

Story has worked closely with youth and families across Northern Virginia through strategic programs to help them work toward self-sufficiency as well as break cycles of homelessness, abuse, and poverty. As Chief Executive Officer, Judith has used her background of almost 30 years in nonprofit management and advocacy to obtain more services for at-risk, abused, homeless and runaway youth—including opening seven new programs since 2004 targeted to this population. Because of Judith, thousands of youths and families have been able to write their Second Stories.

Judith has served on federal panels to develop standards for federally funded programs serving runaway, homeless, and street youth. She also was a Greater Washington Nonprofit Roundtable Fellow. She has presented at numerous National Conferences on topics relevant to youth and young adults. Judith serves on the Policy Advisory Committee for the National Network for Youth. She is a member of the Successful Children and Youth Policy Team of Fairfax County as a former Board Member for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Judith Dittman for her tremendous efforts as a leader in Northern Virginia communities, as she celebrates her retirement after 30 years of Second Story.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NCAA IN INDIANAPOLIS FOR 25 YEARS

#### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 25, 2024*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Collegiate Athletic Association, also known as the NCAA, and the last 25 years it has spent headquartered, thriving and growing in the Circle City, which I'm honored to represent.

I am proud to recognize the NCAA, which has been an iconic part of Indianapolis for the last 25 years and has inspired individuals across the globe. The NCAA has worked to protect and improve the lives of Hoosier athletes and athletes around the country since its inception in 1906. They started off sharing office space with the Big Ten Conference in a downtown Chicago hotel, then moved to Kansas City, Missouri in 1952. The NCAA spent the next 40 years in the Kansas City area and, after exploring future locations, decided the city of Indianapolis would be their new home.

In 1999, when they officially made the move to their new state-of-the-art location on Indy's downtown Canal, the NCAA solidified Indianapolis's status as the "amateur sports capital of the world." This has helped our city host countless NCAA conventions, conferences, championships, and other major sporting events, like the College Football Playoffs, Big Ten Championships, and Horizon League Championships. In the next couple of years, Indy will host the 2026 Division I, II, and III Men's Basketball Championships and all three championships for Women's Basketball in 2028.

Hoosiers love sports, especially basketball, so the NCAA's 25th anniversary in Indianapolis is a special time to uplift the power of

sports and the impact sports can have on more than just one athlete, but on an entire community. The NCAA presented a generous 25th anniversary donation to the Indianapolis Public Schools Foundation to fund self-development opportunities for more than 1,000 student-athletes at seven area middle schools: Arlington, Broad Ripple, William Penn, Harshman, Longfellow, Howe, and Northwest. This investment in our community will help foster a lifelong love of sports, giving young people a chance to build self-confidence, and self-efficacy and improve retention in school and athletic programs.

On this wonderful milestone, we thank the NCAA for being a strong community partner and look forward to working together and continue making our city the best it can be.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FREDERICK BIERMANN

#### HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, Jr.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 25, 2024*

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life of Frederick Biermann, a man whose legacy of courage, service, and innovation spans continents and generations.

Born in Vienna in 1930, Fred and his family fled Nazi occupied Austria in 1938, eventually finding refuge in the British Mandate for Palestine. At the young age of 15, Fred joined the Haganah, defending his community from oppression and later serving with distinction in the Israeli Defense Forces during Israel's fight for independence.

Fluent in five languages, Fred immigrated to the United States in 1952 and continued his service, eventually rising to the rank of Colonel in both the Israeli Defense Forces and United States Army. His leadership is mirrored by his innovative contributions in the fields of dentistry and medicine, where he pioneered advancements in bridges, implants, and even heart valve technology.

A devoted husband to Rose and a loving father to Sharon, Hal, and Wendy, Fred's life is marked by resilience, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to improving and safeguarding the world around him. It is my privilege to place his name in the Congressional Record in recognition of someone who truly exemplifies service and excellence.

#### COMMEMORATING KAZAKHSTAN'S REPUBLIC DAY

#### HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 25, 2024*

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the Republic Day of Kazakhstan and recognize its declaration of sovereignty on October 25, 1990. This pivotal moment paved the way for Kazakhstan's eventual independence from the Soviet Union and symbolizes the nation's enduring commitment to self-determination, prosperity, and peace.

