

parades and veterans events across Eastern Washington. He has also used his business to create employment opportunities for more than 200 individuals in Washington's Fifth Congressional District, significantly improving the lives of families in his community.

In addition to his extensive community work, Mr. Winkler has been an unwavering advocate for veterans from every branch of the military. He has extended his support to organizations such as the Seabee Veterans of America, Spokane Veterans Home, Navy League of the United States, Honor Point Military Aerospace Museum, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Spokane chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the United States Marine Corps League, and many more.

Mr. Winkler is a selfless individual who represents everything that is good in the United States of America. His unyielding desire to give back to his community, as well as his enduring commitment to our country and veterans who selflessly served it, are a testament to his profound dedication to helping others. His continued contributions will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on the lives of so many, and I know I speak for everyone in Eastern Washington when I say our community is a better place due to his "Can Do" efforts to help others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brian Winkler for his tremendous contributions to Eastern Washington and thanking him for his dedicated service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING A LIFETIME OF SERVICE BY DUMFRIES NATIVE TISHA LEWIS

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Tisha Lewis for her dedication to her hometown of Dumfries, Virginia and the surrounding community.

Tisha Lewis was born and raised in Dumfries, Virginia and attended Montclair Elementary School, Saunders Middle School, and Hylton High School. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Virginia Tech, Ms. Lewis successfully pursued a career in journalism, working at television stations across the country in New York City, Bakersfield, California, Miami, Florida, and Indianapolis, Indiana. Ms. Lewis has reported on top national stories and interviewed notable figures, such as former President Bill Clinton, former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Reverend Jesse Jackson, and former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

In 2015, the Dumfries community excitedly welcomed her back home to Virginia when she started as an anchor on FOX 5 DC. Since then, the community has been proud to watch her on screen and grateful for her many contributions to Dumfries and communities across Virginia. Ms. Lewis co-founded Sisters Peak, a youth mentorship program that empowers young girls in the community to rise to their full potential. In 2023, she received the President's Volunteer Service Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her outstanding service to her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Ms. Tisha Lewis for her leadership and compassion, as well as being honored with the Town of Dumfries' 2024 Hometown Hero Award. This remarkable achievement is a testament to her unwavering dedication and her deep commitment to her hometown.

VETERANS GROUP TO DOJ: IMPANEL GRAND JURY, INDICT BLINKEN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following press release from Veterans For Peace, brought to my attention by Jim Brasile, a constituent and leader of a local chapter of Veterans For Peace who cares passionately about the situation in Gaza. While I may have a difference in opinion with some of the content, I feel that in a democracy, it is important to consider a variety of viewpoints. Mr. Brasile witnessed the violence of war first-hand when he served in Vietnam as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. Since then, he has been a steadfast advocate against conflict and for non-aggression. I thank Mr. Brasile for his service to our country and commend him for his commitment to peace.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICIALS CALL HIM OUT FOR LYING TO CONGRESS

A national veterans' organization today called for a grand jury to indict Department of State (DOS) Secretary Antony Blinken and the U.S. Ambassador to Israel for lying to Congress, violating the Export Control Act, the Genocide Prevention Act and the U.S. War Crimes Act.

In a letter to the U.S. Department of Justice, Veterans For Peace (VFP) cited published reports showing that internal DOS emails and the statements of two senior State Department officials showed Blinken lied when he issued his "Report to Congress" stating, "... we do not currently assess that the Israeli government is prohibiting or otherwise restricting the transport or delivery of U.S. humanitarian assistance." (p. 32)

ProPublica revealed a series of State Department emails, internal memos, and meeting notes in which officials agreed Israel was blocking humanitarian aid which should trigger Section 6201 of the Foreign Assistance Act which prohibits weapons shipments to any country the President has been told is blocking humanitarian aid.

In addition to the internal documents ProPublica included, from previous reports, that Samantha Power, Director of USAID and Stacy Gilbert, a former USAID bureau head had both voiced objections to Blinken's findings as the report was being prepared.

Power stated that the looming famine in Gaza was the result of Israel's "arbitrary denial, restriction, and impediments of U.S. humanitarian assistance" and called it "one of the worst humanitarian catastrophes in the world."

Gilbert, former senior civil military adviser in USAID's refugees bureau, resigned in May after the DOS "Report to Congress" was released. She said then, "There is abundant evidence showing Israel is responsible for blocking aid. To deny this is absurd and shameful. That report and its flagrant untruths will haunt us."

