

many, sparking change, fostering resilience, and inspiring hope. Today, we honor Ed not just for his remarkable deeds, but for who he is—a true hero, in every sense of the word.

Mr. Speaker, it is through the work of people like Ed that our communities thrive, and our Nation grows stronger. Their actions remind us that progress is not forged in grand gestures but in the cumulative power of selfless acts. They embody the timeless American values of resilience, generosity, and compassion, showing us that the future is built by those who care deeply, act decisively, and give without hesitation.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Ed for his extraordinary service. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional individual, whose leadership and spirit of service will inspire generations to come. May their example remind us of the boundless potential within each of us to make our communities, country, and world a better place.

REMEMBERING MARTIN NAGELKIRK

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Martin Nagelkirk, a dedicated educator and influential figure in agriculture, who passed away at the age of 70 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born on October 8, 1953, to Preston and Shirley Nagelkirk, Martin graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in agronomy and later earned a master's degree from Cornell University. He began his career as an agricultural extension agent in Onondaga County, New York, where he served for eight years before moving to Sanilac County, Michigan, in 1987. At Michigan State University, Martin became a prominent wheat educator and director of the local MSU Extension office, retiring in 2019.

For over 30 years, Martin made significant contributions to the wheat industry, especially in addressing the challenges of Fusarium head blight. Martin also had a pivotal role in helping farmers navigate these challenges, enabling them to increase yields and profitability. Martin co-founded the Great Lakes Wheat Watchers, promoting collaboration among researchers and extension professionals in the region.

Known for his humor, broad knowledge, and commitment to serving as a reliable resource for producers, Martin was deeply respected by all who worked with him. He and his wife Joan, married for 45 years, fostered a family built on love and shared experiences, including a passion for the outdoors.

He is survived by their children—Paul, Ryan, and Grant—along with their families, and many siblings, in-laws, and nieces and nephews. Martin's legacy will endure through the countless lives he touched in the agricultural community and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, as we remember Martin Nagelkirk today, let us honor his remarkable contributions and the values he embodied—dedication, innovation, and a deep love for his family and community. His commitment to im-

proving the lives of others will be profoundly missed.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CENTER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Women's Center. For five decades, the Women's Center has provided mental health counseling, support, and education to the metropolitan area to help people live healthy, stable, and productive lives.

Since its founding in 1974, the Women's Center has grown to include services to all gender identities, families, young adults, and children. They have strived to fulfill their mission to significantly improve the mental health and well-being of all members of our community. The Women's Center offers a range of services, like individual, couples, and family counseling, group therapy, education workshops and training, and domestic violence and sexual assault services.

In 2023 alone, they were able to reach over 3,500 people with 33,668 hours of service. Sixty-seven percent of those clients received services at a reduced fee or no cost. All 487 domestic violence survivor clients received free domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy services, with 96 percent reporting enhanced safety and 93 percent reporting improved mental health.

Over the past year, 1,459 community members received 20,772 hours of individual, couples, and family mental health counseling. The Women's Center also provided 7,887 callers with important information, including vital information about programs for children and teens, suicide prevention, behavioral and mental health, career programs, and more.

In addition to the mental health and counseling work the Women's Center does for their clients, they also host an annual Leadership Conference filled with speakers, breakout sessions, and opportunities to build strategic connections. This event is part of the education and career enrichment services that help people gain confidence in their skills to find paid work, achieve financial stability, navigate complicated legal processes, and improve work-life balance.

All of this incredible work is made possible by the staff, volunteers, and Board of the Women's Center. Over the past five decades, the Women's Center has expanded their programming, opened new locations, and updated their services as the needs of the community changed. This adaptability has been a strength for the organization throughout its history, and especially during the pandemic. The needs of their clients changed, as well as the vehicle to receive services, and the Women's Center was able to take that in stride and continue serving our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Women's Center. The Women's Center has remained an incredible resource for our community because they are focused on providing trauma informed, caring, and compassionate care that is accessible to those who need it.

I thank them for all that they do for Northern Virginia and cheers to another 50 years.