Kazakhstan's early alignment with the West, especially in fostering a free-market economy,

has significantly influenced its development over the past 30 years. Kazakhstan has transformed into a thriving nation with a strong economy, a growing international presence, and a robust partnership with the United States.

The relationship between Kazakhstan and the United States is rooted in shared values of democracy, shared economic prosperity, and mutual respect among nations. As we celebrate Kazakhstan's achievements, we reaffirm our commitment to working together to address global challenges while promoting peace, security, and economic development.

Kazakhstan is dedicated to promoting religious tolerance and pluralism. The country hosts a triennial conference, the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, to foster cooperation and respect among the world's major faith traditions, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Shintoism, and Taoism.

Kazakhstan's commitment to the rule of law and fostering a welcoming environment for foreign investors has made it an attractive destination for U.S. companies, which have become one of the largest sources of direct foreign investment.

This progress aligns with the country's broader goals of sustainable development and economic diversification, further cementing its role as a key player in Central Asia.

Kazakhstan continues to be a pillar of stability in Central Asia, emerging as a global leader in nuclear non-proliferation, peace-keeping, and fostering regional cooperation. As a net contributor to peace and security not only in the region, but also globally, Kazakhstan is committed to addressing global challenges and promoting international stability.

At the sixth consultative meeting of the Central Asian Heads of State, Kazakhstan emphasized its vision of a "Renaissance of Central Asia." This process is seen as a critical step in positioning the region as a self-reliant and influential force in an evolving global landscape.

Kazakhstan leads the region in its readiness to serve as a strong U.S. partner, positioning itself as one of the most cooperative allies in the region.

In 2023, President Biden met with the Presidents of Kazakhstan and four other Central Asian nations at the inaugural C5+1 Summit during the United Nations General Assembly. Since its inception in 2015, the C5+1 platform has strengthened U.S.-Central Asia cooperation, advancing shared goals of regional security, economic resilience, and sustainable development.

The New York Declaration, adopted at the Summit, reflects shared priorities in security, economic, and energy partnerships, underscoring the mutual commitment of the United States and Central Asia to enhancing regional cooperation and connectivity.

Following the Summit, Kazakhstan has demonstrated its commitment to key initiatives by promoting the B5+1 platform, advancing the Critical Minerals Dialogue, and launching the "C5+1 on Disability Rights" initiative.

The United States and Kazakhstan remain committed to accelerating regional cooperation and connectivity. This includes expanding trade routes, such as the Trans-Caspian Trade Route, and fostering a more favorable business environment for U.S. private sector trade and investment in Central Asia.

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev's commitment to political and societal reforms is highly commendable. Despite external pressures, Kazakhstan has remained a peaceful and stabilizing force in Central Asia, exemplifying its dedication to democracy and Western ideals.

On October 6, 2024, Kazakhstan held a national referendum on constructing a nuclear power plant. This event marked a significant step in shaping a new socio-political culture and exemplified the "Listening State" concept, where the government actively engages with citizens on critical issues.

Kazakhstan remains a trusted partner, both regionally and globally, particularly as an active member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). This long-standing partnership highlights the importance of advancing efforts to establish Permanent Normal Trade Relations, ensuring that Kazakhstan's economic growth is fully acknowledged and supported within the global marketplace.

As we look to the future, the United States and Kazakhstan are poised to deepen their partnership through continued dialogue, trade, and collaboration on shared goals. Together, we are committed to fostering peace, security, and prosperity, not only in Central Asia but on the global stage.

#### CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORMALVILLE CHURCH

#### HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 25, 2024*

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the congregation of Normalville Church in Normalville, Pennsylvania, on their 175th anniversary.

The church was founded by German immigrants in the mid-19th century who were a part of the United Brethren denomination. Originally, the immigrants bought the land in 1847 for \$25 and the church opened two years later in 1849. The church started out as the Evangelical United Brethren, transitioning to the United Methodist in 1968 before eventually becoming Normalville Church. The church is currently led by Pastor John Knoll, who will continue the storied legacy of those who came before him.

Throughout its history, the church has served as an important place for members to come together, worship, and serve their community. The congregation leads food banks, clothing drives, and donates to the local volunteer fire department and schools. Not only does the church work to serve the people of southwestern Pennsylvania, but they also have a donation drive, Operation Christmas Child, that provides shoes to children in need across the world.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate Normalville Church on their 175th anniversary and thank them for bringing the community together.

