

leadership and service. As we offer our condolences to her family and Tribe, we honor and commemorate the life of Chairperson Beverly J. Hunter. Her legacy will continue to inspire and guide us in the ongoing pursuit of justice and recognition for Indigenous people.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of Tribal Chairperson Beverly Jean Hunter. Her indomitable spirit, commitment to justice, and passion for the welfare of her community will remain an enduring source of inspiration. As we remember her invaluable contributions, may we honor her memory by continuing the vital work she began, striving for equality, education, and the preservation of Indigenous peoples heritage.

#### RECOGNIZING DECLAN CASSIDY

##### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Declan Cassidy, an outstanding constituent from my district. Declan is guided by a sense to better his community and has always demonstrated his ability to overcome complex challenges and situations.

When Declan was just ten years old, he founded the initiative "Socks for The Streets". In 2023, his team provided over 29,000 socks to homeless individuals in the Southeastern Region of Pennsylvania. Since its founding in 2022, Socks for The Streets has evolved into an initiative that provides a variety of essential needs. Declan and his team would bring homemade meals to over 300 residents that are struggling each month, offer family support services and most importantly, regardless of their background, strive to create an environment where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

In his spare time, Declan continues to find ways to give back. He serves as the Youth Ambassador for Philadelphia Toys for Tots. Declan is also a proud member of the Bucks County 4-H program and a participant of the Swenson Arts and Technology High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) Program.

We are all incredibly proud for the positive impact Declan has on our community and wish him the best of luck in his bright future ahead.

#### HONORING RAOUL CUNNINGHAM IN HIS RETIREMENT

##### HON. MORGAN McGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Mr. McGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Raoul Cunningham, one of Kentucky's greatest civil rights leaders, who recently announced his retirement after two decades serving as President of the Louisville Branch of the NAACP. His extraordinary leadership in the fight for equal rights has etched an indelible mark on our community.

Raoul Cunningham's commitment to justice began early, when, at just 14 years old, he

joined the Louisville NAACP Youth Council in 1957. During his high school years, as college students across the South initiated sit-ins and protested segregation, Raoul was inspired to bring similar action to Louisville. With the relative dearth of Black colleges in Kentucky compared to the rest of the Deep South, Cunningham and his young peers convinced their local NAACP branch that high school students could advocate just as well as college students. By the end of the year, the NAACP Youth Council, alongside the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), began organizing protests in downtown Louisville.

Raoul Cunningham was among the first students arrested during these demonstrations, including at Stewart's Department Store, where customers of color were barred from the lunch counter. His arrest, the first of many, was a badge of honor for him. He famously said, "That jail ain't no big thing to any of us." For over two years, Cunningham and fellow students protested tirelessly after school, contributing to the passage of the first public accommodations law south of the Mason-Dixon Line. This achievement, which Cunningham considers his greatest, laid the groundwork for future civil rights fights.

After graduating high school, Cunningham attended Howard University, where his activism only grew stronger. He remained active in the NAACP through his college chapter, joined the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and founded Howard's first Young Democratic Club. Upon returning to Louisville, he managed the historic campaign that led to Georgia Davis Powers becoming the first African American and first woman elected to the Kentucky Senate. He continued his work in politics before rejoining the NAACP as a regional coordinator for the Voter Empowerment Program.

Through demonstrations, negotiations, economic boycotts, and voter participation efforts, Cunningham helped bring an end to segregation in Louisville. The city of Louisville decided to honor him by inducting him into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2003. The following year, he was elected President of the NAACP's Louisville Branch, where he has proudly served since. He was awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Award by the city of Louisville, an Honorary Doctor of Humanities Degree from Simmons College of Kentucky, and has been President of the Kentucky State Conference of the NAACP and served on the Kentucky Advisory Committee for Help America Vote (HAVA).

Mr. Speaker, Raoul Cunningham's lifelong commitment to civil rights transformed our community and inspired generations. I ask that the House of Representatives join me in recognizing his contributions to our country and congratulating him on his retirement.

#### CONGRATULATING SISTER JUDITH ANN ON 18 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS AND OSF HEALTHCARE

##### HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Sister Judith Ann Duvall for her 18

years of honorable service as the major superior of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis and as Chairperson of the OSF Healthcare system in Illinois.