NORTHWEST DOUGLAS COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—"WOMEN WHO SOAR"

HON. GREG LOPEZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. LOPEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of three outstanding women. Kara Baker, Donna Miller, and Karen Leigh will be honored by the Northwest Douglas County Chamber & Economic Development Corporation as "Women Who Soar."

Kara Baker is a registered nurse in the cardiac catheterization lab at AdventHealth Littleton. Inspired by her father's heart surgery during her childhood, she pursued nursing, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2007 and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2009. Following her father's death from cardiac arrest in 2018, Kara became an advocate for heart health, organizing community screenings and donating Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) to local schools. In 2023, she was nominated for a Nightingale Luminary Award and received a DAISY Award with her team for excellence in patient care.

Donna Miller is a Captain for American Airlines, flying Airbus A319, A320, and A321 aircraft. Notable experiences include serving as First Officer on an Honor Flight to Pearl Harbor for WWII survivors in 2016 and accompanying D-Day veterans to Normandy in 2019. She began her aviation career in South Korea, earning her private license while working for the Air Force, and has since flown various missions globally. In 2003, she represented Colorado at Kitty Hawk, where she flew Neil Armstrong during the Centennial of Flight celebration. Active in general aviation, she has flown WWII bombers for the Collings Foundation and served over 20 years as secretary of the Mile High Wing of the OX-5 Aviation Pioneers. Donna is passionate about aviation history and has collaborated with notable figures like Elrey Jeppesen and Louis Zamperini. Outside of flying, she uses her flight benefits to run marathons on every continent, including Antarctica.

Karen Leigh is an evening news anchor at a major CBS station in Denver, Colorado, serving over 1.8 million households since 2008. With over 25 years of experience in television, she has expertise in various areas of communications, conducting interviews with a wide range of figures from presidents to celebrities. Known for her calm demeanor, she excels at diffusing tense situations and has covered significant events, including natural disasters and mass shootings. She has won four Emmy Awards for her journalistic work, including coverage on child abuse and the 2008 Recession.

In addition to her broadcasting career, Karen has been active in supporting non-profits, helping them raise funds and engage with communities. She is involved with several charities, including the American Heart Association and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver.

From saving lives to Emmy winning inspiration, this year's recipients have made a lasting impact on those around them and in our community. It is leaders like these women who will allow us to achieve a more prosperous and inclusive future, and I congratulate them all on being recognized as "Women Who Soar."

CELEBRATING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NO. 413 WITH THE NOT FOR PROFIT OF THE YEAR AWARD BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE TONAWANDAS

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Knights of Columbus Council No. 413 as the Not For Profit of the Year recognized by the Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas.

As we celebrate its 125th anniversary, we pay tribute to a legacy of service and commitment that has spanned over a century. Founded on April 23, 1899, the Knights of Columbus Council No. 413 stands as one of the oldest councils in the country, a testament to the enduring spirit of brotherhood and charitable service that defines this organization.

With over 200 dedicated members, the Knights of Columbus Council No. 413 has become a vital institution in the Tonawandas, contributing to countless charitable efforts and events that enhance the lives of the community.

In 2021, the Knights of Columbus Council No. 413 generously donated over \$100,000 to a wide range of organizations. Their contributions to the St. Francis Food Pantry, Boys and Girls Club, Meals on Wheels, and the North Tonawanda Police Coats for Kids program are just a few examples of their commitment to addressing the needs of those less fortunate in our community.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the Knights of Columbus Council No. 413 and their exceptionally rich history today, let us acknowledge their unwavering dedication to serving others, and profound impact on our community, reminding us all of the power of collective action and the importance of giving back.

REMEMBERING SENATOR TIM JOHNSON

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Senator Tim Johnson, a dedicated public servant and honorable man who passed away on October 8, 2024. Senator Johnson served the people of South Dakota with integrity and passion. While Senator Johnson faced health challenges during his time in the Senate, his courage in overcoming those adversities deepened the admiration his colleagues had for him.

While we honor his many professional accomplishments, it is important to remember

that Senator Johnson was also a devoted family man. He was a loving husband to Barbara and a proud father to their children. His family was always his greatest source of strength, and he often spoke of how their love and support sustained him throughout his career.

My thoughts and prayers are with Barbara and the entire Johnson family during this difficult time. As we remember Tim, we reflect on his dedication, spirit, and kindness.

