff's Department, Mr. SULLIVAN has retired, leaving behind a legacy of excellence.

Brian Sullivan was appointed as a correction officer in Nassau County in 1988, marking the beginning of over 35 years of service. Brian Sullivan worked his way through the ranks of the department, ultimately achieving the rank of captain in 2022.

Throughout his time in corrections, Brian Sullivan served in a multitude of positions, including the Behavioral Management Unit, which comprised some of the most dangerous inmates in custody in our county.

In addition to safeguarding the public from violent offenders, Brian demonstrated his leadership among colleagues and was elected in 2002 to serve as a delegate of his union. As he did in his uniformed career, Brian rose through the ranks of the union, having been elected first as a delegate, twice as the union's first vice president, and then twice as president of the organization.

In his tenure as union leader, he was wildly successful and managed to help pass several laws at the State level to protect pensions and death benefits for Nassau County corrections officers.

Brian's work both safeguarding the people of Nassau County and advocating for his brother and sister correction officers is worthy of great praise. I am honored to recognize the incredible career of my Nassau neighbor and friend.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Brian Sullivan the best in this next chapter, and I know he will continue being a selfless community servant wherever life takes him. I wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

WHAT WE DELIVERED IN THE
EIGHTH DISTRICT IN 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, as we close out 2023, I want to talk about the results my team and I have delivered for New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District during my first year in office.

Our team has solved over 1,100 constituent cases, which have ranged from getting evacuees out of Afghanistan, to resolving passport issues so constituents can visit their loved ones, to returning over \$270,000 to our constituents. We have sent over 26,000 letters communicating directly with our residents about the issues they care about.

We have also secured over \$11 billion in Federal grants for projects in our district. That includes over \$6.9 billion for the Gateway Program, the largest critical infrastructure project in the country. We also secured over \$4 billion to overhaul the Northeast Corridor, drastically improving the commuter experience on the busiest passenger rail line in the country.

We secured millions for additional priorities such as community policing, environmental justice, and tackling climate change, all in less than a year.

I have also introduced six bills and cosponsored over 100 bills that address affordability, improve the quality of life for residents in our district, and fight for our Democratic values and priorities.

The first bill I introduced was the Working Families Task Force Act, which would establish a whole-of-government approach to improve the standard of living for working families in our district and across the country, including access to childcare and healthcare and creating good-paying jobs.

I made quality-of-life issues a priority, introducing legislation to battle helicopter noise in our communities. I am proud to have cosponsored legislation to protect reproductive rights, support our LGBTQ community, and fight gun violence.

As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I have worked hard every day to improve critical infrastructure across our district. This includes strongly advocating for commuting alternatives for you and your family, such as extending New York City's 7 line to New Jersey.

Serving on the House Committee on Homeland Security, I have prioritized our work to keep our country safe while following our American and Democratic values.

I have tackled the work of reforming our broken immigration system head-on as co-chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Immigration Task Force. I have fought to close the privately run Elizabeth Detention Center, which has had a decades-long record of abuse and neglect of migrant detainees.

I have stood alongside my colleagues to call for relief for cities that are han-

dling an influx of asylum-seekers. I have led efforts to oppose harmful Republican targeting of migrants.

This year, alongside House Democrats, my team and I have delivered significant and meaningful results for every single resident of New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District despite the House Republicans' dysfunction and division. We are just getting started.

My top priority is and has always been serving you. I love this district and every community I have the honor of representing. Delivering real, tangible results is what motivates me every day.

I look forward to working for you in Washington and in the district. My team and I are available to help you and your family with any issues you may be having with the Federal Government. We are here to serve you. I thank you for this incredible opportunity, and I look forward to continuing to deliver for all of you in 2024.

□ 1100

PIERCE COUNTY FOOTBALL

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Pierce County Bears who won the Georgia High School Association class 2A football State championship yesterday in Atlanta, Georgia.

This win is the second State championship for the Bears and Coach Ryan Herring, and it was not earned easily. This game was tied 14-14 all going into halftime, and it didn't get any easier from there.

The Bears had to fight to the very end, eventually sealing the victory in triple overtime.

Pierce County quarterback, Caden McGatha, was phenomenal in this victory throwing for two touchdowns to receiver Carson Sloan and running for an additional four touchdowns himself.

The Pierce County defense was also outstanding, sacking the opposing quarterback six times.

To the Pierce County Bears and to Coach Ryan Herring, I say congratulations on this amazing win. This team earned this championship, it was not given to them.

REMEMBERING PASTOR CLARENCE WILLIAMS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Reverend Dr. Clarence Williams who passed away at the age of 64.

Dr. Clarence Williams was a Savannah resident and a longtime pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church of Savannah.

In addition to his work leading Pilgrim Baptist Church of Savannah, Pastor Williams previously served as the moderator of Berean Missionary Baptist Association, vice president of the National Baptist Convention, music auxiliary, State music director of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, and many other positions.

He also served as chaplain of Chatham County Sheriff's Department and the Savannah State University National Alumni Association.

Pastor Williams will be remembered by many for his charismatic personality, his unwavering faith, and his dedication to serving others.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF RONALD
BOOKER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Ronald Booker, a Savannah resident.

After spending 34 years as head basketball coach for the Beach High School women's basketball team, Ronald Booker was named the special assistant to the head coach for the women's basketball team at Savannah State University.

During his career, Coach Booker led the Lady Bulldogs to 12 subregional championships and made 30 State championship basketball tournament appearances. His teams were ranked by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution in the State's top 10 teams for 26 seasons.

He concluded his coaching career—get this—with a 786-190 overall record.

In his honor, the city of Savannah has decided to name a portion of Hopkins Street in front of Beach High School Coach Ronald Booker Way.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Booker on his remarkable achievements and on his well-deserved honorary designation.

FRANK CALLEN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the Frank Callen Boys & Girls Club in Savannah, Georgia.

The Frank Callen Boys & Girls Club was started by Frank Callen in 1917, and the club was accepted into the national organization in 1922.

Since its inception, this club has served Savannah youth by being a safe place to learn and a safe place to play. It also serves as the home of some world-class athletes.

LSU basketball star, Flau'jae Johnson and University of Georgia football star Nolan Smith are both proud alumni of the Frank Callen Boys & Girls Club. Both of these amazing athletes have graduated to winning national championships in their respective sports, and they have not forgotten their roots. Both have recently made generous donations to the place where they got their start.

I also thank Mark Lindsay who serves as the executive director of the club. People like Mark are essential in the development of our youth and our communities as a whole.

I, again, thank everyone involved with the Frank Callen Boys & Girls Club for the positive impact they are having on our community.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Avery M. Stringer, one of his secretaries.