Sister Judith Ann was born just outside of St. Louis, Missouri as the middle child in a modest Catholic family. She entered the convent in September of 1964 and then went on to receive her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Northern Illinois University, a master's degree in Catholic doctrine from St. John's University in New York City; and a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and Administration from Bradley University. Since entering the convent, Sister Judith Ann has devoted her life to her vocation and the advancement of the mission of OSF.

During her time with OSF, Sister Judith Ann worked tirelessly in support of improving the healthcare system in Illinois. Under Sister Judith Ann's leadership, OSF experienced dramatic growth. The OSF Healthcare system grew from 6 hospitals to 16 hospitals across the state and has expanded its employment level from 13,000 to 25,000 employees.

In 2013, she helped Peoria welcome the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home which provides individuals facing chronic illness with compassionate and merciful caregivers during their journey to eternal life. Additionally, Sister Judith Ann worked to build a strong relationship between the Children's Hospital of Illinois and Easter Seals. This partnership and collaboration, stemming from Sister Judith Ann's work, has inspired innovation for children's healthcare across Central Illinois.

In recognition of her dedication to Catholic healthcare and leadership, Pope Benedict XVI granted Sister Judith Ann the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross in October of 2012. Additionally, Sister Judith Ann's incredible service and leadership to the Peoria area, through OSF Healthcare, earned her the Pere Marquette Award and the Edythe A. Cohen Business and Industry Award.

Sister Judith Ann's tireless work has greatly impacted the Peoria community and the state of Illinois. Her commitment to her vocation and service to others is truly inspiring. Congratulations to Sister Judith Ann on 18 years of service to the Third Order of St. Francis and to OSF Healthcare. We are grateful for her dedication to our community.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEADERSHIP OF COACH AMIR ABDUR- RAHIM

##### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Amir Abdur-Rahim who inspired students and our Tampa Bay community with his sincerity, generosity and passion. As the vibrant Head Coach for the University of South Florida Men's Basketball team, Coach Abdul-Rahim set high moral standards for all and displayed an uncommon commitment to students, players and the entire USF Family.

Amir Abdur-Rahim grew up in Marietta, Georgia, and held his first head coach position at Kennesaw State University from 2019 before joining the Bulls family in 2023. Coach

Abdur-Rahim was credited with turning KSU's program into a record-breaking success. But it is not his incredible professional accomplishments that made him the great man he was. He was a servant leader with genuine care for those around him. He transformed not only records but also the hearts and minds of entire communities.

Coach Abdur-Rahim was immediately embraced by the USF family. When USF Vice President for Athletics Michael Kelly described Coach's impact on the team and university, Kelly said, "he connected this whole community." Around campus, Coach was known for picking up students' coffee tabs, personally greeting camped-out fans in front of the Yuengling Center, and dancing with the school band after home game wins. His spirit and joy were felt by the entire student body.

To his players, he was so much more. At the press conference following the team's historic first regular season conference championship, Coach Abdur-Rahim said, "It's just great to see growth in young people, man, when they start to see themselves as more than just basketball players, when they start to see themselves as men."

Following last year's historic season, Coach was unanimously voted American Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. Yet, he felt an individual accolade was unfitting. Coach changed the trophy engraving from "Coach of the Year" to "Staff of the Year." In all he did, Coach Abdur-Rahim found a way to serve those around him.

Above all else, Coach Abdur-Rahim loved his family. He is survived by his wife, Arianne, and their three children, Laila, Lana and Aydin. His legacy will live on through his family and all who had the privilege of sharing time with him on the basketball court.

Coach Abdur-Rahim used to say: "No record is going to tell you what impact you have on people around you." The impact Coach had on the USF community is immeasurable, and his optimism, devotion and servant leadership will continue to inspire us all.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I sincerely thank Amir Abdur-Rahim for the joy and life he infused into our community. We are all eternally grateful.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF GARY LEE BRUNO

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a distinguished marine, successful businessman, philanthropist, and cherished family man, Gary Lee Bruno. Born on August 11, 1946, in Morgantown, West Virginia, Gary's life unfolded as an inspiring tapestry of service, resilience, and unwavering commitment.