VFP human rights counsel Terry Lodge said, "The Israeli military continues detonating massive bombs in southern Beirut—bombs they would not possess but for Antony Blinken's repeated violations of federal laws aimed at halting human rights and war crimes violations. Members of the Biden administration unwilling to rein in Israel and furthering its genocide in Gaza need to go to jail."

VFP President Susan Schnall stated, "Just last week, the U.S. gave Israel another \$8.7 billion in weapons to kill and wound innocent Palestinians—in addition to the \$3.8 billion we give them every year. This 'Genocide Tax' is a theft from millions of Americans who have none of the health insurance every Israeli enjoys; from millions of Americans living in horrific housing while Israel builds thousands of upscale homes on land stolen from Palestinians; from millions of young Americans can't afford college because America's top priorities are weapons and death, not human needs."

VFP's letter seeking an indictment of Blinken follows one to the DOS Inspector-General February 9, 2024, alleging that Blinken and DOS officials had already violated a series of existing U.S. laws and international treaties by transferring arms to Israel, by quoting a sworn declaration from Josh Paul, Mr. Paul, former Director of Congressional and Public Affairs in the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, attested to significant failures by the Department in a declaration filed in the Defense for Children International—Palestine lawsuit.

VFP's February letter was never responded to nor acknowledged.

ProPublica also reported that:

The head of the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration had determined that Israel was blocking humanitarian aid and that the Foreign Assistance Act should be triggered to freeze almost \$830 million in taxpayer dollars earmarked for weapons and bombs to Israel.

DOS Deputy Assistant Secretary, Mira Resnick, and the DOS acting legal adviser, Richard Visek, pressured that bureau and others to agree that Israel was not withholding U.S. humanitarian aid.

Veterans For Peace has one hundred chapters in the U.S. Since 1985 VFP has exposed the true cost of war and advocated to abolish war as an instrument of national policy.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF CHRIS QUIRE

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Chris Quire of Franklin County for being named Kentucky Sheriff's Association Sheriff of the Year in recognition of his 25 years of dedicated service in law enforcement.

Sheriff Quire has risen through the ranks from parking citation officer to Captain before being elected Sheriff in 2018. His time as Sheriff has been defined by ensuring the safety of the people of Franklin County. Under his leadership, the Franklin County Sheriff's office was able to fully staff each school in the county with a School Resource Officer.

Sheriff Quire has earned the respect and support of Franklin County due to his ability to foster strong relationships and his commitment to the well-being of the community.

Sheriff Quire's many years of service to Franklin County make him the perfect choice for Kentucky's Sheriff of the Year. I am confident that Sheriff Quire will continue to serve as an exemplary role model for law enforcement officers across the 1st Congressional District and the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

HONORING THE INVESTITURE OF
DR. STANFORD E. ANGION AS
THE 25TH PRESIDENT OF SELMA
UNIVERSITY

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Inaugural Convocation and Investiture of Dr. Stanford E. Angion as the 25th President of Selma University.

A lifelong learner, Dr. Angion obtained his Bachelor of Soil Science at Alabama A&M University. He went on to earn multiple post-graduate degrees, including a Master's of Journalism and Mass Communication from Marshall University in Huntington, WV, a Master's of Education from the University of West Alabama, a Master's of Arts in Bible and Pastoral Ministry from Selma University, and a Doctor of Education from Alabama State University.

An esteemed educator and administrator, Dr. Angion began his tenure at Selma University in 2016 as the Vice President for Academic Affairs. During this period, he oversaw the responsibilities of administering the development, implementation, and evaluation of course materials and methods, along with recruiting faculty and supervising the Chairs of all academic divisions. Moreover, he played a critical role in decision-making regarding the testing placement of new students, admissions, student-faculty relations, academic counseling, college catalogs, and student academic records. His diligence and hard work were recognized in June 2020 when he was assigned to the position of Provost/Vice President, a capacity in which he served until he was appointed as Interim President in 2021.

Dr. Angion began his professional life in 1987 when, upon graduating from Alabama A&M University, he received an active-duty commission into the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant. During his thirteen years of honorable service, he attained the rank of Major. In October 2000, Dr. Angion accepted his call into the gospel ministry to preach and was honorably discharged from the Army.

After accepting his anointed call, Dr. Angion was licensed as a Baptist preacher in March 2000 and ordained later that year. He served for two years at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Hinesville, GA, as a Youth Pastor before being installed in 2003 as Pastor of Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church in Coy, AL, where he still serves today.