#### RECOGNIZING PETER F. MURPHY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 25, 2024*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peter F. Murphy on the occasion of his retirement. Appointed in December 1982 to represent the Springfield District on the Fairfax County Planning Commission, Pete has left a remarkable legacy of leadership, public service, and community building. His tenure has profoundly shaped Fairfax County's development and growth.

For more than 40 years, Pete served with unwavering commitment, including as the Commission Chairman for 34 years—a role in which he guided the county through major development initiatives, land use decisions, and infrastructure projects. His leadership on the Commission has ensured that Fairfax County maintained growth, ensuring a balance between development and preserving the county's quality of life.

Beyond his service on the Planning Commission, Pete was active in various key county initiatives. He chaired the County's Telecommunications Task Force, served on the Route 28 Corridor Task Force, and provided leadership in the Fort Belvoir Engineer Proving Ground Task Force. These projects are a testament to his expertise in understanding the long-term needs of the region and his ability to guide complex development processes.

Pete's contributions to Fairfax County extend far beyond planning and land use. He was instrumental in helping Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. grow into a significant regional event. His involvement as a member of the Board of Directors reflects his deep commitment to fostering community engagement. He also worked closely with regional organizations and task forces to ensure that Fairfax County remained a leader in addressing the challenges of transportation, housing, and infrastructure.

His dedication has been recognized with multiple awards, including the prestigious Department of the Army Commander's Award for Public Service and the Lawrence V. Fowler Award. He was also named a Lord Fairfax in 1999, and in 2013, he was honored with the Celebrate Fairfax Ambassador Award.

Beyond his service to Fairfax County, he has also been a leader in the private sector, contributing to public relations and communications. He is an Honorary Chief of the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department and has continually exemplified leadership throughout his life.

Mr. Speaker, Peter F. Murphy's commitment to public service is seen through his tireless work on behalf of the people of Fairfax County. His vision and tireless efforts have made our community a better place to live and work, and his legacy will continue to impact generations to come. I commend him for his service and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on his retirement.

#### HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND STATEWIDE IMPACT OF MR. WILLIAM J. HYBL AT EL POMAR FOUNDATION

#### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 25, 2024*

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the leadership, accomplishments and statewide impact of Mr. William J. Hybl, at El Pomar Foundation in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

For more than five decades, Bill Hybl has generously and unwaveringly served the people of the Pikes Peak region and Colorado first through his work as District Attorney for the 4th Judicial District, then as an elected member of the Colorado House of Representatives, and most recently through his leadership at El Pomar Foundation. As the first employee of El Pomar Foundation in 1973, Hybl stewarded and steered the private foundation established by Spencer and Julie Penrose into the respected, generous, and visionary organization it is today.

Under his leadership, the El Pomar Foundation substantially grew its grant making capacity, leadership development and community engagement programs, and historic property destinations, which all support the well-being of Colorado's residents. Hybl either led or collaborated on significant economic growth projects to support Colorado communities. Thanks to his guidance, El Pomar has contributed more than \$750 million in grant funding and programming for the benefit of the people of Colorado.

Though he has retired as CEO of El Pomar Foundation after 50 years of leadership, he holds the distinction of Chair Emeritus on its Board and continues to serve as a Trustee, providing continued guidance and counsel to the Foundation's governance and grant making.

In addition to leading philanthropic efforts impacting Colorado through the Foundation, Hybl has served and represented Colorado in numerous national and global roles. He was appointed Special Counsel to President Ronald Reagan in 1981. In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed him as U.S. Representative to the 56th General Assembly of the United Nations. In 2008, Hybl was confirmed by the United States Senate as Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Public Diplomacy, a position he was appointed to by President George W. Bush. At the recommendation of the Senate, he was reappointed by President Barack Obama in 2011, and currently serves as Vice Chairman.

Hybl is Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Emeritus. Additionally, he was Chairman of the Board of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) from 2003 through 2009 and currently serves as Chairman Emeritus. Hybl is Vice Chairman of the Board for International Programs at The Fund for American Studies.

Perhaps most known for his contributions to the Olympic Movement, Hybl is President Emeritus of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), and served twice as President, leading the United States Olympic Team Delegations at four Olympic Games. He is Chair of the U.S. Olympic and