At the age of 8, Gary and his family planted roots in Fresno, California, where he navigated the vibrant complexities of a large Italian family as the middle child of five boys. His academic journey, led him to Central High School and later to Fresno State University, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science. Concurrently, Gary embraced

a profound sense of duty, joining the Marine Corps while in college, earning his commission as an officer in July 1966.

Gary's steadfast commitment to service saw him proudly serving as a U.S. marine for nearly four years, including a tour in Vietnam as an artillery officer. His valor and dedication earned him accolades such as the Navy Commendation Medal (V for Valor), Combat Action Ribbon, and numerous other commendations. Retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve as a lieutenant colonel in 1986, Gary carried the pride of his military service throughout his life. While in the reserves, Gary served as the Headquarters and Support Commanding Officer and was well respected by fellow marines for his honorable leadership.

Returning to Fresno in 1972 with his wife and baby daughter, Cynthia, Gary, as a father, reveled in coaching his daughters' cross-country teams, participating in family activities, and instilling a love for adventure and shared experiences. In 1978, he founded G.L. Bruno Associates, Inc., focusing on real estate development and medical facility construction, making significant contributions to healthcare accessibility in the Central Valley.

Beyond his business endeavors, Gary was driven by a core belief in giving back. In 1996, he established the G.L. Bruno Family Foundation, channeling over \$2 million to support socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, with a particular emphasis on matters concerning women and children.

Gary lived life with fervor, finding joy in flying his airplane, playing golf, and savoring a good martini. His dignified demeanor, witty jokes, and a ready handkerchief became hallmarks of his presence. Even in the face of a courageous battle with Parkinson's disease, Gary's sense of humor endured.

Gary leaves behind a legacy of passion and generosity. Survived by his daughters, Cynthia Bruno Rafferty and Aimee Bogna, their families, and loyal dog Bailey, Gary's impact extends to his ex-wives, brothers, nieces, nephews, and cherished friends. In commemorating Gary Lee Bruno, we honor a life that blended duty, enterprise, and compassion—a life that will forever inspire those who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of Gary Lee Bruno.

#### RECOGNIZING ANTHONY "TONY" VENDETTI

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Anthony "Tony" Vendetti. Tony is guided by a sense to better his community and has always demonstrated his ability to overcome complex challenges and situations.

As an accomplished scout from BSA Troop 82, Tony is no stranger to giving back to our community. He has contributed to several service projects, such as Adopt a Highway, Scouting For Food, and Wreaths Across America. He also continues to volunteer alongside his father at Harvest Ministries food pantry. Tony is also a member of Neshaminy

High School's Football Team as a defensive tackle and is a proud electrical engineering student at Bucks County Technical High School. After his graduation in 2025, Tony plans to join the United States Marine Corps while continuing his education to earn a degree in electrical engineering.

We are all incredibly proud for the positive impact Anthony has on our community and wish him the best of luck in his bright future ahead.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 43RD ANNIVERSARY OF CARECEN

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) Established in the District of Columbia as the Central American Refugee Center, CARECEN is celebrating its 43rd anniversary this month.

CARECEN was founded in 1981 to provide legal assistance to Central American refugees. Today, in addition to providing such assistance, CARECEN provides several services to D.C.'s Latino community, including citizenship classes, tenant organizing and legal services. CARECEN also advocates for refugees and immigrants from Central America on the federal level. Since the 1990s, CARECEN has advocated for granting Temporary Protected Status for nationals from Latin American countries.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing CARECEN for its contributions to D.C. and D.C.'s Latino community over the last 43 years.

#### CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF THE LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION OF HOUSTON

#### HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 1, 2024*

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an organization that has spent 35 years building a legacy of hope, resilience, and sustainable communities across the Houston area—the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Houston. Since 1989, LISC Houston has been more than a community builder; it's been a lifeline to countless families and neighborhoods, investing over \$592 million and leveraging \$1.5 billion to bring more than 11,000 affordable homes and over two million square feet of community spaces to life.

Think about that for a moment. Over three decades of building homes and hope—three decades of investing in people, families, and neighborhoods that are the bedrock of this great city. LISC Houston is grounded in the belief that everyone deserves a roof over their head and a vibrant community, a place where they can work, raise their children, and feel a sense of belonging.

Through its Financial Opportunity Centers and partnerships with local businesses,