As pastor of Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Angion has implemented programs and completed projects to uplift his congregation and the greater community. Under his leadership, the congregation built a Family Recreational Park, renovated the sanctuary, and started the MGS&A Institute, which offers a plethora of courses designed to train

students in the performing arts and enhance elementary and secondary student learning.

Dr. Angion is a proud member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity incorporated and is an active member of the Alpha Eta Sigma Chapter in Montgomery. He joined the fraternity during his sophomore year at Alabama A&M University as a member of the Gamma Epsilon Chapter.

Under his strong and level-headed leadership, Selma University is planning for both today and tomorrow. Dr. Angion's transformational vision is building a framework for the university that will create lasting change and growth. Continuing the core mission of Selma University, Dr. Angion is dedicated to the quality of education the university provides to its students. Through his insightful planning and forward-thinking, Dr. Angion is taking strides to create a better and brighter future for Selma University.

On a personal note, I have long admired President Angion's steadfast leadership at Selma University. He has demonstrated a strong commitment to upholding the standard of excellence for its students, faculty and administration, even in the face of major adversity. I congratulate him. I look forward to our continued partnership in uplifting this historic institution and extend my best wishes for his long and successful stewardship of Selma University.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the investiture of Dr. Stanford E. Angion as the 25th President of Selma University.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSE
MARIE HANSEN

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of longtime Concord resident Rose Marie Hansen.

Rose Marie was born in Kansas, where she spent many of her formative years working on the family farm with her father and brother. She eventually moved to Oakland, California where she worked as a nanny. Shortly after, Rose Marie met her husband Alfred "Bud" Hansen at a dance in Alameda. The two married in 1941 and were together for 52 years until Bud's passing in 1993.

She and her husband owned a contracting business and later partnered with a local businessman to open a bowling alley and retail complex, known today as Clayton Fair Properties. When Bud passed away in the early 90s, Rose Marie took over as manager, a position she held until 2023, helping lead the successful business for more than sixty years.

Rose Marie was also very active in her community, volunteering at Concord's First Presbyterian Church where she served as an accountant, Deacon, and Elder. She also volunteered at The American Cancer Society as their coordinator of transportation for over 21 years, served as President of the Concord Diablo Historical Society for over 7 years, and traveled the world as International President of the USA Inner Wheel Association. On top of it all, she was also Vice President for the Con-

cord Homes Board of Directors, overseeing the development of two multi-story residential buildings for seniors.

Rose Marie will be greatly missed, but I am confident her impact will be felt in the community for generations to come. Please join me in recognizing Rose Marie for her many contributions to our community and devoted service to the City of Concord.

COMMEMORATING THE PASSAGE
OF THE 2024 U.S. CAPITOL
CHRISTMAS TREE THROUGH
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passage of the 2024 U.S. Capitol Christmas tree through Fort Wayne, Indiana.

From its origins in Alaska's National Forests to its final destination in Washington D.C., this distinguished tree has traveled through many of North America's beautiful landscapes. It has visited small-town main streets, grand state capitals, elementary schools, and local businesses. And now, it has passed through Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Situated in the heart and crossroads of America, Fort Wayne introduces the tree to a vibrant community that exemplifies Midwestern values, patriotism, and the true essence of Christmas. Each Christmas season, this city's festive spirit is reborn through longstanding traditions that celebrate togetherness, generosity, and faith.

The Capitol Christmas Tree has been affectionately dubbed "The People's Tree," and this journey it undertakes truly cements it as such. While the tree may not see, hear, or remember the communities it encounters, the people of Fort Wayne will long recall the honor of hosting a symbol that will stand proudly before the U.S. Capitol, embodying all that makes Christmas in America so special.

I thank Mike Nutter and the TinCaps organization for hosting the tree at Parkview Field, allowing Northeast Indiana to enjoy the occasion.

HONORING THE USDA'S CENTEN-
NIAL GRAPEVINE BREEDING
PROGRAM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today we gather to celebrate an extraordinary milestone in American agricultural history, an occasion of profound significance—the 100th anniversary of the USDA Grapevine Breeding Research Program. This monumental event offers a unique opportunity to reflect upon a century of innovation, dedication, and visionary research that has shaped the grape industry in the United States.

The story of the USDA Grapevine Breeding Research Program commenced in 1923 within the fertile soils of Fresno, California. Founded