HONORING THE CAREER OF ADELA JONES

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Adela Jones, a beloved educator and leader of Sanger Unified School District over the last 36 years.

Adela Jones received her Bachelor's Degree in Education from Fresno State and subsequently earned her Master's Degree in Bilingual Education from Fresno Pacific University. Thereafter, Ms. Jones kickstarted her teaching career and joined Sanger Unified shortly after as a classroom teacher in 1987. Since then, Ms. Jones has held many positions within Sanger Unified, including Reading Development Teacher, Elementary Principal, Area Administrator, and Associate Superintendent of Educational Services. Exhibiting excellent leadership capabilities along the way as both an educator and administrator, Ms. Jones was appointed to Superintendent of Sanger Unified in 2018.

Throughout her career in education, Adela has always demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the education and well-being of Sanger Unified students. One of her proudest achievements lies in the creation of a strong and dedicated team of teachers and staff who have worked tirelessly to meet the needs of their students. From the teachers in the classroom to the support staff behind the scenes, Adela has fostered a sense of unity and purpose within the district which has prompted every student to achieve academic excellence.

This aptitude for success has served Adela and the district well, especially when faced by challenges such as the unprecedented closure of schools due to the pandemic. The decision to keep students and teachers apart was undoubtedly one of the hardest moments of her superintendency, but it also brought about a sense of unity among her team. When tested with adversity, Adela's character and diligence prevailed as she guided the district through uncharted territory, ensuring the continuation of learning and supporting her community during these trying times.

Despite their trials, Sanger Unified has continued to achieve remarkable milestones under Adela's guidance. On July 1, 2022, the district officially opened the doors to their second comprehensive high school, Sanger West. This was in addition to the establishment of six community schools made possible through an \$8 million-plus implementation grant received under Ms. Jones' leadership. For their efforts and profound progress, the district has also been honored with numerous distinctions such as the nationwide recognition of all middle schools, Schools to Watch. These suc-

cesses are testaments of Adela's diligence but if you ask her, these accomplishments are attributed to her team, not herself.

As well as an exceptional educator, Adela Jones is also an inspiration. Whether it was singing in class or endowing them with knowledge, Ms. Jones always left a lasting impression on her students. Many of whom still cherish the influence she had on their lives and even followed in her footsteps to become employees of Sanger Unified. Adela's commitment to her students extends beyond the classroom as well, as her continual mentorship and support fosters their growth and achievements long after they have graduated.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Adela Jones for her dedication and commitment to improving the lives of many students through education. May we never forget her contributions and continue to be inspired by her legacy.

RECOGNIZING PA-1'S HOMETOWN HERO: GENE AND MICHELE RICE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 25, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize extraordinary individuals from Pennsylvania's First Congressional District—who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to both our community and our country. It is with respect and admiration that I recognize Gene and Michele Rice, two of our district's distinguished Hometown Heroes.

Hometown Heroes are not defined by titles or accolades but by the quiet power of their actions. They are distinguished by their unwavering integrity, the strength of their character, and their steadfast commitment to the people and places they serve. They are the foundation upon which our communities stand—the ones who lift others up, inspire hope, and, in doing so, call us all to higher standards of service and compassion. Gene and Michele Rice have embodied this spirit in ways that words can scarcely capture.

In their role as founders of the Plant a Seed Inspire a Dream Foundation, Gene and Michele have not only served our community but transformed the lives of those around them. They have dedicated their time and talents to inspiring, empowering, and encouraging less fortunate children to find their passion and pursue their dreams by providing scholarships for enriching opportunities. The couple works to pair children with mentors and positive role models—whether athletic, artistic, or academic—that will help them achieve their goals and create a foundation for a successful future. Since PAS was founded in 2008, over 700 scholarships have been awarded, and 700 children have had life-changing experiences and opportunities they may never have had. It is constituents like Gene and Michele that strengthen the fabric of our district and proving that when driven by purpose, compassion, and a resolute sense of duty, two individuals can leave a lasting and profound impact on an entire community.

In times of uncertainty, it is the work of individuals like Gene and Michele that reminds us of the strength of the human spirit. Their service, given without expectation of recognition,